



[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN  
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

5(5) May 1956

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

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Vol. V, No. 5.

May, 1956

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STAFF NOTES

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, will visit Mandurah, Bunbury and Shark Bay during the month.

Cadet Inspector K. Kunzli resigned from the service as from April 26.

Assistant Inspector T.B. Baines has joined Assistant Inspector G.H. Lyon on the "Kooruldhoo" at the Abrolhos.

Technical Officer L.G. Smith will carry out a mullet tagging programme at Shark Bay in June.

Inspector N.E. McLaughlan commenced annual leave on April 23 and was married to Miss Sylvia Stephen on April 28. A Ranleigh silver tray was presented to the young couple from the Superintendent and staff with their very best wishes. During Mr. McLaughlan's absence, Relieving Inspector A.K. Melsom is in charge of the Shark Bay district.

Inspector R.M. Crawford, of Geraldton, will commence annual leave on May 15 and will be married to Miss Jean McBean on May 26. During Inspector Crawford's absence, Relieving Inspector A.K. Melsom will take over the Geraldton district.

Inspector H.J. Murray is assisting Inspector W. Davidson in the Fremantle district.

Officers who resumed duty in April after annual leave were Inspector J.L. Gallop, of Bunbury, Assistant Inspector M.J. Simpson, of Mandurah, and Mr. I. Bartholomew, of Head Office.

Mr. Stanley La Roche joined the staff as an assistant inspector on April 23. At the present time he is engaged on duties in the metropolitan district, under Senior Inspector J.E. Munro.

Mr. Roland McKay is expected to commence duties as a cadet inspector on May 14.

Captain H.C.W. Piesse, assisted by Inspector C.R.C. Haynes and Cadet Inspector D. Wright, will bring the research vessel "Lancelin" to Fremantle towards the end of this month.

Inspector R.M. Morton, who has been spending a short time at sea with the pearling fleet to gain personal experience of conditions, is expected to return to Broome shortly.

Inspectors W. Davidson and A.J. Bateman both suffered crayfish poisoning last month, but remained on duty.

W Mr. H.B. Shugg, Fauna Protection Officer, will accompany Technical Officer J. Traynor to Dumble-  
yung on May 10 and will be joined there by Mr. Ray Aitken, a prominent naturalist. The party intends to proceed the next day to the Twertup Creek area, north of Bremer Bay, to carry out a week's fauna survey, with special attention to mallee fowl.

#### OBITUARY

We read with regret of the death of Mr. Daniel McDaniel last month.

As a young man Mr. McDaniel was engaged in pearling at Onslow, but later moved to Broome where he built up one of the biggest fleets of luggers in the industry.

In recent years he had lived in retirement and had left his business in the charge of his son Terry.

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### BABBAGE ISLAND WHALING STATION

The Commonwealth Government on April 16 announced its decision to sell the Australian Whaling Commission's Carnarvon station to Nor'-West Whaling Co. Ltd. This company operates the land station at Point Cloates, just south of North-West Cape. Although no figure was mentioned by the Minister for Trade (Mr. McEwen) when making his announcement, it has since been learned that the purchase price was £880,000, or £260,000 more than that tendered by the Government of Western Australia.

According to reports from time to time issued by the Whaling Commission, the total amount advanced by the Commonwealth Treasury was £1,375,000. A substantial portion of this sum has already been repaid and a big sum salted down in Government securities. The net profit since the Commission went into production in 1951 was almost £900,000.

If Nor'-West Whaling Co. Ltd. can operate as successfully as the Commission - and there is no sound reason why it should not - the company, whose overheads must be lower, should pay for the whole plant in 5 years.

It was certainly a good buy.

### DUCK BANDING

The Department's duck banding programme continued during April.

Technical Officer J. Traynor, who is in charge of the field work, again was successful in banding over 200 ducks during the month. Operating at Yere Yere and Yathroo stations in the Dandaragan district, he trapped and banded 140 grey teal, 78 black duck, 20 maned geese and 2 white-eyed duck, the latter being the first of this species banded. Having the previous month completed the original order of 3,000 bands of the English No. 4 size, he was able to commence on a new series of two different sizes - Nos. 3 and 4. The black duck, maned geese and white-eyed duck banded during the month were ringed with No. 4 bands and the grey teal with No. 3.

