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MONTHLY STAFF BULLETIN

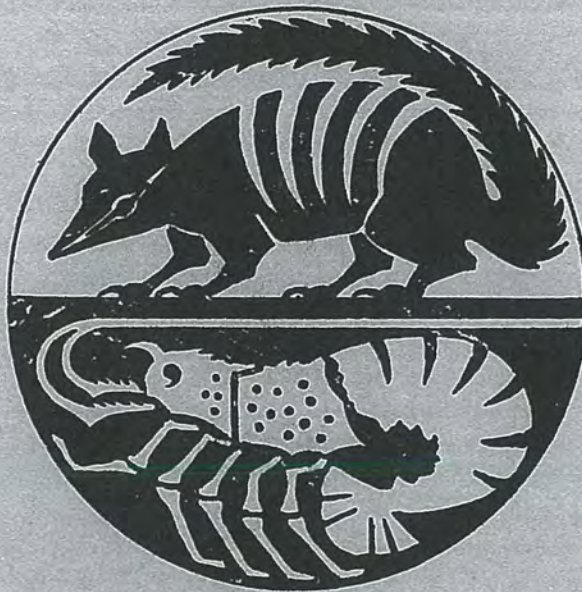
19(3) Mar 1970

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

STAFF

BULLETIN

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MARCH, 1970

VOL. XIX, No. 3

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

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MONTHLY STAFF BULLETIN

18(12) Dec 1969

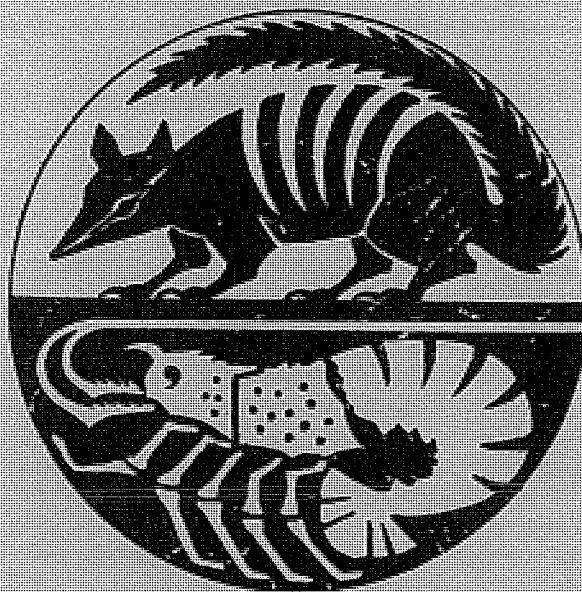
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17 DEC 1969

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BULLETIN



DECEMBER, 1969

VOL. XVIII, No. 12

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

Staff Notes

Memo to Field Officers: If you wonder why the majority of the more junior officers at Head Office seem to be a little more active at this time of the year - here is your answer
.....Annual Examinations!

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Mr. Terry Mill, previously of the Inspection Branch, has been appointed to the clerical position at Head Office vacated by Mr. Arthur Jenkins.

* * * * *

Mr. Wally Gibb, also of the Inspection Branch, has been promoted to Technical Assistant, Fauna Research Branch.

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During the absence of Mr. Alan MacKenzie on Long Service Leave, Mr. Albert Willis has been engaged as relieving Engineer on the R.V. "Flinders".

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A welcome back is also extended to Mr. Michael Mahoney, who resumed duties with the inspection staff after a three years' absence in private enterprise.

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A note of interest: At the end of November, 1969, the Department's staff totalled 110 officers. Of these, 8 were females.

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MONTHLY STAFF BULLETIN

18(10) Oct 1969

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

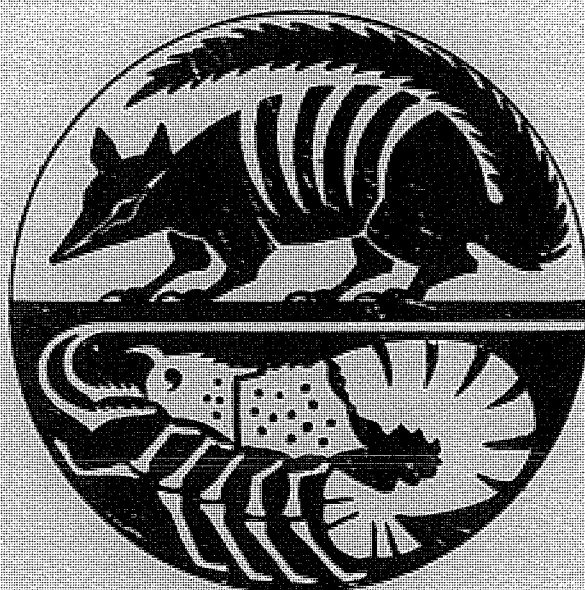
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OCTOBER, 1969

VOL. XVIII, No. 10

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

NOTED CONSERVATIONIST TO VISIT W.A.

Professor Ian McTaggart Cowan, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies at the University of British Columbia, Canada, is to visit Australia for a period of six months, commencing in December 1969. It has been suggested that Professor Cowan might undertake a review of the various research and management programmes on waterbirds in the various Australian states during his visit, and that he prepare a report that could be submitted to the Australian Committee on Waterbirds.

The various State Fauna Authorities at the 1968 Australian Fauna Authorities Conference stated their willingness to assist Professor Cowan during his visit. Our Department has offered every assistance to Professor Cowan in his survey as it is of the opinion that Western Australia would profit considerably from his expertise.

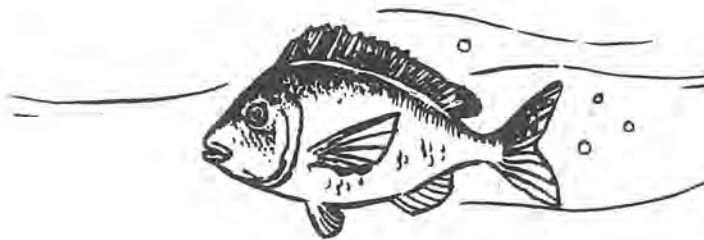
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BROLGA

Mr. G. Hanley, the Department's Warden stationed at Wyndham, recorded sighting approximately 300 Brolga in one group. The birds were feeding in harvested cotton fields near Kununurra. Observation indicated that they were feeding on either insects or seeds. Mr. Hanley made the sighting during the later half of July, 1969.

The Brolga (Grus rubicunda), also known as the Native Companion, is a bird of the Kimberley Division but has now penetrated into the North-West. Only recently Mr. L.R. Moss of Carnarvon, sighted two near the Minilya River.

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17(9) Sep 1968

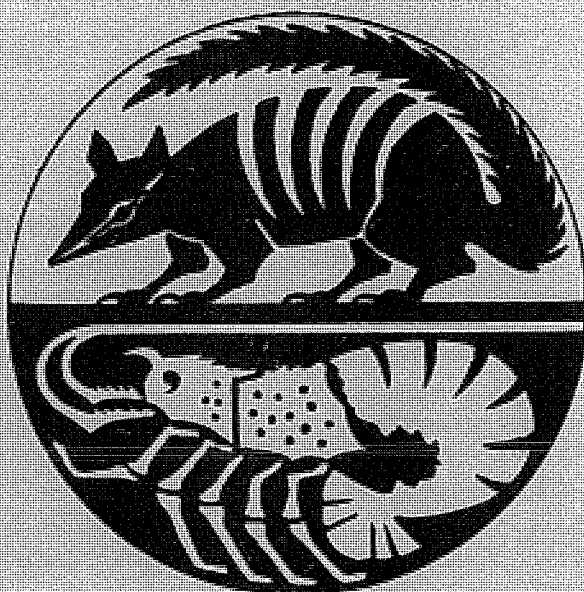
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SEPTEMBER, 1968

VOL. XVII, No. 9

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

The fisherman of 1968 is already venturing into the less predictable and more remote areas of our extreme north in search of new grounds and new fisheries, and I believe that, as he becomes more knowledgeable - and therefore more efficient - Western Australia will develop its fishery from No. 1 in Australia to a place alongside its major overseas counterparts!

STAFF NEWS

There have been a number of new appointments to the staff in recent weeks. A warm welcome is extended to Mr. I.C. Cooke, Technical Assistant, Fauna Research, Mr. B.L. Hawkins, Assistant Inspector, Mr. G.W. Luksis, Cadet Inspector, Mr. K.D. Morrison, Warden, who returns after two years National Service Training, and Mr. T.G. Johns, Technical Assistant in the Development Branch.

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On the debit side, we note the resignation of Mr. K.V.R. Steicke, Seagoing Inspector. Mr. Steicke held the position of skipper on the P.V. "Dampier" stationed at Geraldton.

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Mr. T.G. Johns came to the Department with experience gained in the New Zealand fishing industry. He has been stationed aboard the F.V. "Hamlin" as an observer, after his initial period training at Head Office. The "Hamlin" is owned and operated by the Kimberly Fishing Company in waters off the north of Western Australia.

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Congratulations are extended to Mr. P.A. Wood, on his promotion to the position of Technical Officer, Grade 2, classified G-II-1/2 in the Fisheries Research Branch.

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The Public Service Commissioner has also promoted by way of reclassification Mr. C.J. Seabrook, Skipper, and Mr. B.J. Duckrell, Mate, of the Research Vessel "Flinders" to classification G-II-6 and G-II-2 respectively.

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Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Miss Marlene Clayton and Mr. Kurt Ammerer who announced their engagement on August 10, 1968.

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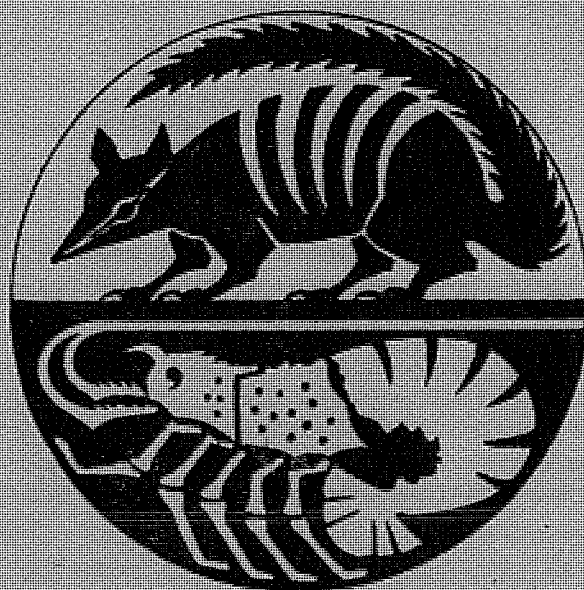
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MAY, 1968

VOL. XVII, No. 5

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

MINISTER VISITS PRAWNING CENTRES

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. G.C. MacKinnon, took a first hand look at the prawning industry as established at Learmonth, Roebourne and Carnarvon. During his familiarisation tour of these centres the Minister was accompanied by the Director, Mr. B.K. Bowen, the Administrative Officer, Mr. B.R. Saville, and by the Extension and Publicity Officer, Mr. A.C. Waldon. The party departed from Jandakot Airport on April 4, and returned on April 7.

INTERESTING BANDING RECORDS

In the March 1968 issue of "The Australian Bird Bander", there was recorded a number of banding recoveries that have proved to be highlights in the history of bird banding in Australia.

A Black-crowned Albatross (Diomedea melanophris) was banded on North Head, Macquarie Island on September 29, 1954. It was found dead near Eden, New South Wales on December 18, 1967, some 1250 miles and over 13 years and 2 months later. This is the longest elapsed time for any bird banded in the Australian Bird Banding Scheme.

There is also recorded the recovery of the remains of a Common Bronze-wing (Phaps chalcoptera) at St. Arnaud, Victoria, on November 24, 1967. This bird was banded at Eremphila Flat, South Australia, on September 19, 1964, a distance of 225 miles north-west. This is the longest recovery for this species.

A Fleshy-footed Shearwater (Puffinus carneipes) banded on Lord Howe Island on November 25, 1962, was found dying at Iwanaimachi, Furuu-gun, Japan, on June 27, 1967, some 5,300 miles N.N.W.

A Crested Tern (Sterna bergii) banded as a nestling at Penguin Island, Beachport, South Australia on December 21, 1966 was recovered near Yamba, N.S.W. on November 19, 1967. This recovery was 960 miles E.N.E. and represents a sea distance of about 1,200 miles. The longest Crested Tern recovery is 1,150 and a sea distance of about 1,700 miles.

DF&F "MSB" May 1968, Vol XVII, No 5.

The oldest record for the Silver Gull (Larus novaehollandiae) so far, was established by a nestling banded on Montague Island, on November 16, 1956. The same bird was found 170 miles N.N.E. on June 5, 1967, some 10½ years after banding.

A White Ibis (Threskiornis molucca) banded at Wilaurea, Victoria, was recovered at Kalo, about 70 miles east of Port Moresby, T.P.N.G. in July 1967. This is about 1925 miles N.N.E. of the banding site.

Another record breaking bird proved to be a Black Duck (Anas superciliosa) that was "brought home by the cat" at Wentworth, N.S.W. on May 26, 1967. The bird was banded some 240 miles east on January 21, 1958, at Lake Wyangan near Griffith, N.S.W. This period of 9 years and 4 months is the oldest on record for this species.

AUSTRALIAN WEST COAST SEISMIC SURVEY MISFIRES

The Regional Controller, Department of Shipping and Transport, has issued the following substance as a warning notice to mariners and others. This notice was considered desirable as fishermen have reported sightings of misfires. Due to the use of a new type of detonator, the original warning notice has been amended to read as follows:-

"Mariners and others are warned of the following dangers due to possible misfires of explosive charges. Occasionally a charge misfires and if unnoticed can be left suspended below the surface on a short length of line attached to a plastic inflated type coloured balloon. The balloon will normally lose its buoyancy after a period of time and the cannister containing the explosive should sink to the sea-bed. If this does not occur the detonator is designed to be rendered harmless after 1 hour in the water. The cannisters vary in colour from red to yellow, blue, green and grey and contain ammonium nitrate explosive. If one of these objects is sighted, its position should be reported immediately through a Coast Radio Station to Regshiptram, Perth.

Do not handle or interfere with the object unless instructions are issued by the Regional Controller (Regshiptram) Perth."

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"Talent does what it can: genius does what it must".

- Anonymous.

DF+F "MSB" May 1968, Vol XVII, N° 5.

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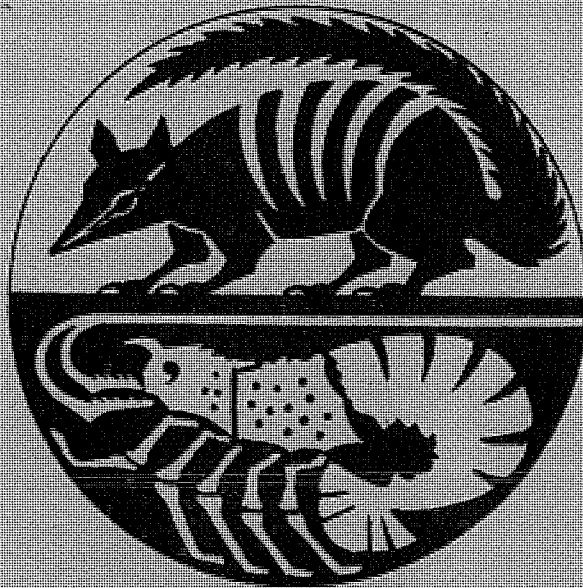
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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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MARCH, 1968

VOL. XVII, No. 3

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

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STAFF NOTES.

Mr. A.V. Green who was stationed at Mandurah as a fisheries inspector until his resignation, has written to the Department thanking all for the presentation made to him. In his newly chosen vocation as a school bus operator at Buntine, Mr. Green made the comment that the only fish he is now likely to see will be goldfish in a bowl.