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The No. 3 bands are numbered 4001 to 6000, and the No. 4, 6001 to 8000.

The total number of birds banded this year is 785 - a very satisfactory figure considering that banding did not commence until the middle of February. This makes a grand total of 3199 birds banded since the inception of the scheme in June, 1952.

Recoveries : Six bands were recovered during the month - 5 of them black duck and one grey teal. One of the most interesting recoveries was that of No. 3274, which was from a bird banded at Cape Riche in February, 1955, and recovered by Mr. A.G. Gardiner, of Burekup on the Collie River, 190 miles away from its banding site.

Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2329	14.2.54	Moora	1.1.56	5 miles W. of Gingin	50 miles
3523	19.2.56	Kewdale, Belmont	21.4.56	Bokan Lake E. Narrogin District	120 "
3598	21.2.56	Queen's Gardens	21.4.56	Wannamal	60 "
3788	11.3.56	Dumbleyung	12.4.56	Salt Lake, 5 m. sth. of Wagin	22 "
3274	3.2.55	Cape Riche	Apr '56	Burekup, Collie River	190 "
<u>Grey Teal</u>					
3790	11.3.56	Dumbleyung	12.4.56	On a farm 3 m. south of Dumbleyung	3 "

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(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

5(4) Apr 1956

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. V, No. 4.

April, 1956

STAFF NOTES

The Clerk-in-Charge (Mr. B.R. Saville) returned to Perth on March 2, after an inspection of crayfish processing works and grounds at Lancelin and Ledge Point.

Inspector N.E. McLaughlan, of Shark Bay, will marry Miss Sylvia Stephen at St. Andrew's Church, Perth, on April 28. Mr. McLaughlan will be on annual leave from April 23 to May 13.

Our congratulations are extended to Mr. Ian Bartholomew, of Head Office, who recently became engaged to be married to Miss Dorothy Morrison, of Highgate. Mr. Bartholomew will commence annual leave on April 16.

Cadet Inspector L.W. Duncan resumed duty after sick leave on March 19. He is stationed at present in the metropolitan area.

Inspector J.L. Gallop commenced three weeks' annual leave on March 26. During his absence Relieving Inspector A.K. Melsom is in charge of the Bunbury district.

Assistant Inspector T.B. Baines resumed duty after annual leave on March 26.

Assistant Inspector M.J. Simpson will commence three weeks' annual leave on April 3.

Technical Officer J.S. Simpson and Fauna Warden G.C. Jeffery visited the Shoalwater Bay fauna sanctuary on March 27 and erected notices on Shag, Seal and Bird Islands. No nesting was taking place at that time. Later they went to Thompson Lake, another fauna sanctuary, and took water samples and temperatures as it was thought that this Lake might be suitable for planting with trout.

Technical Officer J. Traynor visited the Dumbleyung district and Wardering Lake (south-west of Wagin) during the month on duck banding expeditions.

#### SALE OF WHALING STATION

Considerable space has been devoted by the local press to the proposed sale by the Commonwealth Government of the Australian Whaling Commission's whaling station at Carnarvon. At the time of this issue going to print no decision had been announced, but the Premier (Mr. Hawke) had revealed that the State Government had made an offer to the Commonwealth to purchase the station for £620,000, payable in five annual instalments. Mr. Hawke said that a departmental committee, led by the Under Treasurer (Mr. H.W. Byfield) had furnished a report on which Cabinet's decision was based. The Superintendent (Mr. Fraser) was a member of the Committee. The Premier added that if the offer were accepted, all profits received would be spent on the development of the North-West.

As the whaling season opens on May 1, early advice as to the disposal of the station and its three whale chasers is expected.

#### FURTHER INTERESTING ARTICLES AVAILABLE

As was forecast in the previous issue of this Bulletin, another list of useful articles appearing in publications received in this office is reproduced below.

Any inspector interested in any of the articles may borrow the periodical provided that he looks after it and returns it reasonably promptly.

DF "MSB" Apr 1956, Vol. V, No. 4

DUCK BANDING

Duck banding continued apace during March, reports Technical Officer J. Traynor, who is in charge of the field work of this research programme. Two hundred and fiftythree ducks were trapped and marked, bringing the total number of ducks banded since the inception of the scheme (in June, 1952) to 2959. Of the birds banded in March, 27 (all black duck) were trapped at Queen's Gardens, 26 (8 black duck and 18 grey teal) were trapped in the Dumbleyung district and 200 (of which only 5 were black duck and the remainder grey teal) at Wardering Lake in the Woodanilling district.

Recoveries : Only 5 bands were returned during the month and, as shown below, 4 were from black ducks and one from a pink-eared duck. The latter was the first band to be recovered from this species, which is not surprising as only 4 have been banded. Two of the rings recovered from black ducks were from recently banded birds - one had only been released 11 days prior to its recovery a few miles away. It had died from the effects of a body shot, but where this had happened it was impossible to say.

Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
3762	2.3.56	Queen's Gardens	13.3.56	Como	3 miles
2629	9.4.54	Lake Karrinyup	13.3.56	Monger's Lake	5 "
3569	21.2.56	Kewdale	11.3.56	Gundaring Lake	130 "
2472	5.3.54	Wardering Lake	25.2.56	Wellesley River	90 "
<u>Pink-eared Duck</u>					
2307	10.2.54	Cook's Farm Moora	25.2.56	Cook's Farm Moora	---

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[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN  
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

5(1/2) Jan/Feb 1956

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. V, No. 1 & 2

January - February, 1956

STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent, Mr. A.J. Fraser, visited Albany on January 9, 10 and 11. He returned there the following week in the company of Mr. W. Matthei (member) and Mr. H.B. Shugg (secretary) to preside at a meeting of the Fishermen's Advisory Committee which took evidence from salmon fishermen in regard to regulation 13 (Priority among Netters). Mr. N.K. Swarbrick, of Albany, another member of the committee, was also present.

The following officers resumed duty after annual leave: Mr. B.R. Saville on December 30; Mr. H.B. Shugg on January 13; Mr. J.S. Simpson on January 18; Technical Officer J. Traynor resumed duty on December 21 after six months' long service leave. Mr. B.K. Bowen returned to Head Office on December 15 after attending the F.A.O. Fish Culture School at Bogor, Indonesia. Mr. T.G. Goodison who had been assisting during Mr. Bowen's absence, resigned from the service on the same day.

Miss Pamela Pegrum will commence annual leave on February 6, and Mr. Bowen on February 27.

Miss Jacqueline Harvey, of Head Office, was transferred to the Police Traffic Branch on December 6. Mr. G.C. Ferguson commenced duty at Head Office as a junior clerk on December 5.

The crew of the research vessel "Lancelin" (Captain H.C.W. Piesse, Assistant Inspector C.R.C.

SPERM WHALES

In Vol. 4, No. 11, the November, 1955, issue of this Bulletin, it was reported that the Cheynes Beach Whaling Company at Albany had been maintaining a skeleton staff in expectation of taking a number of sperm whales which are not subject of quota or seasonal restrictions. One sperm whale had been taken in October and since then, six more of this species have been shot, bringing the total to 7. Five were caught in November, and one in December.

The biggest caught was a male, that measured 54 feet 6 inches, and the smallest a female, which measured 35 feet 3 inches.