* * *

Since the Annual Staff Conference last October there have been a number of new appointments to the staff. A warm welcome is extended to Miss Denise Whicker, Typist, to Mr. R.K. Grose, Clerk, and to Messrs J.C. Van Roon, B.C. Bruce and P.J. Strickland all appointed as temporary Assistant Inspectors.

However, there have been some resignations too, these include Miss Marnie Craig, Cadet Research Officer, Mr. J.J. Mott, Research Officer and Mr. P.R. Runkorf, Technical Assistant, all from the Fauna Branch.

* * *

Senior Warden Mr. S.W. Bowler will return to duties early next month after enjoying three months Long Service Leave. Mr. A.R. Marshall is acting as Senior Warden during this period.

* * *

Congratulations are extended to Mr. K.J. Ammerer on completing the requirements for the Associateship in Public Administration at the Western Australian Institute of Technology.

* * *

Officers will have noticed a familiar face at Head Office during the past few weeks. Mrs. Brenda Gordon (nee Powell) has been relieving as Telephonist whilst permanent Assistants Miss Mary Jolob and Miss Beverly Forsyth have taken their Annual Recreation Leave.

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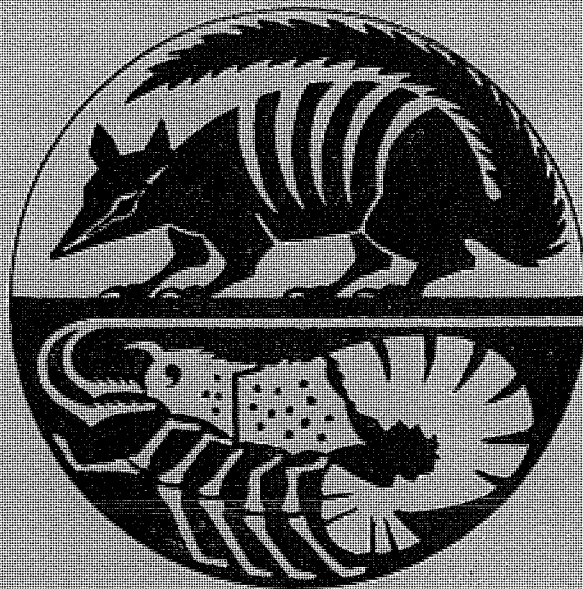
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17(2) Feb 1968

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FEBRUARY, 1968

VOL. XVII, No. 2

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

DEPARTMENTAL PUBLICATIONS

The Department, in its effort to promote its work, has produced a further two publications.

The first booklet explains what the Fisheries and the Wildlife Management Research Officers do, and why. It indicates the qualities needed to become a successful research officer in the Department of Fisheries and Fauna and sets out details of cadetships which are offered in the Western Australian Public Service. Its main aim is to assist young men and women to gain a clear appreciation of the activities of these research officers before deciding on their future careers.

The other titled "Wealth of the Sea", was produced for the Government of Western Australia and contains a pictorial coverage of the Western Australian fishery. The editorial content deals with the resource, exploitation, the migration journey, boats and gear used, harbour facilities available, the processing of the catch, marketing, and law and the sea, research programmes and a historical background to fishing in Western Australia.

GENERAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEEVISITS MANDURAH

In January 1967 the General Fisheries Advisory Committee held its first meeting in Albany and surrounding areas, visiting centres as far east as Bremer Bay. The committee has held previous meetings at Carnarvon, Shark Bay and Perth.

On Monday January 15, 1968 the Committee visited Mandurah, and met with the Mandurah Shire Council and the Mandurah Licensed Fishermen's Association. Items discussed included the marketing of fish, drop nets used by amateurs for catching crabs, sale of fish by amateurs, closure of Golden Bay to net fishing, and that cray-fishermen be confined to the fully protected crayfish industry and boats so engaged be dis-allowed to do long line and net fishing for shark and other fish during the crayfish season.

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I always make the first verse well, but I have trouble making the others.

J.B. Moliere

DFH "MSB" Feb 1968 Vol XVII, N° 2.

STAFF NOTES

Our congratulations to Mr. Pat Mahoney who was promoted to the position of Exhibitions Officer, G-11-4, Department of Industrial Development, as a result of a successful appeal, to the Promotions Appeal Board. Some members of the staff will recall that this was the position occupied by Mr. Alan Buchanan, before his recent appointment to a position with the Department of Trade, Melbourne. Mr. Mahoney commenced duties in his new position on January 18.

Mr. Mahoney must also be congratulated on completing his requirements for the Associateship in Public Administration at the Western Australian Institute of Technology during 1967.

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Wetlands Research Officer Mr. T.L. Riggert, in the company of His Excellency the Governor of Western Australia, Sir Douglas Kendrew had no difficulty in obtaining "their bags" on the opening day of the 1968 duck shooting season. Mr. Riggert in accompanying the Governor to the Moora area in above century heat-wave conditions said that a good shoot was had by most sportsmen.

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It is expected that the research vessel "Flinders" will depart early February from Fremantle on its second voyage to northern waters. Mr. G.J. Seabrook will be in command during the six weeks' cruise.

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Mr. Kitch Godfrey, who has been seconded to this Department from the C.S.I.R.O. for the past 14 months has at last decided to join the permanent staff of our Department. It is anticipated that his appointment will be made effective as from mid February.

Congratulations are extended to Mr. Godfrey on the excellent decision made.

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Life is just one damned thing after another.

E. Hubbard

DFF "MSB" Feb 1968 Vol XXV 11, N° 2.

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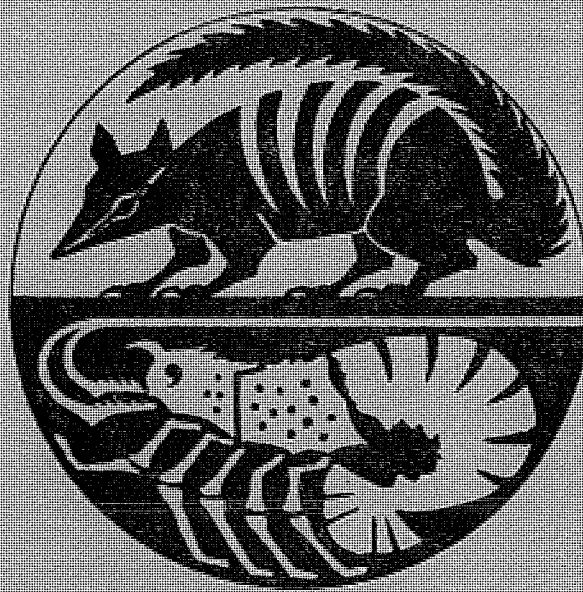
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16(9) Sep 1967

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SEPTEMBER, 1967

VOL. XVI, No. 9

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

CEYLON TO FISH FOR INDIAN OCEAN TUNA

Two Ceylon vessels will go out for the first time on a tuna fishing expedition on the Indian Ocean.

It was a red letter day for the Fisheries Corporation of Ceylon, when the Fisheries Minister, Mr. Philip Gunawardene, took over the two vessels from the Japanese firm of manufacturers, Taito Seiko Co. Ltd. of Minatu-ko, Tokyo.

Mr. Gunawardene said at the handing over of the two boats, "Mirissa" and "Kalmunia", that Ceylon though considered far behind other countries in the field of technology, could now compete with any other country in the world in the sphere of deepsea fishing.

The two 320-ton boats have a fish hold capacity of 150 tons. Built at a cost of Rs. 1,500,000 each, the vessels are fully equipped with the latest navigational, refrigeration and fishing equipment and can carry a crew of 32.

The two vessels are the first of their kind in Ceylon. Each vessel is managed by key Japanese personnel who will train local hands in tuna fishing. One boat can cover 1,500 miles on a single trip.

With the establishment of shore facilities at Galle the vessels will make Galle port their base for tuna fishing operations and for the handling and storage of fish for export. A spokesman for the Fisheries Corporation said that the entire catch of fish by these vessels will be sent to the United States.

(Fishing News International

May 19, 1967.)

RESEARCH OFFICER ADDRESSES KELLERBERRIN GUN CLUB

Research Officer T.L. Riggert spoke to the Kellerberrin Gun Club during August about the Department's waterfowl research programme also explaining the proposal for the introduction of a shooter's license.

As a result of assurance that fees from the licenses would be paid into a special fund to be used only for research and conservation of waterfowl the Club withdrew its opposition to the proposal.

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16(6) Jun 1967

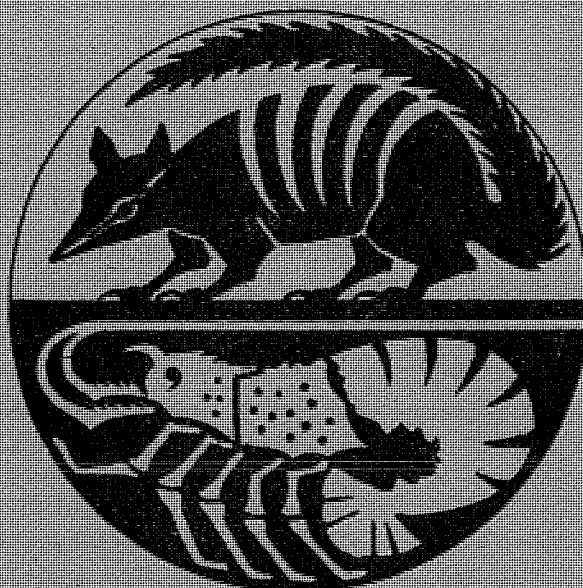
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JUNE, 1967

VOL. XVI, No. 6

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

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STAFF NOTES

The following additions to the Fauna Branch staff were made during May:-

Mr. V.T. Nelson, appointed Fauna Warden, G.II.1/2. He will be stationed at Wyndham after initial induction. Mr. Nelson is the first full time Fauna Warden to be stationed in the Kimberleys.

The first district office to be opened in the North-West Fauna District will be in charge of newly appointed Fauna Warden R.F. Dear and will be located at Wittenoom.

Both wardens commenced initial induction into the Department on May 9. It is expected that each will take up his new duties in about 6 to 8 weeks.

The North is as rich in fauna as it is in minerals and other treasures, and both new wardens should find their tasks both absorbing and challenging.

* * * *

The waterfowl research programme proceeds apace with the appointment of new staff to assist Research Officer T.L. Riggert.

Mr. P.R. Rumkorf was appointed Technical Assistant G.VII.1/3 at the end of April to assist Mr. Riggert with his bird banding programme. He takes the place of Mr. Jim Hogan, deceased.

* * * *

On the debit side the Department has received the resignations of Fauna Warden Malcolm MacDonald, who was stationed at Albany, and Cadet Fauna Warden P.M. Lambert, who was assisting Fauna Warden Evans at Pingelly. The position created by Peter Lambert's departure has been filled by Robert Emiliani, formerly of Bunbury, who has commenced initial training under the direction of Senior Warden S.W. Bowler. The vacancy at Albany is being advertised.

* * * *

Two Assistant Inspectors, G.VII.1/2, have been appointed to the Fisheries inspection staff and commenced duty on May 8. They are Mr. I.W. Burns, who was previously employed at the Government Stores Department, and Mr. D. Blackman, who comes back to the Department after a short period with the Agriculture Department.

* * * *

Fisheries Research in Western Australia has received yet another boost with the arrival of Research Officer N.M. Morrissy. Mr. Morrissy commenced duty on May 8 and will do freshwater fishery research (see story page 6).

* * * *

On May 5 the Department farewelled Dale Patrick prior to her departure for New Zealand. Dale's pleasant manner at the switchboard will be missed by all staff who wish her well in New Zealand and wherever else the "wanderlust" may take her.

Mary Jolob has been promoted to the switchboard and Beverley Forsyth has joined the Department to take over from Miss Jolob.

DFR "MSB" June 1967, Vol XVI, No 6.

GAME MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr. M.C. Downes, Superintendent of Game Management of the Fisheries and Wildlife Department of Victoria, was through the courtesy of his Director, Mr. A. Dunbavin Butcher, commissioned in 1965 by the Department to advise us on our plans for stepping up waterfowl research in this State.

During April Mr. Downes published, in attractive pamphlet form, the result of his survey as a suggested game management plan for Western Australia.

Game management is considered by Mr. Downes to be an essential feature of a wildlife conservation programme which, he says, must be attuned to society's needs. He sees it as the solid basis from which other less economic, but just as essential, studies or projects can be developed.

The hunting of wild duck over the past hundred years has been the greatest and most persistent direct kill of any wildlife in Australia, in the view of Mr. Downes. He writes that game management must have a factual basis of which duck banding, species research, habitat surveys and ecological research are of vital importance.

Habitat management in Western Australia, Mr. Downes believes, must contain facilities for both research and implementation and he warns that the conservationist must beware of too great a separation of research from political and social environments. Research, he stresses, must be kept relevant to the real conditions and the needs of society. Such factors as preliminary fauna surveys, acquisition and management of reserves and land-use problems must be considered under the general heading Habitat Management, but it is stressed in the study that these activities contain a significant proportion of difficult research.

In stressing the need for a realistic programme that meets the requirements of the community as well as of conservation, and identifies one with the other, Mr. Downes uses these forceful paragraphs :-

"Properly designed game work leads to a total wildlife conservation programme, concerned with the community's needs, not just a section of the public with specialised demands. In this way it receives the support from the public necessary for the whole programme. This is not to say that non-game work cannot develop the same broad approach and consequent support. It is just that it has not done so in Australia and probably never will.

"Failure to recognise this important principle often leads to attempts being made to initiate narrowly-based programmes having limited and specialised contact with the general public. These are rapidly converted into the less complicated but more academically acceptable research projects, or worse, stagnate through lack of support from the people. This type of wildlife conservation

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If a policy of free movement of boats were adopted in northern waters, the Department would be able to limit effort indirectly by introducing close seasons or by closing areas to fishing. In fact, research might indicate that some areas should be closed for a complete season from time to time.

This system of management would probably mean that individual fishermen would virtually be compelled to range over a greater length of coastline than they would under a limitation policy. If the Shark Bay policy were extended to all other areas, it would be difficult for a prawn fisherman to operate throughout the year. For instance, a fisherman who worked Shark Bay would not be able under the existing restrictions to operate successfully much later than August because his license would not permit him to work other productive prawning areas, these having been already allocated to other groups of fishermen. Under a free-movement policy he would be able to fish wherever he might choose. After considerable research has been carried out, it might be found desirable to divide the coastline north of Exmouth Gulf into three or four distinct zones, but this would still give an individual fisherman an abundance of room to operate within a major zone.

Figures supplied by the Department of Harbours and Marine, Brisbane indicate that in 1965 there were 383 local boats rigged for prawn trawling in Queensland. The total catch was 6 million lb. In the same year, Western Australia had 43 boats trawling for prawns, which produced approximately 2,100,000 lb. The catch in 1966, when 47 boats were authorised, was of the order of 2,900,000 lb.

FAUNA WARDENS MOVE

Expansion of the Fauna Branch staff, both inspectoral and research, has brought about accommodation problems.

Although a more permanent arrangement is at present being investigated the Wardens have temporarily moved from Perth District Office to Fremantle District Office (telephone 5.3405). The growing research staff will take over the vacancies left by the wardens at Perth District Office.

DF+F "MSB" June 1967, Vol XVI, N^o 6.

programme fails 'to take' because it does not contain the essential core of practical wildlife management acceptable to public thinking, and hence to the Government, in terms of what it needs, what it understands and what it will pay for.

"These considerations are important for several reasons. It must be recognised as a major lesson from Australia's unhappy experience with wildlife conservation in the past, that wildlife will not be preserved unless the people participate, as a society. Wildlife ranges too far and wide for individual ownership of the land to recognise its responsibility as in parts of Europe. In addition our history of land tenure sets as an ideal the sharing of the available game. Society's interaction with the land, rather than directly with the wildlife, is the major force which has acted against the wildlife. So it is through society that our counter measures for conservation of wildlife must act. Man's use of land, regarded as a social habit, cannot be changed nor the decline of wildlife reversed without the participation of the people themselves. Neither Governments nor the natural history societies can force the people into conservation. This can only come through a study of ecology, an understanding of society's behaviour, and consequently the evolution of a new ethic or attitude toward the land and its products. When wildlife conservation is based on the people's real needs, within a whole and healthy community, finance and staff will be made available. In Australia under existing conditions game management has the greatest chance of success in this regard because, through its very nature, it must take into account the needs of the people and wildlife, rather than either one to the exclusion of the other.

"That we live in a technological age is a truism repeated so often that we are in danger of ignoring it. Applied to wildlife conservation, it surely implies that unless technical facilities are used in the race to preserve our dwindling wildlife stocks, we are hopelessly outclassed by the massive, technically organised forces acting against wildlife in Australia today."

BROKE INLET TRANSFERRED TO ALBANY DISTRICT

Inspectoral responsibility for Broke Inlet passed from Bunbury to Albany District Office on June 1, 1967.

Withdrawal of Broke Inlet from the Bunbury District has been caused by an increase in the number of marron and beach patrols in that area.

In addition Broke Inlet is approximately 55 miles closer to Albany than Bunbury and will be easier to patrol from Albany.

DFAF "MSB" June ~~1967~~ 1967, Vol XVI, No 6.

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16(5) May 1967

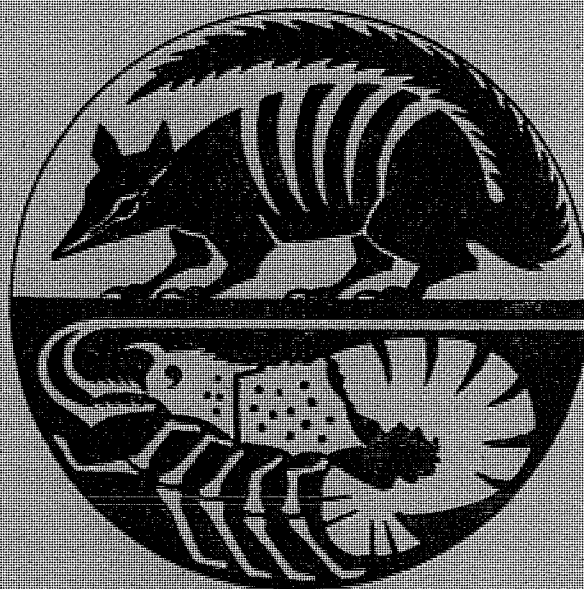
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE



10 MAY 1967

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MAY, 1967
VOL. XVI, No. 5

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES, AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

3265011:67-160

It is with deep regret that we report the sudden death of newly appointed Technical Assistant S.R. Hogan as a result of a traffic accident. Our sympathies are extended to his family.

SURVEY ON THE PLAINS TURKEY OR BUSTARD

The Director of Fisheries and Fauna has received a letter from the Secretary of the Fisheries and Wildlife Department, Victoria, expressing gratitude for the large number of reports received from Western Australia.

Many reports are still coming in and when the final batch is forwarded to Victoria it is expected that a very high percentage return will have been achieved.

Congratulations to all those concerned.

RESEARCH OFFICER ADDRESSES THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NATURALIST CLUB

At the April General Meeting of the Western Australian Naturalists Club, Fauna Research Officer Mr. T. Riggert gave senior club members a talk on "Wetlands of Western Australia".

During the course of his address Mr. Riggert dealt with swamps and reserves and fresh-water life. Mr. Riggert addressed the Club on a previous occasion, his subject then being "Antarctica", where he had served with a New Zealand party during his period as a biologist with the New Zealand Department of Internal Affairs.

SHORT-NECKED TORTOISE CAUSES RE-ROUTING OF CO-AXIAL CABLE.

Welcome news was received from the Post Master General's Department during April concerning the routing of the Perth-Carnarvon co-axial cable through the Short-Necked Tortoise Reserve at Bullsbrook.

The laying of the co-axial cable is a major undertaking which will service recent spectacular industrial development in the north west of our State. It was originally planned to route the cable through part of the habitat of the short-neck tortoise reserve. However, the P.M.G. has now decided after consultation with Fauna Officer H.B. Shugg and Dr. Main, of the University of Western Australia, to change the route to a situation close to the present boundary fence. This will mean that the habitat of the tortoise will not be disturbed in any way by the laying of the cable.

It is most gratifying to see this type of co-operation on the part of a Department responsible for such an expensive undertaking. It is another example of how industrial progress and conservation can, with mutual co-operation, develop side by side to service the needs of the whole community.

DF&F "MSB" May 1967, Vol XVI, No 5.

WETLANDS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Department has just published a pilot study of the Wetlands of Western Australia by Fauna Research Officer T.L. Riggert, B.Sc (Hons.).

The study is confined to the Wetlands of the Swan Coastal Plain with particular reference to their use by waterfowl.

The pilot area extends from 31°30' to 34°30'S, with a mean longitude of about 116°00'E and is bounded on the east by the Darling Fault, on the north by Yanchep Park and on the south by the Collie-Naturaliste Scarp, encompassing approximately 3,000 square miles of coastal land. The area is divided in three zones, which are approximately as shown -

- Zone A - Yanchep Park to Rockingham
- Zone B - Rockingham to southern extremity of Lake Preston.
- Zone C - Lake Preston to Dunsborough.

Hereunder is the summary contained in Mr. Riggert's study.

"A two-year research programme has enabled the following :-

1. the location of existing and reclaimed wetlands;
2. the field evaluation of wetlands, and
3. the classification by a nation-wide system developed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

Of the nineteen wetland types described by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, twelve are present in the study area.

During the dry summer months 67% of all wetland habitat on the study area is lost by evaporation. This evaporation of surface water is so great that areas such as in Zone C (the most southern) are left with little or no surface water. Zone B can withstand these drought periods much better than the other zones because of its deep permanent lakes. These considerations emphasize the importance of areas of winter flooding as well as permanent wetlands for the production of waterfowl. With the tremendous loss of surface water during the summer many waterfowl utilize wetland areas that are not entirely suitable.

Since 1955 there has been a severe reduction of wetlands due to extensive drainage.

A system of wetland classification based on waterfowl usage was established with values from fair to excellent.

The use made by waterfowl of an area depends on the quality and quantity of water and vegetation present. The permanency of wetlands fall into three categories, summer, winter and year-round. Very few wetland areas in Western Australia are listed as year-round areas.

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Wetland types 3 (1" - 6" throughout year), 4 (6" - 3' throughout year) and 5 (less than 10' deep) are utilized the most by waterfowl and are of the highest priority for wildlife preservation. Types 3 and 4 have been subjected to the most elaborate drainage programmes as they are desirable for agricultural development. Only 13,471 acres of wetlands are considered excellent wetland areas.

The second portion of the investigation dealt with non-drainable wetlands, such as reservoirs, rivers and flooded agricultural land. Those are considered to be of less value than the drainable types, but with proper management techniques excellent areas can be produced.

Because of the immediate contact that the Public Works Department (Irrigation and Drainage Branch) has with the people seeking draining, it would be to the advantage of the Fisheries and Fauna Department to work in close co-operation with that Department. I am sure that if our views of wildlife habitat preservation were put forth on a sound and practical basis to the Public Works Department (Irrigation and Drainage) and landowners, needless destruction of wetlands could be avoided.

The need for improving the existing wetland areas in Western Australia is quite apparent. These improvements can be accomplished by several techniques which are quite effective, but relatively low in cost.

The effectiveness that a programme of preservation will have in this State depends on the following points :-

1. A good educational programme emphasizing the value of wetlands for enjoyment and profit to landowners.
2. A better land use programme to stop excessive drainage of new wetland areas before old areas are fully developed, and
3. A definite wetland management programme to work in close co-ordination with the State and Commonwealth Departments and other interested bodies to preserve and develop our wetland areas to their fullest capacity.

It has not been the aim of this report to de-emphasize the importance of other wildlife depending on wetlands for their existence. We have utilized waterfowl as a basis for this study for two reasons. Firstly, because waterfowl are more affected by wetland losses than are populations of any other species, and secondly, use of wetlands by waterfowl is easy to assess. The lack of waterfowl on a wetland area truly reflects the deterioration of the total community (including passerine birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish, shell fish, aquatic insects and other invertebrate life), which we are trying to conserve. The key to preservation of wildlife in Western Australia is the preservation of wetland habitat."

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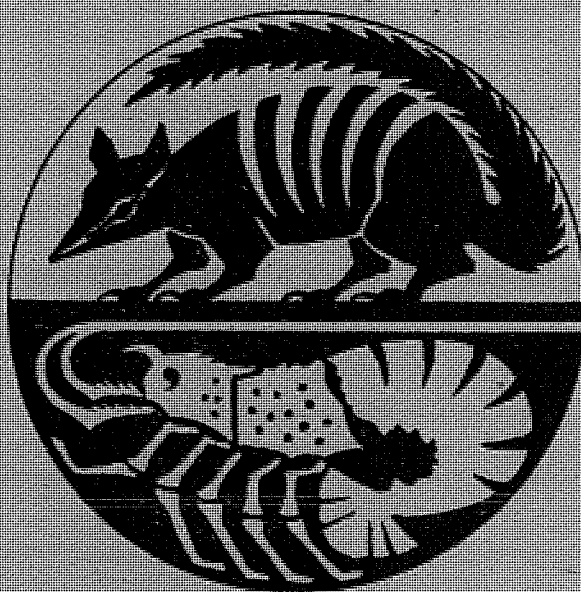
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16(4) Apr 1967

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APRIL, 1967
VOL. XVI, No. 4

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

3265011:67-362

FAUNA STAFF GROWS

New additions to the fauna work force this month is enabling the Fauna Protection programme to be stepped up.

Mr. S.R. Hogan and Mr. D. Munro have received appointments as Technical Assistants to Fauna Research Officer Mr. T. Riggert. They will be engaged in the waterfowl research programme, particularly in regard to duck banding and wetland management.

Mr. A.R. Marshall resigned from the Police Force to join the Department and his experience will no doubt stand him in good stead as Metropolitan District Warden.

A sincere welcome is extended to these officers.

TRANSFER

Cadet Warden Peter Lambert has been transferred to Central Wheatbelt District (No. 9), and is stationed at Pingelly where he is assisting Fauna Warden Trevor Evans. District training of cadet wardens is now quickening in pace and visits to other districts at a later date are planned for Cadet Warden Lambert and other cadets.

STAFF MOVEMENTS - HEAD OFFICE

Chief Clerk Jim Mearns has foresaken the office to take two months of his long service leave in the autumn sunshine. Jim says he'll work just as hard at home catching up on the "small" jobs that have been eluding him for some time.

Bob Baker has moved up from the Fauna Section to take over the reins whilst Jim is away. This has resulted in a move up the line for all clerical officers, thus giving them the opportunity of receiving training in other positions.

Adrian Edwards has joined the Department temporarily to assist at the counter during this period. We hope your stay will be a happy one, Adrian.

* * * * *

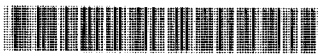
Three seagoing Inspectors have been appointed to the staff this month and a sincere welcome is extended to them.

Denis Wright is to be Skipper of the "Dampier" and John McCarthy will be an assistant on that vessel.

Haakon Pedersen is to be Skipper of the Misty Isle.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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SERVICE BULLETIN

Greetings for Christmas and New Year



from the Director and Staff

DECEMBER, 1966
VOL. XV, No. 12

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND FAUNA
108 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Western Australia

ion policy would be reviewed next year and until then, when the investigations into the industry were complete, he would not, save in the most exceptional circumstances, vary this policy.

The people of Western Australia, he concluded, have, through their parliamentary representatives, given us the responsibility of protecting this fishery, and he did not want people to think that he or the Departmental heads had shut themselves off from the facts. This fishery belongs not to any one fisherman but to the population as a whole, and although it might appear that hardship is being done in a few cases, we must always keep in mind the need to do the greatest good for the greatest number.

FAUNA BULLETIN

The bulletin for Honorary Wardens of Fauna in Western Australia which has not been published for several years will be recommenced next month.

The first issue which is based largely on Fauna articles taken from this bulletin will be distributed early in January. The Fauna Bulletin will be published each quarter thereafter and will be based on information sent in by Honorary Wardens.

Each Honorary Warden is obliged to submit a quarterly report on fauna observed by him, or other information of value. By using this information as the basis of the bulletin, wardens will be able to keep abreast with fauna movements in all parts of the State.

There are nearly 500 honorary Wardens of Fauna in the state and they are made up of people from all walks of life; from farmers to pharmacists.

Some are very active and we have printed (on page 142) in this bulletin some of the good work that one of these enthusiasts has been able to perform. Others are perhaps not as active, but are continually observing fauna movements and are able to give us some information in their quarterly reports.

With a state so large, and with such remote areas, we have a difficult task in keeping up with fauna in all districts. It is only through the efforts of honorary Wardens that we are able to do so.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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Vol. XV, No. 2

February, 1966

STAFF NOTES

A warm welcome is extended to Messrs. L. Beal, G.B. Faulkner and I. Strauss as new members of the staff. Mr. Beal replaced as Fauna Clerk, Mr. J. McKenzie who has transferred to the Government Tourist Bureau. Mr. Faulkner has joined the crew of the r.v. 'Peron' in the new position of Assistant, G-VII-1/2, while Mr. Strauss will fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. J.P. O'Sullivan from 'Peron's' crew.

* * * *

We extend congratulations to Mr. I.L. Cardon on his promotion to the position of Inspector, Grade 2, Jurien Bay.

Inspector R. Smith's posting to Shark Bay has been confirmed and he is at present making arrangements to transfer his home and family to departmental quarters in that district.

* * * *

We also congratulate Mr. P.W. Harrison on his promotion to the position of Assistant Inspector. Mr. Harrison will be proceeding to Geraldton to join p.v. "Dampier" as a replacement for Mr. K.P. Enright.

* * * *

Assistant Inspector Enright is transferring to the r.v. 'Lancelin' to the new position of Assistant, G-VII-1/2.

On February 7 Mr. Morrison will leave for Geraldton to participate in a further phase of the campaign to eliminate introduced rats (Rattus rattus) on Pigeon Island in the Wallabi Group of Houtman Abrolhos.

* * * *

Later this month Wildlife Research Officer T.L. Riggert will investigate reports of high mortality among waterfowl on lakes on the coastal plain north of Gingin. He will be accompanied by Technical Officer D. Wright.

* * * *

The Fauna Officer, Mr. H.B. Shugg, will represent the Department at a meeting and field inspection to be held at Williams on March 18. The meeting has been organised by Mr. W.A. Manning, M.L.A., in connection with a proposal to alienate land reserved for water supply purposes at Contine. Officers of the Country Water Supplies Branch of the Public Works Department will also attend.

MINISTER SEES FOR HIMSELF

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. MacKinnon, made an inspection by plane of close waters between Fremantle and the 30th parallel on Wednesday January 19. The Director and the Supervising Inspector accompanied him.

Up to 1,000 pots and a boat working pots were seen in closed waters.

The Minister expressed both disappointment and some little anger at these discoveries, particularly in view of the assurances previously received from various crayfishing organisations that conservation laws would be respected.

Follow-up action was taken by the p.v. 'Pelsart' and further spot air checks are planned.

PERSONAL PAR

Dr. G. van Tets, of the Division of Wildlife Research, C.S.I.R.O., will arrive on a short visit to the State on February 23. Dr. van Tets, who has been working on the problems of removing the threat that birdlife poses to jet aircraft at Australian airports, will survey the situation at Perth airport where banded plovers congregate, and at Jandakot airport where brush wallabies and grey kangaroos are threats to the safety of light aircraft during landing and take-off.

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15(1) Jan 1966

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. XV, No. 1

January, 1966.