DUCK BAND RECOVERIES

Since the last publication of the duck banding recoveries the following have been returned to this office -

No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
1560	15.3.53	Queen's Gardens	<u>Black Duck</u> 10.3.55	Queen's Gardens	Leg badly mutilated. Duck caught and killed
2601	24.3.54	do.	about 7.3.55	Dumbleyung	About 140 miles
2301	27.1.54	do.	Jan. '55	Salt Lakes, Augusta	165 "
2557	21.3.54	do.	16.4.55	Between Upper Swan & Bullsbrook, 3 m. S. of Bullsbrook	20 "
2948	26.10.54	Cockleshell Gully	4.5.55	Found dead on Bank Murchison nr. Carnarvon Road	160 "

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No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
1679	25.3.53	Beermullah near Gingin	21.12.54	Gingin Rd, 15 m.W. of Gingin	about 10 miles
1202	22.1.53	Queen's Gardens	26.3.55	Lake Ibis E. Narrogin	125 "
2221	19.1.54	Lake Karrinyup	24.8.55	Lake Gwelup	3 "
2234	20.1.54	Lake Karrinyup	16.2.55	Found dead Hyde Park	3 "
2490	7.3.54	Wardering Lake	18.12.55	Mimegarra via Dandaragan	210 "
3230	3.2.55	Cape Riche	24.12.55	Beelup, 6 m. sth Capel	195 "
2494	8.3.54	Wardering Lake	27.12.55	Benger Swamp	84 "
1520	4.3.53	Queen's Gardens	21.11.55	river fore-shore, near Swan Brewery released	leg damaged, duck released Mt. Hawthorn
<u>Grey Teal</u>					
2797	20.5.54	Cape Riche	31.1.55	Penebup River, 10 m. from Borden	35 miles
3047	24.11.54	Lake Mears	Apr. '55	Kanowna	275 "
3063	24.11.54	Lake Mears	1.1.55	Benger	110 "
2046	17.12.53	Dawson's Lake	Jan. '55	Dawson's Lake	nil "
3071	26.11.54	Lake Mears	Apr. '55	Lukens Swamp, Beverley	25 "



No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
1664	22.3.53	Big Bootine Swamp, Beer-mullah	18.12.55	Ewlyamartup east of Katanning	205 miles
1398	15.2.53	Wardering Lake	18.12.55	Pepper's Swamp, Nth Aldersyde, Brookton District	approximately 85 miles
1391	14.2.53	Wardering Lake	19.12.55	Kulikup	40 "
2672	15.4.54	Lake Karrynyup	Jan. '56	"Larloona Station" River Darling Menindee, NSW	upwards of 1600 miles
3345	5.2.55	near Cape Riche	1.1.56	Gundaring Lake	150 "
3373	6.2.55	near Cape Riche	25.12.55	Dinninup Pool, 4m. S.W. Kulikup	130 "
<u>Mountain Duck</u>					
2967	27.10.54	Cockleshell Gully	21.1.56	Lake View 2m. W. of Moora	65 "

The band no. 2672 is the first to be returned from outside the State's boundaries. It is a particularly important recovery as, taking it in conjunction with the Victorian banded teal which was shot at Rowle's Lagoon out of Kalgoorlie last season, it provides definite proof that eastern and western duck populations do mingle to some extent. Possibly they may only do so when conditions on the Nullarbor are suitable. They might work around the southern

coast or through the well-watered northern areas, but between the time that our teal was banded and when it was shot in N.S.W., good rains had been recorded in Central Australia and it is possible that a direct route was taken by the bird.

ORDERS FOR SKIPPERS OF PATROL VESSELS

The following orders have been approved for the safeguarding of departmental launches at sea or at anchor. They are promulgated for general information, and must be adhered to strictly by all personnel concerned.

1. While in active commission each vessel shall be manned as decided by the skipper. In case heavy weather is imminent, or on receipt of a storm warning, each vessel shall be manned by a full crew until the weather has abated or the storm passed.
2. When a vessel is anchored in heavy weather both anchors are to be let go to the fullest extent of their cables.
3. Before proceeding to sea, skippers must obtain from the national broadcasting service a schedule of weather reports. The schedule must be listened to at all times. In the event of the broadcast of a storm warning a continuous radio watch shall be kept.
4. Each vessel when under way shall fly the Department's ensign.
5. A skipper shall at all times be responsible for the general appearance and cleanliness of his vessel, for the sufficiency and efficiency of deck stores, gear, fittings, signal flags, flares, first-aid kit, etc. He shall keep an inventory of all such stores and equipment, and be held responsible for their safe keeping.
6. A skipper shall cause all life belts, flags, sails, flares and mattresses to be aired and





5(3) Mar 1956

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

DEPARTMENT. WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. V, No. 3.