STAFF NOTES

The Minister for Fisheries and Fauna, Mr. MacKinnon, entertained members of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee and senior members of the staff at a luncheon at Parliament House on December 17. Mr. M. C. Downes, Superintendent of Game Management, Fisheries and Wildlife Department, Victoria, and Mr. R. D. Royce, Curator of the State Herbarium, were also guests of the Minister. The purpose of the luncheon was twofold, firstly, to welcome Mr. Downes who was making a short visit to Western Australia to advise on the Department's waterfowl conservation policy, and secondly, as a goodwill gesture to members of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee.

* * * *

The Director visited Gnowangerup and Bremer Bay on December 12 and 13 to discuss with members of the Gnowangerup Shire the Shire's request that a portion of the proclaimed salmon fishing zone at Bremer Bay be excised from the proclaimed area. As a result of an on-the-spot discussion an area has been marked off and will shortly be taken out from the proclaimed zone. Mr. Fraser also attended a meeting of the Gnowangerup Shire Council and discussed with members salmon fishing on beaches within the Shire's boundaries.

FISHERIES ACT AMENDMENTS

The two pieces of legislation amending the Fisheries Act, 1905-1964, came into force on January 1, 1965. The amendments provide for increased penalties for breaches under the Act in respect to crayfishing for certain other matters. The Fisheries Act Amendment Act (No. 2), 1965, provides for the licensing of fish processors and the establishment of a fund to finance fisheries research, development and extension in this State.

Copies of the amendments will be distributed as soon as they are received from the Government Printer.

WATERFOWL CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

The Superintendent of Game Management, Fisheries and Wildlife Department, Victoria (Mr. M. C. Downes) visited Western Australia between December 6 and 18.

Mr. Downes' visit was arranged through the good offices of Mr. A. Dunbavin Butcher, the Director of that Department, to advise on waterfowl and habitat conservation measures as well as on future research.

Mr. Downes has considerable experience in wildlife management, particularly in waterfowl conservation and management. The advice he has provided will prove invaluable to this Department in relation to the proposed introduction of a duck shooter's license in this State, which Cabinet has agreed to consider this year. In Victoria a license has been in force for some years and last year £42,000 was received in license fees at £1 per shooter. Practically the whole of the revenue received, together with other monies made available by the Victorian Government, is spent on conservation measures. These include the purchase of swamps and other suitable habitat to provide suitable and sufficient breeding grounds for waterfowl.

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Over the years waterfowl sanctuaries and breeding grounds were seriously depleted in Victoria, as they have been in other States, by the drainage of swamps and destruction of habitat for agricultural development and other purposes.

Mr. Downes visited most of the important coastal lakes and swamps during his visit. Aerial observations were made north as far as Morawa and south as far as Busselton, as well as inland a little to take in the Arthur River system.

He also inspected the lakes at Rottnest Island. Several discussions were held with departmental officers and also with duck shooters, members of the Perth Gun Club and with Museum personnel. During the morning of December 17 he attended a meeting of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee. He returned to Melbourne on the following day.

BOATS TO BE RESTRICTED IN ABROLHOS ISLANDS

For some time Geraldton fishermen have been concerned over the possibility of a considerable influx of southern-based boats in the Abrolhos Islands area as a result of the decline in catches of crayfish in southern areas.

Following representation made to the Minister, regulations have been promulgated, on conservational, economic and sociological grounds, to restrict boats operating in the Abrolhos area to those which have operated there at some time during the three years prior to January 1, 1966.

Regulations have also been promulgated to the effect that no freezer boat, if operating as a catcher boat within the Abrolhos area shall have on board any gear, appliance, wrapping, packing box or other equipment that might be used in the processing of crayfish.

DF&F "MSB" Jan 1966, Vol. XV, No. 1.

The company anticipates commencing the 1966 season operations on March 1.

DUCK SEASON OPENS

Fauna Warden S. W. Bowler, accompanied by Research Cadet J. Mott and Fauna Cadet K. Morrison, attended the opening shoot at Gundaring Lake, near Wagin, on December 19.

Mr. Bowler reports that the lake was inspected on December 18 and the water level was found to be very high. Approximately 2,000 ducks were observed on the lake as well as coot and black swans. The number of grey teal was estimated at 1,500 while mountain duck were predominant among the remainder.

In the early morning of December 19 a patrol was carried out around the lake in an endeavour to prevent shooters commencing before 5.00 a.m. However, sporadic shooting occurred at 4.15 a.m. and despite the efforts of the Department's officers shooting was well under way by 4.45 a.m.

About 170 shooters took part at Gundaring Lake and a check of the bags of 142 of them revealed that results were poor. All participants were disappointed with the shoot and no full bags were recorded.

Mr. Bowler says that after the first few barrages the ducks left the lake for Yates' Swamp, about three miles away. The swamp is on private property and the owner does not permit shooting to take place there.

DEEP WATER CRABS BEING CAUGHT

Supervising Inspector J. E. Bramley reports that big crabs are again being caught in deep water in crayfish pots by crayfishermen along the coast. One fisherman was catching five to six bags a day in his pots in approximately 80 fathoms. As the crabs have no commercial value they are discarded.

DFF "MSB" Jan 1966, Vol. XV, N^o. 1.



11 MAR 1965

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Vol. XIV, No. 3

March, 1965

STAFF NOTES

The Director, Mr. A.J. Fraser, will attend a meeting of the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council Committee of the Commonwealth-State Fisheries Conference on April 2. This will be held in Adelaide. This Committee has been appointed to consider ways and means by which Australia can assist member-nations of I.P.F.C. in such matters as fisheries research and technology.

* * *

By arrangement with the Geraldton Professional Fishermen's Association and the Dongara Fishermen's Association, Senior Research Officer B.K. Bowen gave talks to fishermen at Geraldton and Dongara on February 24 and 25 respectively. The talks were arranged to familiarise crayfishermen with current crayfish research and some of the results, particularly those relating to the status of the industry.

* * *

The Director, who is chairman of the Pemberton Hatchery Board, will attend a meeting of the Board at Pemberton on the evening of March 27.

* * *

Accompanied by Mr. H.B. Shugg, Fauna Officer, Mr. Fraser will attend the Australian Fauna Authorities Conference at Kingscote, Kangaroo Island, South Australia, from April 5 to 10. The Minister (Mr. Hutchinson) will, in company with other State Ministers, be present at the opening session.

* * *

Mr. Fraser will visit Geraldton and the Abrolhos during the week commencing March 15. The Assistant Secretary (Fisheries), of the Department of Primary Industry (Mr. Setter) will accompany him.

- (c) courses of action which might be adopted to deal with the problems identified by the Committee.

The Committee comprises Mr. C.G. Setter, Assistant Secretary (Fisheries), Department of Primary Industry, Dr. G.L. Kesteven, Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., and Mr. A.J. Fraser, Director of Fisheries and Fauna (W.A.), representing the State Fisheries Departments. Mr. G.R. Williams, Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., Cronulla, is Secretary to the Committee.

RECOVERY OF DUCK BANDS

The following information has been compiled from Departmental files and concerns records of duck bands which had been recovered and sent into the Department since the opening of the duck shooting season on December 19 last.

An interesting point is the recovery of bands from Mountain Duck which were banded during January last at Rottnest Island by Wildlife Research Officer T.L. Riggert. The six recoveries from Mountain Duck were all made within 65 miles of the place of banding and generally in a southerly direction from Rottnest Island. The longest known time lapse between ringing and recovery of these was 39 days. It certainly appears as though the surplus population of Mountain Duck which breeds on Rottnest Island migrates to other wetlands in the South-Western areas. The greatest distance recorded between ringing and recovery localities was 335 miles. This was a Maned Goose (Wood Duck) banded at Wardering Lake, west of Woodanilling on March 9, 1964, and recovered at Reedy's Swamp, about 18 miles north-east of Kalgoorlie, on December 20, 1964.

Banding Operations - Recovery of Rings December 19, 1964 to February 28, 1965

No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place where recovered and distance from ringing locality	By Whom Recovered	Time Lapse in Days
<u>BLACK DUCK</u>						
10608	11.3.64	Monger's Lake (Perth)	7.12.64	Monger's Lake Nil	A.G. Mathews	272
10674	10.3.64	Hyde Park (Perth)	19.12.64	Capel Lakes 110 miles	M.W. Gross	285

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Under the new regulation all persons, other than professional fishermen, seeking entry into a proclaimed fishing zone must first obtain a written authority from the local Inspector of Fisheries. So far applications have been received by the Department to have Peaceful Bay, John and James Coves (Bremer Bay) and Cheyne Beach declared proclaimed fishing zones under the Act.

The Chief Inspector of Fisheries, or any inspector to whom he may delegate his powers under new section 12B of the Act, may, inter alia, regulate and control by such means as he may think fit the use of the proclaimed zone and the behaviour, conduct and activities of any person whom he may authorize to be in that zone. He also has power to prohibit the entry into such zone of all persons (other than professional fishermen) vehicles, boats, motors and engines, etc.

It must be stressed, particularly to members of the field staff, that no person other than the Chief Inspector or his lawful delegate may exercise these powers. A professional fishermen operating in a proclaimed zone does not have the legal right to order people out or in any way interfere with their free use of the area included in the proclaimed zone - this power is limited to the Chief Inspector or his delegate. It is to be clearly understood that the powers reserved in the Act must be exercised with the utmost prudence so as not to interfere unduly with the general public. For example, if no fish have been sighted in the vicinity the public are to be allowed complete freedom of movement. But if a school of fish has been observed approaching the fishing area, and a professional fisherman desires to catch them such action as deemed necessary to allow the fisherman unimpeded access to the fish should be taken by the inspector.

GEAR RESEARCH COMMITTEE TO MEET

The initial meeting of the Gear Research Committee will take place in Perth on March 25, 1965.

The Committee was established by a resolution of the 1964 (Melbourne) meeting of Commonwealth and State Fisheries Ministers, and was directed to prepare a report for submission to the 1965 conference of Ministers on -

- (a) the need for gear research in Australia;
- (b) the problems, including those of finance, associated with implementing gear research programmes; and

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10027	7.4.62	Wardering Lake	19.12.64	Augusta 130 miles	H. Horner	986
10440	10.3.64	Queen's Gardens (Perth)	26.12.64	Wannamal Lake 60 miles	E. Collett	293
10437	10.3.64	"	20.12.64	Higgins Lake 115 miles	G.E. Smith	296
8158	2.3.61	Wardering Lake	9.1.65	Wilgarup River 80 miles	L.D. Robins	1408
11006	12.3.64	"	*	Bokal 20 miles	P.S. Wright	-
10567	11.3.64	Monger's Lake	26.1.65	Aitkin's Swamp 10 miles	D. Vanbeem	322
8257	9.3.64	Wardering Lake	31.1.65	Murdalmurrin Lake 15 miles	R. Eldridge	329
8273	9.3.64	"	30.1.65	Kulikup 40 miles	F. Hall	328
10628	11.3.64	Queen's Gardens	2.2.65	Queen's Gardens Nil	J. Harris	329
10316	9.3.64	Wardering Lake	30.1.65	Gundaring Lake 20 miles	R.F. Bodkin	328
11132	13.3.64	"	3rd week in Jan. 1965	Lake Muir 70 miles	F.L. Muir	About 315
9251	4.3.61	"	*	Wagin 10 miles	G.C. Kennett	

* Recovery date unknown.

MOUNTAIN DUCK

1514058	13.1.65	Rottneest Is.	26.1.65	Willie's Lake 40 miles	N. Cox	14
1514043	14.1.65	"	24.1.65	Lake Clifton 52 miles	F. Backshall	11
10904	10.3.64	Wardering Lake	28.1.65	Gairdner River 130 miles	J. Morris	323
10375	9.3.63	"	22.1.65	Mortijimup Lake 250 miles	J. Wills	318
1514088	14.1.65	Rottneest Is.	21.2.65	Peel Inlet 37 Miles	N. Harding	39
1514118	30.1.65	"	20.2.65	Lake Preston 65 miles	F.W. Reading	21

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986	1514038	12.1.65	Rottneest Is.	*	Mandurah Estuary	R.S. Atkins	
					40 miles		
293	1515079	14.1.65	"	*	Speck's Lake	V.R. Fraser	
296					35 miles		

* Recovery date unknown

1408

GREY TEAL

-	5892	13.3.64	Wardering Lake	27.12.64	Gundaring Lake	Mr. Lorenzi	290
					25 miles		

322

MANED GOOSE (WOOD DUCK)

329	10367	9.3.64	Wardering Lake	20.12.64	Reedy's Swamp	L.E. Neve	286
					335 miles		

328	10869	10.3.64	"	10.1.65	Kojonup	R.J. Long	306
					55 miles		

329

328

APPOINTMENT OF RESEARCH CADETS

About
315

The Public Service Commissioner has approved of the appointment, as from March 8, of second-year University students, John Joseph Mott and James William Penn, to professional university cadetships in Wildlife Management and Fisheries Research respectively. In anticipation we congratulate Mr. Mott and Mr. Penn on their appointments.

DEPARTMENT IN THE NEWS

14

A newsbrief appearing in the January 22 edition of "The Fishing News", London, concerns recently-amended regulation 14A. The paragraph reads as follows -

11

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"New regulations, designed to end the traffic in under-size crayfish, became effective in Western Australia on December 16 only hours after they had been approved. The regulations, enforced immediately by Fisheries Department inspectors, carry a maximum £A100 penalty."

318

39

The amended regulation 14A which, amongst other things, was promulgated to curtail the processing of crayfish by other than registered export establishments, is as follows:-

21

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Vol. XIII, No. 6

June, 1964

STAFF NOTES

The Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Hutchinson) accompanied by the Director, Mr. Fraser, returned to Perth by air from Singapore on May 24, thereby completing a 4½ weeks' tour of the fisheries of the Philippines, Korea and Japan.

* * *

Research Officer R.J. Slack-Smith, after returning to Head Office on May 8, left again for Shark Bay on May 22 to continue the Department's prawn research programme.

* * *

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, visited the Carnarvon-Shark Bay area from May 18 to 28. Besides inspecting the prawn processing works at Carnarvon and Shark Bay, he tested the use of light buoys on the Shark Bay trawling grounds in an attempt to delimit the closed water boundaries. As trawling in the area is carried out at night the necessity has arisen for the provision of navigational marks which are visible in the hours of darkness. Unless skippers are able to see where they are, it is difficult to confine their trawling activities to open waters. Such marks are also needed to guide our own staff in patrolling this fishery at night.

Mr. Bramley commented that although the light buoys were laid during a period of heavy weather and strong tides, the project proved quite successful.

* * *

We welcome to the staff Mr. T.L. Riggert who commenced duty on May 21. Mr. Riggert, who hails from the U.S.A. holds a B.Sc. degree from the University of Montana. He has been temporarily employed in the Fauna Branch to undertake an urgent ecological survey of the coastal lakes

*life history of mountain Duck with particular
reference to its adaptability to salt water environment.*

and swamps, and to initiate waterfowl research generally. Before coming to Western Australia, Mr. Riggert carried out wildlife research in both Antarctica and New Zealand.

* * *

We extend our congratulations to those officers who recently gained promotion in the Department.

Technical Officer J.S. Simpson has been promoted to the position of Technical Officer, Grade I (G-II-3), recently vacated by Mr. R.J. McKay on his resignation from the public service. Fauna Warden N.E. McLaughlan will shortly move into the position of Technical Officer, Grade 2 (G-II-1/2) formerly occupied by Mr. Simpson. Inspector D.P. Gordon has been promoted to the position of Inspector Grade I (G-II-2), which became vacant on the retirement of Inspector J. Traynor. Applications have been called in the Gazette to fill the positions of Fauna Warden G-II-1/2 and Inspector Grade 2, (G-II-1) previously occupied by Messrs. McLaughlan and Gordon, respectively.