March, 1956

STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent (Mr. A.J. Fraser) will attend a field day conducted by the Serpentine-Jarrahdale Trout Acclimatisation Society on Sunday, March 18. On March 20, accompanied by the Chief Vermin Control Officer, Mr. A.R. Tomlinson, and Fauna Protection Officer H.B.S. Shugg, he will leave for an inspection of the Lakes Clifton - Preston area. During the inspection the party will meet the Mandurah, Murray, Drakesbrook and Harvey Road Boards, to discuss with them the proposed national park and fauna reserve between Mandurah and Bunbury. On March 25 the Superintendent, together with Clerk-in-Charge B.R. Saville and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson, will attend the quarterly meeting of the Trout Acclimatisation Council of W.A., at Bridgetown.

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson visited Broke Inlet and investigated a report of depletion of fish stocks. They left Perth on February 21 and returned on February 25.

The Clerk-in-Charge, Mr. B.R. Saville, left Perth on February 28, for an inspection of the crayfish processing works and grounds at Lancelin Island. He is expected to return on March 2.

Inspector S.W. Bowler recommenced duty at Mandurah on February 27, after annual leave. During his absence Inspector R.M. Crawford was in charge of the Mandurah district.



length from 2" to 11" - the size most abundant being from 8" to 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Mr. Munro says that small fish have been sighted in large numbers from Guildford to the Perth Causeway, and large schools have extended inshore from the Narrows to Crawley Bay. The latter schools, he states, appeared to be unsettled when first noticed they were moving downstream but later they have been seen travelling upstream. Mr. Munro has also reported seeing a very large school of 8" to 10" sea-mullet in Perth Water one night.

He says that he has discussed these occurrences with experienced fishermen, who declare that rarely have so many small mullet been observed in local rivers.

#### DUCK BANDING

After some preliminary investigation of duck populations, Technical Officer J. Traynor resumed duck banding operations during the month. As no country banding sites gave promise of any success, Mr. Traynor commenced operations at Craig's (Tomato) Swamp, at Kewdale in the metropolitan area, on February 16. On this swamp 98 black duck, 4 grey teal and 5 mountain duck were banded. Operations were then transferred to Queen's Gardens and, from February 20 to 29, 181 black duck, 2 mountain duck and 2 maned geese were banded, bringing the total number of ducks banded in the fortnight to 292. In addition, a moorhen and a black cormorant were banded with old bands. 109 banded birds re-entered the traps, making a grand total of 403 birds trapped.

#### Recoveries:

Only two bands were returned to Head Office during February. The first, No. 2936, was from a black duck banded at Cockleshell Gully on 25/10/54 that had been shot 170 miles from its banding site at Yandi Station, 60 miles east of the mouth of the Murchison River, on 26/1/56.

The second, No. 1356, was from a grey teal banded at Wardering Lake in the Wagin district on 12/2/53. This bird was shot on nearby Noring Lake on 14/2/56.

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(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

4(11) Nov 1955

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. IV, No. 11.

November 1, 1955

STAFF NOTES

On October 15, the engagement was announced of Miss Sylvia Stephen of East Perth, to Inspector N.E. McLaughlan. Our congratulations and very best wishes are extended to them both. Mr. McLaughlan, who resumed duty after annual leave on October 17, returned to Shark Bay on October 19.

The Superintendent (Mr. A.J. Fraser) who is at present in the Eastern States, is expected to return to Perth on November 10.

The Supervising Inspector (Mr. J.E. Bramley) visited Geraldton for an inspection of the district and returned on October 21. On November 8, Mr. Bramley will carry out an inspection of the Bunbury district with Inspector J.L. Gallop and on November 15 will leave for Shark Bay to affect repairs to the p.v. "Misty Isle" and to carry out a survey of scallop beds.