* * *

The Director has approved of the transfer of Inspector A.V. Green, of Geraldton, to the vacancy in the Perth district created by Inspector Traynor's retirement. The Geraldton position will be filled by Inspector B.A. Carmichael, now of Albany, whose place will in turn be occupied by Inspector D.P. Gordon of Bunbury. Inspector E.R. Hammond, of the Mobile Patrol, is being transferred to Bunbury. It is expected that all transfers will be effected before the end of June.

* * *

Officers who commenced annual leave last month include Inspectors G.C. Jeffrey (Mandurah) and C.W. Ostle (Lancelin) on May 4; Senior Inspector A.K. Melsom (Fremantle) Inspector R. Smith (Lancelin), Mr. G.C. Ferguson (Head Office) and Cadet Inspector D.K. Morrison (r.v. Peron) on May 11; Inspector L.R. Frizzell (r.v. Lancelin) and R.G. Emery (Relieving Inspector) on May 18.

* * *

Mr. D.B.M. Heather, who had been employed as crew member on p.v. Dampier since his appointment last November has resigned from the public service.

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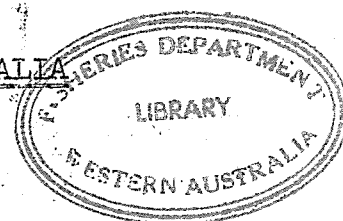
13(4) Apr 1964

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE



23 Apr 1964

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ARTMENT, 'WESTERN AUSTRALIA
LY SERVICE BULLETIN



Vol. XlIII, No. 4.

April, 1964

STAFF NOTES

The Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Ross Hutchinson), accompanied by the Director, Mr. Fraser, will depart from Perth by air on April 23, for Sydney. They will leave Australia the following day on a fact-finding tour in relation to the fishing industries; particularly the tuna industry, in some Far Eastern countries. Their itinerary includes the Philippines, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan and Singapore. It is expected that Messrs. Hutchinson and Fraser will return to Perth about May 25.

* * *

Sanior Research Officer B.K. Bowen and Technical Officer R.J. McKay visited Geraldton from March 23 to 27 to obtain length frequency data by measuring tagged crayfish recently recovered by fishermen in the Abrolhos area. The crayfish were some of those recently tagged under the current research programme and had been consigned to Geraldton by our own staff stationed at the Abrolhos.

* * *

We welcome to the Head Office staff Miss V. Woods and Miss B. Powell, who commenced duty with us on March 16 and 23 respectively. Miss Woods occupies the position of librarian formerly held by Miss G. Scanlon, who resigned from the service on March 19. Miss Powell, who is a new appointee to the public service, is engaged processing fishermen's monthly returns for statistical purposes.

* * *

We regret to announce that Technical Officer R.J. McKay has tendered his resignation from the Department as from close of business on April 3. Mr. McKay is leaving to take an appointment on the staff of the Perth

Inspector Joseph Traynor retired from the Public Service on March 17. Mr. Traynor joined the Department as a Fisheries Inspector on May 21, 1945, and except for a few years while employed as fauna warden, he continued in the position of Inspector until his retirement. As fauna warden he banded many thousands of wild ducks in



Mr. J. Traynor

many out-of-the-way places. As inspector he relieved in most districts, although most of the time he was stationed in Perth. We wish Mr. Traynor good health in a long and happy retirement.

PERSONAL PARS

Mr. S.J. Holt, Chief, Fisheries Biology Branch, F.A.O., Rome, visited Western Australia on March 4 and 5 in company with Dr. G.L. Kesteven,

Assistant Chief (Fisheries), Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O. The purpose of the visit was to enable fisheries research officers to discuss their research problems with Mr. Holt, especially in relation to the analysis of data. The discussions were held in the laboratory at Head office and were largely in the nature of a workshop. Those who took part were Dr. R.G. Chittleborough, of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., Dr. R.W. George of the Western Australian Museum, as well as Messrs. B.K. Bowen, Senior Research Officer, R.J. Slack-Smith, Research Officer, and R.C.J. Lenanton, Cadet Research officer, of our own Department.

The group discussed methods of analysing crayfish data with a view to gaining a better understanding of the state of the fishery. Data relating to Pelsart and Easter Groups, Houtman Abrolhos, were used on a first attempt to estimate the population, in pounds weight, on the grounds at the beginning of each season. Data on the Shark Bay prawn fishery were also analysed to obtain a first estimate of the size of the population.

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Mr. Holt spoke to the group on recent advances in the field of exploited fish population dynamics. While in Perth he also gave a talk to a meeting of the Western Australian branch of the Australian Marine Sciences Association, entitled "The International Biological Programme".

Having a fishery scientist of Mr. Holt's calibre with us even if it was for just two days, was a most refreshing experience. We are most grateful that he was able to include Western Australia in his itinerary, and also to Dr. Kesteven for making his visit possible.

PUBLIC SERVICE PROVIDENT FUND

The Public Service Commissioner has advised that a review of the use made of the Public Service Provident Fund by new appointees in recent years has determined that the continued operation of the Fund is no longer necessary.

The Fund will be closed to new subscribers as from April 1, 1964. From that date new eligible employees may contribute to the Superannuation Provident Account. However, officers who are subscribing to the Fund may continue to do so, or alternatively transfer the balance of their account and their subscriptions to the Superannuation Provident Account.

FAUNA NOTES

Long Association of Two Grey Teal

The recent return by a hunter of two duck bands proved to be of more than usual interest.

Numbered 4194 and 4197, the bands had been placed on two grey teal at Gundaring Lake, 8 miles east of Wagin, on December 9, 1956, by Inspector J. Traynor. The birds were shot a little over 7 years later by Mr. R. Olden, of Boulder. He wrote that they were taken on the same day (January 11, 1964) at the same place (5 miles out of Boulder) which was about 290 miles from their banding site.

Although there are other records of apparent long-term associations, it is generally held that most ducks in the wild pair only for one season. Some waterfowl -

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swans, geese and shelducks - and hawks and owls, are believed to mate for life, but most ducks are believed to be polygamous. Unfortunately, we do not know the sex of the two teal so we cannot assume that they were a true pair. We cannot be certain that the two teal associated continually in the interval between banding and recovery, but, in view of the nomadic habits of the species, it certainly appears probable.

Recovery of Duck Banded in New Zealand

An interesting report appeared in the June, 1963, edition of the Bird Bander, the journal of the Bird Banders Association of Australia, concerning the recovery of banded ducks far from their original place of banding.

A Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos), with band number NZ17-12678 attached, was shot on March 8, 1963, at Narring Narrows, near Murray Mouth, South Australia. This duck had been banded 2 years previously by the Wildlife Research Section, Department of Internal Affairs, Wellington, at Lake Tuakitoto, 40 miles West of Dunedin, in the South Island of New Zealand. It was shot 2,400 miles from where it was banded and was only the third New Zealand duck to be recovered in Australia. The other two were Black Duck (A. superciliosa). One of these was banded at Wairu Lagoon, near Blenheim, South Island, on February 16, 1952, and was shot at Menindee, New South Wales, on December 28, 1957. The other was banded at Lake Whangapi, 60 miles south of Auckland (North Island), on March 8, 1957, and was shot at Newcastle, New South Wales, on January 26, 1960.

One duck banded in Australia has been recovered in New Zealand. This was a Grey Teal (A. gibberifrons) which was banded at Lara, near Geelong, Victoria, by the Victorian Fish and Wildlife Department. It was shot at Te Kauwhata, 60 miles south of Auckland.

Local Sightings

Fleet Maintenance Officer A.J. Bateman reports two interesting observations during the month. The first was the sighting of a lone gannet on March 7 near Rottneest. Mr. Bateman thinks the bird was an old one, for it was almost black. A week later he sighted the

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[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

12(7) Jul 1963

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

ARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

CALM 10/10/1963
NOT FOR L.A.M.

Vol.XII, No. 7

July, 1963

STAFF NOTES

The Director, Mr. A.J. Fraser, and the Fauna Officer, Mr. H.B. Shugg, will visit Jerramungup on July 2. Accompanied by members of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee Mr. A.J. Milesi, Fire Control Superintendent of the Forests Department; Mr. J.B. Higham, of Albany; and Mr. A.H. Robinson, of Coolup, they will inspect sections of an extensive mallee reserve in that district and discuss with local civic leaders a proposal to amend its boundaries and to resite the reserve. The party will return to Perth on July 5.

On July 22, Mr. Fraser will accompany Mr. A. G. Bollen, Assistant Director of the Fisheries Division of the Department of Primary Industry, to Geraldton, Shark Bay and Carnarvon. A note on Mr. Bollen's projected visit appears elsewhere in this issue.

Our congratulations are extended to Technical Officer and Mrs. R.J. McKay on the occasion of the birth of their son Lindsay, on June 4. Mr. McKay commenced three week's annual leave on June 12.

Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler returned to Perth, on June 19, after a fortnight in the Plantagenet shire. He worked there with Mr. L.P. Strugnall, Vermin Control Research Technician, of the Agriculture Protection Board, on control trials of kangaroos in the Perrilup and Porongurup districts.

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley,

(186)

Engineer & Marine Services
Pty. Ltd.
(5 vessels)

Jupiter
Sonoma
Maria S.S.
Saturn
Oceanic

Poole's Fisheries

Bluefin

Eureka Fishing Company

Eureka

Kingfisher Corporation

Geraldton Empress

Ocean Trawling Co.

Atlantic Ocean

M. Lombardo

Nelma

F. Correia

Miss Portuguesa

T. Doak

Fredricka

M. de Sousa

Lady of Fatima

Seafarer Fishing Co.

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TWO STRANGE OLD DUCKS!

Recently, the scientific division of the Criminal Investigation Branch of the Police Department, Perth, successfully determined for us the obliterated numbers which had been stamped on a number of returned duck bands. A strange coincidence was revealed when one of the band numbers was deciphered as 3182. When the banding records were checked it was revealed that this band had been attached to a Grey Teal at Yealering Lake by Inspector J. Traynor on January 23, 1955. A band from another teal banded at the same place was also returned about the same time. It was numbered 3204, and had been placed on a grey teal on January 25, 1955, only two days after No. 3182. The recovery details received indicated that both birds had been shot almost eight years later, on January 1, 1963. 3182 was shot 20 miles north-east of Kalgoorlie by a Mr. O. Bennetts, while on the same day, 3204 was shot 25 miles north-west of Kalgoorlie by Mr. B. McCahon.

Seal I
Shag R
Bird I

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Band number 3204 was not very badly worn at all - in fact its number was quite decipherable. On the other hand, band 3182 was very badly worn and anyone viewing it could not help but regard the restoration of its number as a marvel of science. The recovery of these bands not only tabulates an extraordinary coincidence, but also provides a valuable record of longevity in the species. The apparent continued general association of the two birds also challenges one's imagination.

SHOALWATER BAY SANCTUARIES

On June 20, Fauna Warden N.E. McLaughlan and Assistant Inspector A.H. Ullrich, accompanied Miss C.A. Nicholls, of the Division of Wildlife Research, C.S.I.R.O., on a banding expedition to the island sanctuaries in Shoalwater Bay. They also obtained some study material and recorded the following information on nesting and breeding on the islands -

SILVER GULLS (LARUS NOVOE-HOLLANDIAE)

Breeding Records and Population Structure Shoalwater Bay Sanctuary June 1963

Name of Island	No. of Adults	No. of nests with			No. of Juveniles.		
		1 egg	2 eggs	3 eggs	Banded	Not Banded Too Young	On Wing
Seal Island (1)	300-400	17	79	4	76	25	20
Shag Rocks (2)	80	1	5	-	2	-	-
Bird Island (3)	300	6	10	-	16	34	(4)

- (1) 3 adult birds and 12 juveniles found dead
- (2) 2 juvenile birds found dead
- (3) 12 juvenile dead found including 6 partially eaten.
- (4) These 34 were not banded as it would have been dangerous to disturb them.

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(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

11(6) Jul 1962

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DEPARTMENT
AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. XI, No. 6

July, 1962

STAFF NOTES

The Director, Mr A.J. Fraser, will commence one week's annual leave on July 2. Miss Helen Gilfellon, and Mr P. Yewers of Head Office, will also take one week's annual leave this month. The former will start on July 9.

Officers who will be absent from duty on annual leave next month include Assistant Inspectors E.H. Barker and R.G. Emery, who will each commence three weeks' leave, on August 13 and August 20 respectively, and Miss H. Sivwright, of Head Office, who will take one week from August 27 to 31, inclusive.

Three assistant inspectors will be posted on inter-district transfers this month. They are D.H. Smith, from Fremantle to Albany; R.G. Emery, from Mandurah to Fremantle; and G.J. Hanley, from Perth to Mandurah. The transfers will be effected on July 16. The projected interchange of inspectors, Grade I, has been delayed until September.

Research Officer B.K. Bowen and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson will go to Geraldton later this month to continue the crayfish research programme, provided the intake of fish at the processing works improves. Catches have been so poor lately, as a result of bad weather, that

to him in this State and recommended it as a sauce fit to garnish the high-quality prawns being caught here:-

GENUINE SOUTHERN BARBECUE SAUCE

For 8 People - (12 Prawns Each)

Two 28 oz. Bottles Tomato Sauce
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ Cups Vinegar
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Cup Brown Sugar
3 Medium Onions
1 Cup Olive Oil
Teaspoon Salt
Good dash of Pepper, Garlic and
Chilli Powder
Tablespoon Hot Sauce
 $\frac{1}{4}$ Cup Worcestershire Sauce
Several Tablespoons of Pickles,
(any sort).

Fry chopped onions in Olive Oil and add remaining ingredients. Simmer for a while (as long as possible), with the uncooked prawns in it.

Serve over rice (with beer).

This sauce can also be used to garnish chicken, steaks or pork. After grilling, they should be put in the sauce and simmered for a while to barbecue them.

ADDITIONAL STAFF APPOINTMENT

In the Government Gazette, of June 8, it was reported that a new item of Assistant Inspector of Fisheries, classification G-VII-1/2, had been created. The new position will provide assistance to the Inspector at Albany (at present Mr B.A. Carmichael) whose increased duties in respect of the sperm whale and other research programmes has made it impossible for him to pay proper attention to his district. As reported elsewhere in this issue, Assistant Inspector D.H. Smith, of Fremantle, will be transferred to the new item on July 16.

OUTSTANDING DUCK BAND RECOVERIES

Since the commencement of the last open season for wild ducks, some particularly old bands have been handed in. One was so worn that even the Scientific Bureau of the C.I.B. were unable to decipher its full number, but sufficient figures were "brought up" to say,

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fairly definitely, that it was from one of a large group of grey teal which were banded by Mr J. Traynor at Big Bootine Swamp, Beermullah in the Gingin district, in March, 1953. When it was shot at Lake Mortijinup, near Esperance, on January 6, 1962, it had been in circulation for nearly 9 years - possibly an Australian record (see Vol. X, No. 2, February, 1961, for previous comment).

Another was band. 2996 which was from a grey teal banded at Lake Mears, near Brookton, on November 11, 1954. This bird was recovered on January 7, 1962, at Wannamal Lake, about 60 miles north of Perth.

The following records of bands recovered in this State have been received from the Director of Fisheries and Wildlife, Victoria. All these birds were Grey Teal and each was banded at Lara, near Geelong, Victoria.

<u>Band No.</u>	<u>Date Banded</u>	<u>Date Recovered</u>	<u>Place Recovered</u>
542681	7.3.58	9.3.62	Wagin, W.Australia.
616779	3.2.57	10.1.62	Near Esperance, on a lake, W.Australia.
536713	20.1.56	12.2.60	20 miles south of Boulder, W.Australia.
53778?	9.2.56	24.3.62	Kalgoorlie, Western Australia.

RARE PLANT COLLECTED

An application having been received for the alienation of reserve 18245, at Wubin, it was inspected on June 14 by the Fauna Protection Officer. He found that it was an interesting but small reserve of about 300 acres. Although only a few species of fauna were identified, a collection of 27 different plants was made and large numbers of birds were seen and heard. Included among the plants collected was a small ground plant subsequently identified as Grevillea nana C.A. Gardn. The Curator of the Western Australian Herbarium (Mr R.D. Royce) advised that it was particularly gratifying to have this plant in the collection. It was believed to be extremely rare and was originally collected between Koorda and Bencubbin. Its occurrence at Wubin was the only place it was known to exist on a reserve. From a botanical sense, this made it a particularly important area. It has been recommended that the purpose of the reserve (which was originally set aside as a water reserve) be amended to the conservation of flora and fauna and that it be vested in the local Shire Council, two of whose members are honorary wardens.

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[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

10(11) Dec 1961

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DEPARTMENT

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. X, No. 11

DECEMBER, 1961

PAUL LIDNARY ARCHIVE
NOT FOR LOAN



FROM THE DIRECTOR AND STAFF, FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE, PERTH, W.A.

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2/7/2015

AUSTRALIAN WATERFOWL COMMITTEE

Advice has been received from the Secretary, Australian Waterfowl Advisory Committee, that a meeting of the committee will be held in Sydney from January 16-18. This State's representative will be Mr H.B. Shugg, Fauna Protection Officer and Secretary, Fauna Protection Advisory Committee. Mr Shugg, who attended the committee's last meeting in Brisbane as an observer, was recently appointed as Western Australia's delegate, vice Mr B.K. Bowen. As reported elsewhere, Mr Bowen is now carrying out his crayfish research programme on a full-time basis.

The theme of the 1962 meeting will be "Planning for Waterfowl Conservation". It is being designed to set out the technical and other requirements for setting up or expanding a State programme for the conservation of wild ducks. As such, it should be of particular benefit to this State, for although we have had a waterfowl research programme "on the books", as it were, for nearly a decade, staff and finance limitations have constricted activities, particularly in recent years, to the adventitious banding of wild ducks. We now need to take a long look at what research is essential and what staff and equipment will be required to carry out an effective programme.

At the same time, the Waterfowl Committee will discuss other matters of practical importance to all States, principally in relation to measures of interstate co-operation in the fields of both research and conservation. Banding carried out in the past by the States and the Wildlife Survey Section, C.S.I.R.O. has already established that Australia's duck population must be considered on an overall basis as well as from the differing points of view of the respective States. While Western Australia may be considered to be fortunate in that we have virtually no interstate border controversies, there is no disputing that grey teal range over the whole continent and our open season does commence months before other States think it wise to allow shooters to operate in their duck grounds.

It is expected that all States, the Northern Territory and the Wildlife Survey Section, C.S.I.R.O., will be represented.

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DEPARTMENT
AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN



CALM LIBRARY ARCHIVE
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Vol. X, No. 2

February, 1961.

STAFF NOTES

On February 6 the Director (Mr. A.J. Fraser) will accompany the Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Hutchinson) on an inspection of the new landing and processing facilities at Jurien Bay. They will be flown there by Mr. Rodney Hunt, of Hunt's Cannery Pty. Ltd., in his Cessna aircraft, and at Jurien Bay will be the guests of Mr. Theo Kailis, Managing Director of Ross International Fisheries Pty. Ltd. They will return to Perth on the same afternoon.

* * *

The Chief Clerk (Mr. B.R. Saville) will be absent from the State for six weeks commencing February 20, when he will begin accrued and annual leave. Mr. Saville will spend his leave in Adelaide, after which he will call on the Director of Fisheries and Game, Mr. A.C. Bogg, and spend some days with officers of the South Australian Department. He will later travel to Melbourne for discussions with executives of the Victorian Department of Fisheries and Wildlife and to see what he can of the local fisheries. He will return to Perth about the second week in April.

* * *

During Mr. Saville's absence in the eastern States, the Fauna Protection Officer, Mr. H.B. Shugg, will act as Chief Clerk and Mr. A.J. Buchanan as Fauna Protection Officer. Mr. Buchanan's duties will be carried out by Mr. W.K. Cherrington.

* * *

Cadet Inspector I.L. Cardon, who was recently posted to the research vessel "Lancelin" as crew member, suffered an attack

WILD DUCK LONGEVITY

In the last issue of this Bulletin we recorded that a grey teal carrying band 1380 had been shot at Moora. This bird was banded on February 14, 1953, and was taken on December 18, 1960, 94 months and 4 days after it was banded. Thinking that it might be an Australian record we got in touch with the only other banding authorities in Australia who have been working long enough to have had a comparable recovery. It now transpires that the Victorian Department of Fisheries and Wildlife holds the record. A grey teal banded by officers of that Department on May 8, 1952, was recovered on March 14, 1960. The Victorian bird therefore lived for 2,868 days after banding while our teal lived a mere 2,865!

On January 16, Mr. Orton, who recovered band 1380, shot another banded duck. This also was a grey teal which had been banded on July 5, 1957, at Beatrice Lagoon, Humpty-Doo Station, Northern Territory. This was the 37th grey teal banded in the Northern Territory to be recovered in this State.

INVESTIGATION FORM "A"

This form has been discontinued and will not be required in future.

BREACHES - SECTION 24, FISHERIES ACT

A new report form for breaches under Section 24 of the Fisheries Act has been prepared and will be available within a week or so. This form must be completed in triplicate. The original and duplicate will then be forwarded to Head Office and the triplicate retained by the Inspector.

EXCLUSIVE PEARLING LICENSES

The Minister for Fisheries, Mr. Hutchinson, announced recently that he had signed two new licenses granting the holders exclusive rights under the Pearling Act to cultivate pearlshell and pearls. The first was issued to Mr. W.A. Rossiter, of Broome. It was issued for a period of three years from January 1, 1961, and covers about four square miles in Malumbo Anchorage, King Sound. It was issued for a rental of £25 p.a. The second license is in favour of Mr. A.C. Morgan, also of Broome. The rental for his area, which is near Giralia in Exmouth Gulf, is £50 p.a. It is also for a period of three years from January 1. Applications have also been received from R.M. Rowell & Co., of Derby, for an area near Malumbo Anchorage and from Mr. D.M. Brown, of Broome, for an area in Cygnet Bay, near Lagger Cove, also in King sound.

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DEPARTMENT
AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN



Vol. X, No. 1

January, 1961.

STAFF NOTES

We are relieved to report that the health of Cadet Inspector P.K. Enright, who has been dangerously ill with a brain infection, has greatly improved. It is expected that he will be discharged from Royal Perth Hospital early in January to undergo a course of physiotherapy at his home town of Northam.

* * *

The Director, Mr. A.J. Fraser, will accompany the Minister for Fisheries, Mr. Hutchinson, on a visit to Denmark and Albany on January 19-20. They will meet the Denmark Road Board and representatives of the South Coast Licensed Fishermen's Association to discuss certain aspects of the fisheries of the respective centres.

* * *

As Secretary of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, Mr. H.B. Shugg, of Head Office, accompanied committee member A.J. Milesi to Narrogin on December 22. They were joined there by another committee member, Mr. J.B. Higham, of Albany. After being entertained by the Narrogin Road Board at luncheon, they addressed the Board on the future status of the headwaters of the Arthur River and replied to questions by members who were anxious to find out the Committee's management plans for this wetland habitat.

* * *

The Pearling Inspector, Mr. R.J. Baird, of Broome, will commence biennial leave on January 13 and on its completion he will commence three months' long service leave. Inspector E.I. Forster will leave Perth by air on January 6 to take over Mr. Baird's duties during his absence.

data of salmon in Western Australian waters, and Dr. Kesteven was anxious to learn to what extent we could assist. The Director has now approved of our co-operation, and details of the required studies will be worked out by Dr. Malcolm and our Research Officer, Mr. Bowen. It is expected that the necessary field work will be placed in the hands of Technical Officer L.G. Smith.

OPENING OF DUCK SHOOTING SEASON

Four groups of officers left Perth on the weekend before Christmas to patrol the final hours of the close season and to witness activities generally at some of the more important duck shooting areas. This was the first occasion when so many officers attended the opening shoot of the season.

The Research Officer, Mr. Bowen, accompanied by Technical Officer J.S. Simpson, first went to Gundaring Lake, near Wagin, but the shooting was so poor there that they later proceeded to Taarblin, where they inspected shooters' bags and aged and sexed a number of birds.

Messrs. H.B. Shugg and W.K. Cherrington, of Head Office, called in at Benger Swamp, near Harvey, and contacted honorary wardens and shooters before going on to the Stirling Estate at Capel. Well over 100 guns operated at both areas. The shooting at Benger was more successful than in previous years, shooters bagging on the average more than six birds. No count was taken at the Stirling Estate, but the party reported that there were more ducks present than in previous years and shooters appeared to achieve reasonable bags. Full details were not secured as the two officers left the area before the shooting concluded to patrol the closed Vasse and Wonnerup Estuaries, and to inspect the Broadwater south of Busselton which local residents had petitioned to be closed.

Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler attended the opening shoot at Lake Wannamal, north of Gingin, where he contacted honorary wardens. His arrival on the afternoon before the opening was timely as he was able to apprehend four men who commenced shooting at 6.45 p.m. on December 17. The opening time in that area, it will be remembered, is 5 a.m. on December 18. Mr. Bowler estimated that approximately 60 guns were present at the opening on Sunday morning but, contrary to expectations, ducks were rather scarce although the Lake was at a high level. The average bag was approximately three.

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Fauna Warden N.E. McLaughlan, accompanied by Honorary Warden D.G. Bathgate, went to Walyormouring or Oak Park Lake in the Goomalling District. Mr. McLaughlan estimated that about 2,000 ducks were on the Lake as well as large aggregations of banded stilts and coot. As in all other areas (except the Stirling Estate), grey teal predominated. Mr. McLaughlan reported that a number of shooters had taken the bag limit by 7.30 a.m. He and Mr. Bathgate were able to sex and weigh 235 ducks, a really commendable effort on their part. 80% of the birds examined were grey teal and 11.5% were mountain duck. The percentage of black ducks was only 2.5.

The following comparison of the weights of grey teal has been prepared by the Research Officer :-

Year and Place	Males		Females	
	Juvenile	Mature	Juvenile	Mature
	oz.	oz.	oz.	oz.
1957 (Gundaring)	16	17	14½	16½
1958 (Taarblin)	15½	18	14	16
1960 (Taarblin)	17	20	16	18
1960 (Oak Park)	16½	19	16	17

Mr. Bowen says it is obvious that there has been very little variation in the year-by-year weights of teal sampled in 1957, 1958 and 1960. It is of interest to note that the teal examined at Oak Park in 1960 were similar in weight to those at Taarblin.

IMPORTANT BAND RECOVERIES

The first record of a trans-Australia flight by a black duck was received recently. The bird concerned was banded in the Woodanilling district of Western Australia with band number 7437 on April 3, 1958. It was caught on November 14, 1960, in a wire trap on a house dam at Nyngynderry Station, Menindee, by Mr. D.H. Lennon. Menindee is on the Darling River in the Western Division of New South Wales. The banding and recovery points were 1,483 miles apart. While research work has established that black duck are far more sedentary than grey teal, this recovery demonstrates that under certain conditions "blackies" will also move over great distances. It will be remembered that some time ago a black duck banded in New Zealand was later recovered in Victoria.

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A second important recovery has been received from Mr. C.L.E. Orton, of Moora. He forwarded to Dr. Serventy, of C.S.I.R.O., who sent it on to us, band number 1380, which was placed on a grey teal at Wardering Lake, Woodanilling, on February 14, 1953. The teal was shot by Mr. Orton on a swamp at Moora on opening day, December 18, 1960. The bird was then in its eighth year of banding, which is an interesting record of longevity.

FURTHER BOAT LOSSES

Accidents to fishing craft continue to happen at a rate almost comparable with road traffic mishaps. The 30-ft. cray boat "Galeb" was only $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours out from Fremantle on her maiden voyage on December 2 when she hit a reef at Ledge Point and sank in 10 minutes. Both Skipper R. Latter, of Medina, and his crew hand reached shore safely. The "Galeb", which was valued at £6,000, was not insured. She was later washed ashore and patched up sufficiently to be towed back to Fremantle.

The Australian Pearling Company's cray boat "Trixen", a converted pearling lugger, broke a tail shaft at Lancelin on December 29. She was taken in tow by the 68-ft. l.f.b. "Nanango", which is owned by the same company.

The biggest cray boat on the coast, the 270-ton "Laakanuki", suffered damage when her stern drifted on to the stone groyne at the Fremantle fishing boat harbour on December 27. One tail shaft was bent and will require replacing and one of the ship's two gear boxes was also damaged. A former naval refrigeration lighter, the "Laakanuki" was just on her way back to Jurien Bay with bait for her fleet of catcher-boats after the Christmas recess when the mishap occurred.

ADDITIONAL SANCTUARIES

In recent weeks five new sanctuaries have been set aside as reserves under section 29 (g) of the Land Act. The first is at Elashgin Soak in the Wyalkatchem Road District. It is a "C" class reserve, No. 19002, set aside as a picnic ground and for the conservation of flora and fauna. It is 640 acres in extent but, as its principal purpose will be as a local picnic area, it will not receive more than general oversight by the Department, and control of the reserve has, under the Land Act, been vested in the local Road Board.

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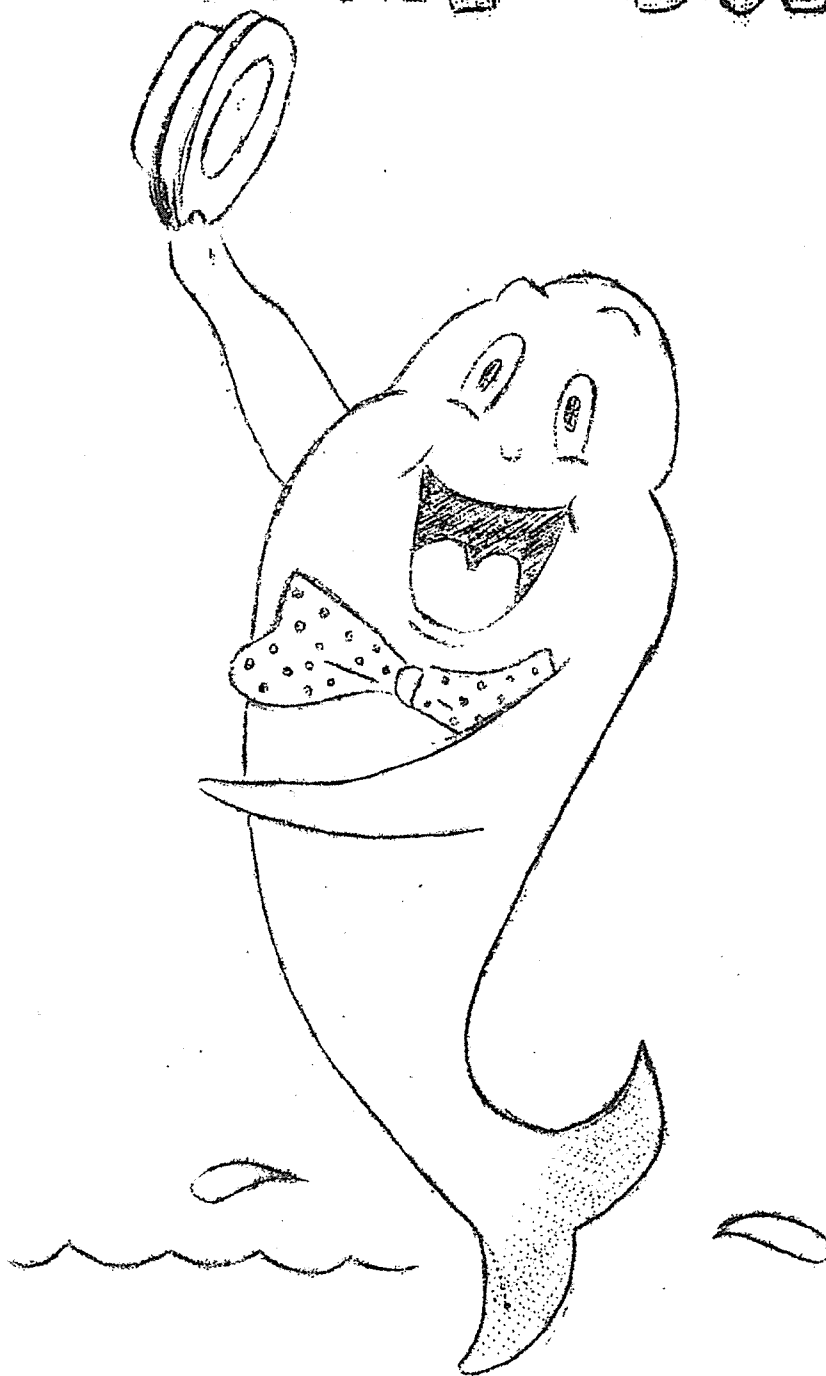
JOURNAL

[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

9(11) Dec 1960

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

BULLETIN



SEASONAL GREETINGS

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DIRECTOR & HEAD OFFICE
STAFF.