The Senior Inspector (Mr. J.E. Munro) was in Narrogin, in charge of a departmental exhibit at the first Narrogin Wild Life Show, on October 19 and 20.

Inspector G. Coombes tendered his resignation during the month. It has been accepted, and will become effective as from November 18, when he was to have completed accrued leave.

Inspector G.C. Jeffery, in company with Dr. G.M. Dunnet, Research Officer, Wildlife Survey Section



Technical Officer J.S. Simpson, assisted by Assistant Inspector R.J. Baird, is at present engaged on trout deliveries to country areas. They are expected to return to Perth early this month.

#### PERSONAL PARS

Dr. E. Lundelius, a paleozoologist of the University of Chicago, and Mrs. Lundelius, plan to sail from Fremantle on the "Iberia" on November 14. Dr. Lundelius, who has been on a collecting tour of our caves, has obtained approval to export a large number of specimens of bones, together with a few skins and spirit specimens. This material, the majority of which was taken in Western Australian limestone caves, will be shipped to the United States via England. Mrs. Lundelius, who is a geologist, also has a collection comprising marine invertebrates, which are to be sent to the Californian Institute of Technology at Pasadena. During his twelve months here, Dr. Lundelius has explored caves in the Hill River, Jurien Bay, Mandurah, Yallingup and Nannup districts, and also spent some time searching the Nullabor Caves. Perhaps one of his most interesting discoveries was the bones of a Tasmanian Devil, Sarcophilus harrisii, which he found at Jurien Bay.

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In a letter to the Superintendent, Technical Officer J. Traynor outlined points of interest during his overseas trip. In addition to touring England and Scotland and a visit to the Severn Wild Fowl Trust at Slimbridge, Mr. Traynor and his wife flew to Paris and enjoyed a continental tour taking in Switzerland, Austria, Germany and Holland. Mr. Traynor was greatly impressed with the cost of living in Paris and fell in love with the Swiss mountain scenery.

#### FREMANTLE CRAYFISHERY

The Minister for Fisheries, Mr. L.F. Kelly, announced last month that the Fremantle - Lancelin - Cervantes - Jurien Bay areas would be open to crayfishing

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AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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Vol. IV, No. 6.

June 1, 1955



Mr. A. V. Green

VALE BERT GREEN

On May 28 Mr. A.V. Green died at the Royal Perth Hospital and was interred in the Karrakatta Cemetery on May 31. The Superintendent, accompanied by Messrs Saville, Piesse, Bramley, Munro, Davidson and Murray, were present to pay their last respects.

Mr. Green was born at Port Adelaide, South Australia, on May 18, 1881, and came to Albany with his parents at a very early age, his father being a member of the complement of the well-known coastal steamer Rob Roy. Before entering the service of the department young Green worked as a fireman on the steam tug Dunskey under Captain W. Douglas, joining her very shortly after the tug succoured the crew of the City of York when that ship went aground on the north shore of Rottnest Island. Later he joined the three-masted schooner Iris, trading between Albany and Port Adelaide, the master being Captain J. Davidson, father of Mr. W. Davidson, now Inspector at Fremantle.

Denmark on the estuarine research programme hoping to tag snapper which were reported to be plentiful in the new cut. Unfortunately what snapper had not been fished out had apparently moved back into the estuary and none was secured. Mr. Munro investigated reports of illegal netting in the cut and other closed waters and the sale of fish by amateurs.

Inspector R.J. Baird and Cadet Inspector M.J. Simpson sailed on the p.v. "Garbo" for the Abrolhos on May 10. In the early hours of Thursday morning, May 26, the "Garbo" dragged her anchor in Geraldton harbour during a north-westerly gale and damaged herself on the fishermen's landing on the western end of the wharf.

Technical Officer J. Traynor was farewelled at an informal function at Head Office on May 27. Mr. Traynor ceased duty that day to commence six months' long service leave. He intends to visit many places in England and will renew friendships with World War I comrades on the Continent. While in England he will call at the British Museum, the Nature Conservancy, and the Fauna Preservation Society of London, and hopes to spend a week or so at the Severn Wildfowl Trust at the mouth of the Severn on the east coast. Subject to suitable arrangements being made, he will accompany Dr. D.L. Serventy on a visit to a banding station in the Hebrides. Mr. Traynor will return to Western Australia on December 15.