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WESTERN AUSTRALIA
VOL. IX, NO. 11. DECEMBER, 1960.

Inspector E.I. Forster and Cadet Inspector R.G. Emery are stationed at Lancelin at least for the first part of the 1960/61 crayfish season. Assistant Inspector D.H. Smith is similarly stationed at Jurien Bay.

* * *

Technical Officer L.G. Smith returned to duty on November 10 after an operation followed by six weeks' sick leave. He will commence annual leave on December 28.

* * *

We regret to report that Cadet Inspector P.K. Enright is very seriously ill in Royal Perth Hospital. Kevin had recently been transferred to r.v. "Lancelin", and had served only one week in her before his seizure, which appears to be the result of some form of brain infection.

ANNUAL INSPECTORS' CONFERENCE

A brief summary of the seventeenth annual conference of field, research and administrative staffs of the Department was published in the October-November issue of this Bulletin. Hereunder is a more detailed outline of the reports presented to and discussions which took place at the conference.

FAUNA PROTECTION SECTION.

Fauna Warden S.W. Bowler.

Mr. Bowler gave full details of patrols carried out during the year, which included visits to the Shoalwater Bay Sanctuary with members of the Australian Bird Banding Scheme to carry out bird-banding operations, attendance at the opening of the wild duck season in different areas and investigating complaints by farmers regarding damage to crops by grey kangaroos.

Mr. Bowler said the cagebird trade had waned considerably during the year, and he anticipated that future imports of birds from the eastern States would diminish. During 1959 birds exported from this State totalled 15,780 and from January 1 to June 30, 1960, exports totalled 2,139. Birds imported into the State during 1959 totalled 80,611, and 8,411 during the first half of 1960.

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the provisions of the Fisheries Acts, both Commonwealth and State, so that they would be fully conversant with the law when dealing with fishermen and the public and also when submitting recommendations for prosecutions. If in doubt, queries should be referred to Head Office.

District officers who were absent from their office for more than 24 hours must give prior notice to Head Office.

RESEARCH SECTION.

Research Officer B.K. Bowen.

Mr. Bowen dealt mainly with the outcome of three conferences which he attended prior to the annual Fisheries Inspectors' Conference, and also with research work carried out over the preceding 12 months.

(a) Waterfowl Conference. Mr. Bowen told the conference that a committee known as the Australian Waterfowl Advisory Committee had been set up on the recommendation of the Fauna Authorities Conference held in Sydney in 1958. Its object was to discuss problems of waterfowl and submit recommendations based on these discussions to the Fauna Authorities Biennial Conference. He had been appointed the W.A. representative.

The first meeting of this committee had been held in Melbourne in February, 1960, and through general discussion it was made evident that the time was rapidly approaching when problems concerning waterfowl should be considered on an Australia-wide basis.

The need for Australia-wide control was illustrated by the example of the Murray-Darling basin where the major teal-breeding area in Australia was situated. The damming of rivers for irrigation purposes and the prevention of flooding was virtually wiping out the low-lying swamplands which were the breeding places for ducks, particularly teal. Without such large areas of flooded land the breeding sites were diminishing quite markedly and as a result the wild duck population was falling away.

Another point which arose at the meeting was that of the pooling of information coming from waterfowl banding programmes in the various States. This was necessary to

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provide statistics on an Australia-wide basis. It was intended to introduce a card system for these statistics. It would be established in a central repository so that there would be an Australia-wide statistical record.

2. Commonwealth Fisheries Conference.

As a comprehensive summary of this conference was to appear in the October-November issue of the Service Bulletin, Mr. Bowen dealt mainly with the subject of fishery statistics. He stressed the importance of such statistics as a means of aiding research. By compiling statistics on a certain subject research officers were able to forecast future occurrences of fish. Research problems therefore all pointed strongly to the need for proper statistics, so that certain situations could be accurately predicted.

The outcome of discussions on statistics led to the setting up of a committee consisting of representatives of the C.S.I.R.O., the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the Commonwealth Fisheries Office and the State Fisheries Departments. Mr. Bowen said that in all probability the committee would meet in each State to discuss the matter fully with each fisheries authority. This might result in a slight change in existing requirements and practices. The three main points to be looked for were :-

1. Total catch.
2. Catch-per-unit-effort.
3. Weight frequencies of the commercial catch.

Another subject discussed at the Commonwealth conference was that of the importation of fish brought into Australia for aquarium purposes. It was considered that without some form of adequate control people could release into streams fish which could cause damage to existing aquatic organisms. A small committee was appointed to draw up a list of fishes already in Australia which could be harmful, another list of fishes which should be banned entirely, and a list of fishes which were not yet in Australia and which should not be allowed in.

3. Crayfish Conference.

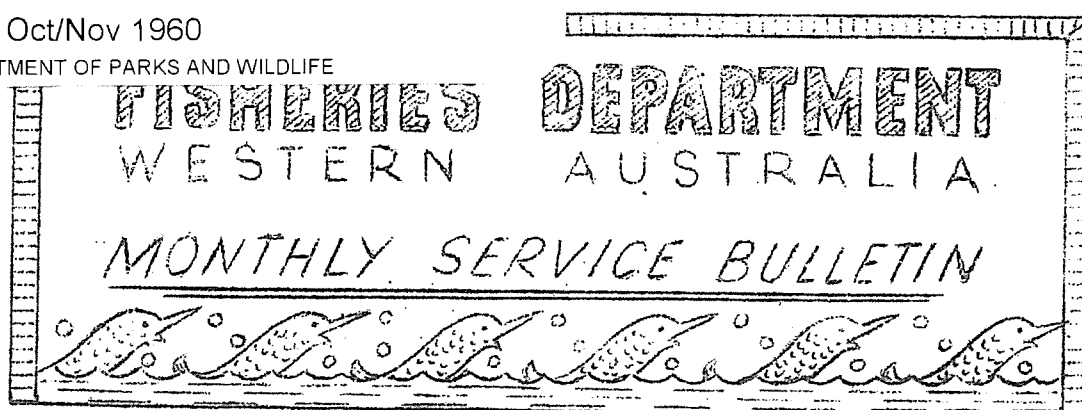
Mr. Bowen told the conference that the purpose of this particular meeting was to assemble all information at present available in relation to crayfish. Five papers were read to conference members.

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[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

9(10) Oct/Nov 1960

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE



Vol. IX, No. 10.

October-November, 1960.

STAFF NOTES

The Director, Mr. A.J. Fraser, returned to Perth by air on September 22 after attending conferences of State and Commonwealth Fauna and Fisheries Authorities at Brisbane and Canberra, respectively. Accompanied by the Chief Clerk (Mr. B.R. Saville) and the Research Officer (Mr. B.K. Bowen) he visited Pemberton during the week-end of October 1/2 and presided at a meeting of the Trout Acclimatisation Council of W.A. On October 20 he visited Gnowangerup to discuss fishing restrictions and access to the salmon beaches in the vicinity of the Beaufort and Wellstead Estuaries with fishermen and representatives of the Gnowangerup Road Board.

* * *

The Research Officer, who also attended the Commonwealth-State Fisheries Conference at Canberra and a subsequent conference of officers of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography, C.S.I.R.O., at Cronulla, N.S.W., returned to Perth on September 28. Mr. Bowen had earlier attended meetings of the Australian Waterfowl Committee in Melbourne and Brisbane.

* * *

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, resumed duty on September 26 after nine weeks' sick leave.

* * *

The Fauna Protection Officer, Mr. H.B. Shugg, returned to duty on October 19 after annual leave. Mr. Shugg had previously

Abrolhos Crayfish Production (cont.)

(3)

Year	Catch per man				
	North Island	Wallabi Group	Easter Group	Pelsart Group	All Groups
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1951	16,601	16,684	22,732	14,771	17,530
1952	16,555	22,084	18,118	16,481	18,446
1953	17,606	22,041	16,199	17,294	18,203
1954	13,931	18,883	19,784	19,800	18,756
1955	15,482	18,402	17,082	14,952	16,592
1956	12,769	16,979	20,373	14,038	16,189
1957	16,661	17,221	17,382	14,211	16,411
1958	17,204	17,692	18,018	14,516	17,063
1959	15,329	14,001	17,184	14,912	15,373
1960	12,529	13,205	14,391	14,728	13,679

Biennial Conference of Australian Fauna Authorities.

Last September delegates from all States and from the Australian Capital and Northern Territories, with representatives of Commonwealth Departments, met at Brisbane to discuss problems and policies associated with fauna conservation and protection. It was the first time that Queensland had been the host State and only the second of these at which all States had been represented.

Items discussed included reports on current research programmes and the co-ordination and planning of research. These comprised waterfowl in general, vermin control measures and their effect on fauna, and other management problems. Not the least of these were those resulting from the commercial exploitation of kangaroos.

A feature of the conference was the early appointment of a committee whose job it was, progressively, to draft and prepare resolutions arising from the discussions for later consideration by the conference. The compact and smoothly-functioning

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committee, which comprised the conference's convening officer, Mr. J.A. Weddell, of Queensland; the Director of Fisheries and Wildlife, Victoria (Mr. A.D. Butcher); and our own Director, Mr. Fraser, was able to crystallise various decisions into readily acceptable terms. The net result was that the most important function of the conference, the circulation of its resolutions, was accomplished before the record of proceedings reached draft form.

The resolutions passed by the conference read as follows :-

Resolution No. 1 - Pesticides.

That this Conference, having given consideration to the increasing use of pesticides for the control of pest fauna and weeds, and appreciating the need for adequate control, believes that little cognizance has been taken of their adverse effect on native fauna and recommends to the Governments of the respective States and Territories that, before undertaking poisoning on Crown lands, or on reserves, sanctuaries or other areas set aside for the conservation of native fauna, the opinion of the fauna conservation authority be obtained as to the possible effect of such poisoning on the native fauna occurring therein.

Resolution No. 2 - Wedge-tailed Eagle.

That this Conference, having regard to the diverse opinions of pastoralists and agriculturists in regard to the depredations of the wedge-tailed eagle, and being anxious to avoid unnecessary destruction of native fauna, recommends to the Wildlife Survey Section of C.S.I.R.O. that it undertake a biological study of the species for the purpose of arriving at an authoritative assessment of its destructiveness or otherwise.

Resolution No. 3 - Basic Research.

Conference is of the opinion that, in attempting to seek the solution of short-term fauna problems, the role of basic research in providing the solution to problems is frequently neglected. As one step towards achieving an acceptance of the need for basic research the State fauna authorities should consider inviting co-operation of groups of interested persons and providing them with information which would foster their interest. This in turn could lead to a greater public awareness. One of the present difficulties in organising biological investigations is that of obtaining assistants with adequate biological training.

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Conference recommends that the respective State authorities give consideration to possible ways and means of meeting this problem.

Resolution No. 4 - Waterfowl Breeding Areas.

That this Conference, having consideration to the very great importance of certain areas of duck breeding habitat within the Murray-Darling basin, wishes to bring to the attention of the N.S.W. Water Conservation and Irrigation Commission the urgent need for the provision of protective measures for duck breeding habitat during planning stages of water conservation schemes.

Resolution No. 5 - Waterfowl Drought Refuge.

That this Conference, having regard to the very great importance of the area known as BAMEROO-GJAGA, Goose Camp, in the Northern Territory, as a refuge for waterfowl during times of extreme drought, recommends to the Northern Territory Administration that steps be taken to ensure the future preservation of this area under the appropriate form of reservation.

Resolution No. 6 - Banding Records

Conference agrees to the necessity for uniformity of waterfowl banding records and recommends that the respective State and Federal authorities carrying out banding should retain an additional record for delivery to a Central Depository when such has been established. For this purpose the Australian Waterfowl Advisory Committee should define the form of record to be kept.

Resolution No. 7 - Wildlife Reserves.

Conference places on record its recognition of the value of the very real progress made over the past few years in respect to sanctuaries and related wildlife reserves as reported by the several States and takes cognizance of the need for a greater public awareness of these developments. Conference also wishes to acknowledge the assistance being given by the Australian Academy of Science to the national parks concept in this country.

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Conference strongly recommends to the several State and Federal authorities that this activity in the field of wildlife habitat be intensified.

(S.A. abstained from voting).

Resolution No. 8 - Private Zoos

Conference places on record its opposition to private zoos or collections of fauna, but in so doing accepts that such opposition may be qualified in those States which do not possess major zoological gardens. Conference excludes bona fide avicultural collections from the terms of this resolution.

Resolution No. 9 - Overseas Export

Conference expresses its disapproval of the unilateral action by the Commonwealth on the question of the export of fauna and stresses the necessity for Commonwealth and State consultation before action affecting State fauna administration is initiated.

(C.S.I.R.O., Department of the Interior, and Department of Customs and Excise abstained from voting)

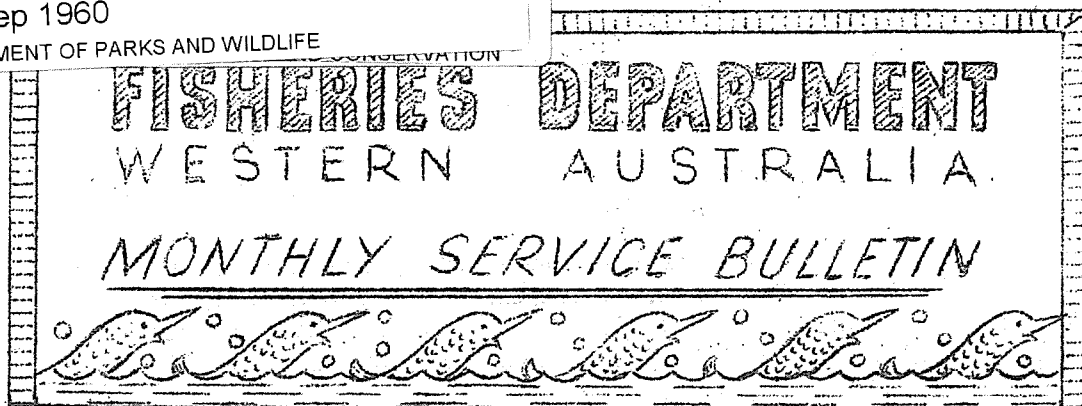
Resolution No. 10 - Control of Exotics in Aviaries.

Western Australia expressed concern at the possible spread of exotic aviary birds and instanced the case of the Java sparrow and the potential risk to the rice industry. Conference therefore recommends that each State and Territory and the C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Survey Section examine the exotic aviary bird position with a view to submitting to the Conference Secretariate lists of those species considered to present a potential threat to primary industry or native fauna, together with a statement as to the specific potential problem, and that this item be included in the next Conference agenda.

Resolution No. 11. - Check-Lists of Birds and Mammals.

That this Conference, recognising the need for up to date check lists of both birds and mammals in Australia, seeks the co-operation of the Wildlife Survey Section, C.S.I.R.O., the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union and the Australian Mammal Society in the preparation of these lists.

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Vol. IX, No. 9.

September, 1960.

STAFF NOTES.

The Director, Mr. A. J. Fraser, commenced one week's annual leave on August 29. Prior to the Interstate Fauna Authorities Conference, which is to be held in Brisbane during the week commencing September 12, Mr. Fraser will visit a number of ports on the Queensland coast to see something of the development of that State's prawn fisheries. A tour of inspection has been arranged for him by the Queensland Department of Harbours and Marine. He will be taken on their vessel over some of the prawning grounds.

* * *

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J. E. Bramley, is expected to leave hospital early this month. He will convalesce at his home for a period before returning to duty.

* * *

Inspector E. I. Forster returned to metropolitan headquarters on August 12 and commenced annual leave on August 22. Mr. Forster returned from the Albany area (where he had been temporarily stationed) earlier than had been expected due to the cessation of humpback whaling at Albany.

Inspector F. J. Campbell and Cadet Inspector P. K. Enright will carry out a coast patrol in the Lancelin area during the week commencing September 5.

* * *

Fauna Warden S. W. Bowler commenced **one** week's annual leave on August 29. Inspector A. V. Green, of Mandurah, also commenced two week's leave on the same date. During his absence, the relieving inspector, Mr. G. C. Jeffery is in charge of the Mandurah district.

Other officers going on leave this month include, Inspector G. D. Houston, skipper of the p.v. "Dampier", from September 5; Assistant Inspector E. Barker, of Mandurah, also on September 5; Mr. G. C. Ferguson, of Head Office, on September 12 and Assistant Inspector D. P. Gordon of the p.v. "Misty Isle", on September 26.

* * *

Officers who resumed duty last month after annual leave include, Inspector T. B. Baines, of Bunbury, on August 22 and Mr. W. K. Cherrington, of Head Office, on August 29.

* * *

Technical Officer, R. J. McKay, who has been working on r.v.'s "Lancelin" and "Peron" and privately-owned prawning vessels operating from Carnarvon, will remain in that area. In his spare time, he is continuing his important work on the speciation and distribution of Western Australian fishes.

* * *

Technical Officers L. G. Smith and J. S. Simpson, under the freshwater research programme, are continuing their work on dams in the Boyup Brook area. It is expected that it will be a further 18 months before the programme is completed.

MOVEMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL VESSELS.

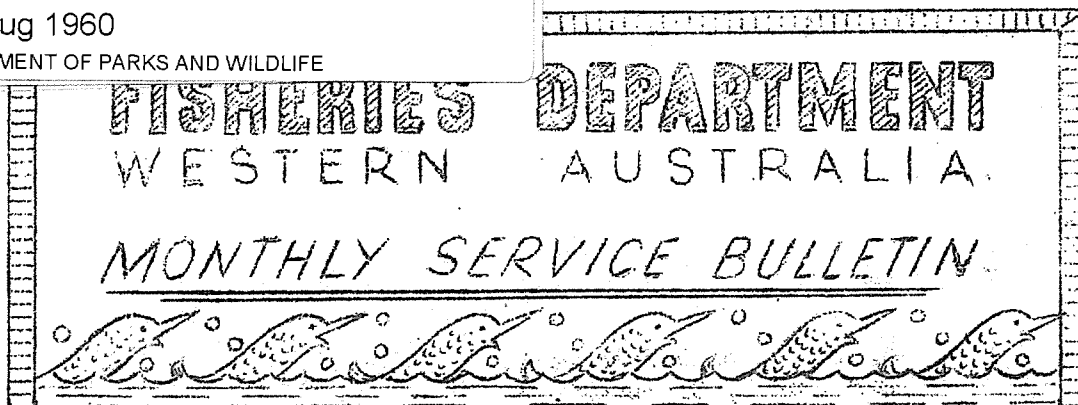
The r.v. "Lancelin", under command of her Master, Mr. C. J. Seabrook, with Mr. C. R. C. Haynes, Mate, and Cadet Inspector R. G. Emery, Deckhand, is expected to finish her investigational work on snapper in Shark Bay towards the end of the month. She will then

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~~FRS~~ "MSB" Sept 1960, Vol IX, No 9.

9(8) Aug 1960

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

CALM LIBRARY ARCHIVE
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Vol. IX, No. 8.

August, 1960.

STAFF NOTES.

The Director, Mr. A. J. Fraser, and the Fauna Protection Officer, Mr. H. B. Shugg, will represent Western Australia at the Interstate Fauna Authorities Conference to be held in Brisbane from September 12 to 15.

The following week, Mr. Fraser and the Research Officer, Mr. B. K. Bowen, will attend the Commonwealth/State Fisheries Conference to be held in Canberra from September 20 to 22.

Mr. Bowen will also attend a meeting of the Australian Waterfowl Committee.

* * *

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J. E. Bramley, suffered a severe head injury when returning from Carnarvon and Shark Bay on July 22. The spare-wheel-laden bonnet of the Land Rover collapsed on him while he was investigating a mechanical fault. On his return to Perth, which he completed in the vehicle, the wound became infected and Mr. Bramley was admitted to St. John of God Hospital, Subiaco, on July 25.

* * *

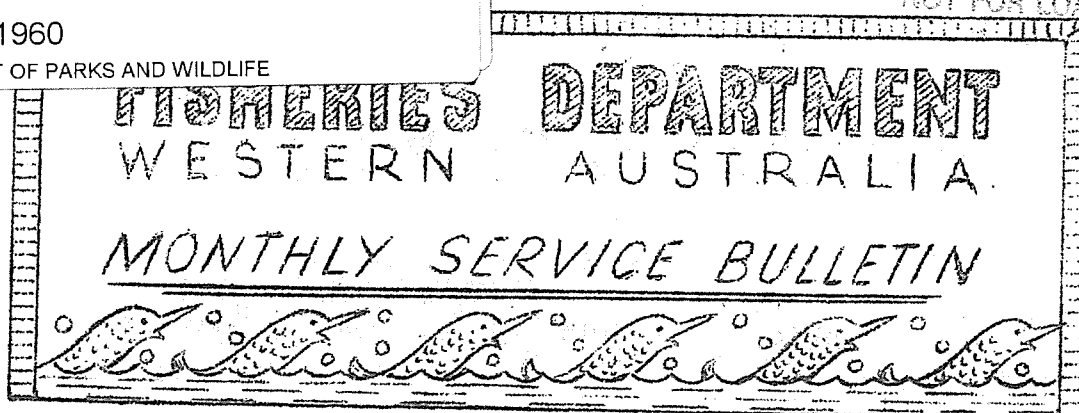
Our congratulations are extended to Mr. L. C. Stock, Engineer of the r.v. "Peron", and our best wishes to his bride-to-be, Miss



9(5) May 1960

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

CALM LIBRARY ARCHIVE
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Vol. IX, No. 5.

May, 1960.

STAFF NOTES.

The Director, Mr. A. J. Fraser, paid a brief visit to Geraldton on April 28 and 29. While in the town, he interviewed applicants for the position of skipper of the p.v. "Kooruldhoo".

* * *

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J. E. Bramley, will commence annual leave on May 9. During his absence Senior Inspector J. E. Munro, who resumed duty on April 4 after annual leave, will act as Supervising Inspector.

* * *

The Chief Clerk, Mr. B. R. Saville, resumed duty on April 11, after long service leave. Other officers to return to duty in April after leave were Inspector A. V. Green, of Mandurah, and Cadet Inspectors J. T. Kelly and R. G. Emery.

* * *

Relieving Inspector G. C. Jeffery will finish annual leave and, on May 2, will take over the Fremantle district from Senior Inspector A. K. Melsom during the latter's absence on leave.

* * *

Assistant Inspector G. J. Hanley will also commence annual leave on May 2.

add to its knowledge of the marine resources of Western Australia.

At the outset she will operate in waters in the North-West Cape - Carnarvon - Shark Bay region, working co-operatively with vessels of a private company interested in the prawn and scallop fisheries of the area in question.

Later, she will be engaged in testing the flat fish and prawn resources of the deeper waters off Fremantle, and undertake trolling for tuna, spanish mackerel and other upper water species."

The Australian Pearling Company, which is connected with the Kulenkampff Co. of Sydney, will be operating three boats in Shark Bay very soon, the Company's Manager, Mr. M. Drinan, has reported. Within six months it is expected the fleet will be increased to six. Mr. Drinan, in a press release, said he was satisfied that the ocean waters off our North-West coast held greater promise for the development of a world export fish industry than any other waters around Australia.

Previous exploratory work by the Company's vessel "Nanango" mapped scallop and tiger prawn grounds and after three months' trawling brought back 117,000 lb. of first-grade scallops.

DEPARTMENT FULLY MANNED.

For the first time for a number of years the Department's staff will be up to full establishment early in May by the replacement of Miss Yvonne Lauffer, who was married last month, and the appointment of skippers for the patrol vessels "Kooruldhoo" and "Misty Isle".

The following sets out in full detail the disposition of the staff in all sections:

<u>Section and Name of Officer.</u>	<u>Appointment.</u>	<u>Location.</u>
Administration:		
Fraser, A. J.	Director	Head Office
Baird, R. J.	Pearling Inspector	Broome
Bateman, A. J.	Fleet Maintenance Officer	Fremantle
Clerical:		
Saville, B. R.	Chief Clerk	Head Office
Buchanan, A. J.	Clerk	" "
Mitchell, J. M.	Clerk	" "
Ferguson, G. C.	Clerk	" "
Broun, Delia A.	Typist	" "

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Rowland, Wendy M.	Typist	Head Office
Lothian, Vicki L.	Assistant	" "
Fauna Protection:		
Shugg, H. B. S.	Fauna Protection Officer	" "
Cherrington, W. K. H.	Clerk	" "
Bowler, S. W.	Warden	" "
McLaughlan, N. E.	Warden	" "
Research:		
Bowen, B. K.	Research Officer	" "
Smith, L. G.	Technical Officer, Grade 1	" "
Simpson, J. S.	Technical Officer, Grade 2	" "
Piesse, H. C. W.	Master, r.v. "Peron".	Fremantle
Wright, D.	Mate, " "	" "
Stock, L. C.	Engineer, " "	" "
McKay, R. J.	Technical Officer, Grade 2, r.v. "Peron"	" "
Smith, P. A.	Cadet, r.v. "Peron"	" "
Seabrook, C. J.	Master, r.v. "Lancelin"	" "
Haynes, C. R. C.	Mate, " "	" "
Emery, R. G.	Cadet, " "	" "
Inspection:		
Bramley, J. E.	Supervising Inspector	Head Office
Munro, J. E.	Senior Inspector	Victoria Park.
Melsom, A. K.	Senior Inspector	Fremantle.
Traynor, J.	Inspector, Grade 1	Victoria Park.
Jeffery, G. C.	Inspector, Grade 1 (relieving)	Head Office
Crawford, R. M.	Inspector, Grade 1	Geraldton.
Green, A. V.	Inspector, Grade 1	Mandurah.
Carmichael, B. A.	Inspector, Grade 2	Albany.
Baines, T. B.	Inspector, Grade 2	Bunbury.
Forster, E. I.	Inspector, Grade 2	Victoria Park.
Kavanagh, H. D.	Inspector, Grade 2	Shark Bay.
Houston, G. D.	Inspector, Grade 2 (skipper, p.v. "Dampier")	Fremantle.
Pearce, A. T.	Inspector, Grade 2 (skipper, p.v. "Kooruldhoo")	Geraldton.
Campbell, F. J.	Inspector, Grade 2 (skipper, p.v. "Misty Isle")	Fremantle.

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[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

9(1) Jan 1960

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. IX, No. 1.

January, 1960.

STAFF NOTES.

The Director, Mr. A. J. Fraser, will spend a few days in Albany from January 12.

* * * *

Inspector B. A. Carmichael will hand over the Geraldton district to Inspector R. M. Crawford on the latter's return to duty on January 10. Inspector Carmichael will then resume control of the Albany district.

* * * *

The Chief Clerk, Mr. B. R. Saville, commenced annual leave on December 31 and on its completion will commence three month's long service leave. During his absence, the following staff adjustments will be made:-

Mr. H. B. Shugg will be Chief Clerk;

Mr. A. J. Buchanan will be Fauna Protection Officer;

Mr. W. K. Cherrington will be Statistics Officer, and

Mr. G. C. Ferguson will carry out Mr. Cherrington's normal duties in the Fauna Section.

Temporary assistance will be obtained to carry out Mr. Ferguson's duties.

* * * *

We welcome to the staff Mr. Lawson Clinton Stock who was appointed on December 2 as Engineer, "Peron", classification G-II-3.

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May I also express my appreciation to the members of your staff for their loyalty and efficient service in the year just closing. I trust that they will all enjoy and benefit by the Christmas break, and that the year 1960 will be one of happiness for them and their families.

Yours sincerely,

R. J. Bond
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER."

BIRD BAND RECOVERIES.

Giant Petrels.

Banding details have been received from the Fish and Wildlife Service of the U.S.A. regarding two of the banded giant petrels recovered on our coast last winter. The first, found dead on the beach at North Fremantle on June 22, had been banded at Bird Island, South Georgia, in the Antarctic on January 31 of the same year. The second, which was trapped near the South Mole at Fremantle on June 24, had also been banded at Bird Island on the same day - January 31, 1959. Unfortunately, the Fish and Wildlife Service did not indicate the age of the birds when banded, but presumably they were trapped as nestlings.

Wild Ducks.

Mr. W. G. Bennett, of Perth, returned to us the first Queensland band so far known to have been recovered in this State. It was No C 00102 and was taken from a wild duck shot at Lake Gundaring 8 miles east of Wagin on opening day, Sunday, December 20. Details of the banding are not yet known but will be published when received from the Department of Agriculture and Stock, Brisbane.

Another interesting duck-band recovery was sent in by Mr. F. Sutherland, of Ajana. He recovered band No 11810 from a black duck which he shot 14 miles west of Ajana on December 20, 1959. The bird had been banded by one of our voluntary operators, Mr. D. Moir, on his property at Cape Riche on February 21, 1959. The flight of 530 miles from Cape Riche to Ajana is the longest yet recorded by a black duck in Western Australia.

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Mr. I. E. Mainwaring, of Como, returned to us a band recovered from a black duck on February 26, 1958, on the Murchison River north of Geraldton. This bird has been banded at Karrinyup Lake, six miles north of Perth on January 16, 1958. A flight of at least 305 miles was indicated in this case.

Another unusually long flight by a black duck was recorded in the return of band No 7272. This band was recovered by Mr. D.R. Beale, of Manjimup, from a bird he shot at Broke Inlet, approximately half-way between Albany and the Leeuwin, on January 1, 1960. The bird had been banded at Yere Yere Station in the Dandarragan district on March 13, 1958. In this case a flight of at least 300 miles was involved.

DISTRICT ALLOWANCES.

Following negotiations between the Public Service Commissioner and the Civil Service Association of W.A. Inc., agreement has been reached on a new scale of district allowances to apply retrospectively from January 2, 1959. While a completely new scale of payments (according to districts within the State) has been introduced, only two outstations of this Department are affected. They are at Shark Bay and Broome, where allowances of £52 and £156, respectively, will be paid.

CRAYFISHING.

Geraldton-Abrolhos Crayfisheries.

In a recent press statement, the Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Hutchinson) reported that two important alterations had been made in the management of these fisheries. They were:-

1. The Abrolhos Island season will commence on March 1, 1960, instead of March 15 as in previous years:
2. From 1961, the whole of the area between the 26th and 30th parallels of south latitude will be closed to crayfishing from August 15 until November 14 in each year.

The Minister also approved the permanent stationing of a vessel at Geraldton and the temporary allocation of an inspector to each of the island groups before the season opens.

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