Mr. J.L. Gallop has been promoted to Inspector, Grade II, as from March 23, 1955. He resumed duty in charge of the Bunbury district after annual leave on May 25.

Mr. B.K. Bowen was given a farewell on May 20 prior to his taking annual leave and his marriage on May 21. His bride-to-be was also present at the farewell, at which the Superintendent on behalf of the staff presented the young couple with a Ranleigh tray and a water set. Mr. Bowen expressed his delight with the gifts and their appreciation of the kind generosity of his fellow officers.

Temporary Assistant Inspector G. Konow has tendered his resignation from the service as from June 17, 1955.

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(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

4(5) May 1955

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. IV, No. 5.

May 1, 1955

STAFF NOTES

From April 13 to 16, the Superintendent (Mr. A.J. Fraser) and the Senior Clerk (Mr. H.B. Shugg) inspected the lakes in the wheatbelt from Lake Mears, out of Brookton, south to Dumbleyung, and south-west to Wardering Lake, west of Woodanilling.

Inspector J.L. Gallop will commence annual leave on May 2. During his absence Relieving Inspector A.K. Melsom will be in charge of the Bunbury district.

Technical Officer J. Traynor will commence long service leave on May 30. He has been granted 6 months' leave on half-pay and in company with Mrs. Traynor will holiday in England and on the Continent. All the staff joins in wishing them "bon voyage."

Our congratulations are extended to Mr. B.K. Bowen who, on May 21, will marry Miss Esme Irving. He will commence annual leave on May 23. Our best wishes and congratulations are extended to them both.

The Senior Clerk (Mr. H.B. Shugg) and Fauna Warden (Mr. G.C. Jeffery) visited Albany on April 21. After consultation with Inspector A.V. Green regarding the forthcoming whaling season, they travelled along the south coast via Wilson's and Walpole Inlets to Broke Inlet to investigate an application for the acquisition of Shannon Island in the middle of the latter Inlet.

Assistant Inspector B.H. Boyd resigned from the public service as from April 14. Mr. C.R.C. Haynes

to allow what promises to be an excellent breeding season to take its course.

The Department is anxious to secure completed scorecards from duck shooters and inspectors are requested to use their best endeavours to see that as many as possible are completed and forwarded.

### BIRD BANDING

The C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Survey Section in Canberra has organised an Australia-wide bird banding scheme based on centres at Canberra and Perth to study the habits and migrations of Australia's bird life. This is part of C.S.I.R.O.'s long-range programme for the study and assessment of Australia's wild-life, and is aimed to conserve those species which are beneficial to the nation's economy, and to restrict the depredations of those which are injurious to agriculture.

The Australian Bird Banding Scheme, as the C.S.I.R.O. activity is known, is quite separate from this Department's duck banding scheme, which has now been operating for almost three years. Our programme is being continued exactly as before and our bands, which are inscribed "Return to Fisheries Dept., Perth" should continue to be sent to this office. The C.S.I.R.O. bands are inscribed "Write Wildlife, C.S.I.R.O., Canberra, Australia", and anyone finding a dead bird with such a band should return the band with details of time and place of find. If a banded bird is captured alive, the band should not be removed, but details of band, bird and circumstances should be reported to the Wildlife Survey Section, C.S.I.R.O., P.O. Box 109, Canberra City, A.C.T., and the bird released.

The work of trapping and banding birds for the C.S.I.R.O. scheme is being done by interested persons approved by this Department and appointed by C.S.I.R.O. Under the Fauna Protection Act no person may mark fauna whatsoever in any manner except with the written authority of the Chief Warden of Fauna, and all C.S.I.R.O. operators in this State must first be approved by this Department. To date eleven

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persons have been so approved, but in each case their permit to mark fauna has stipulated that no wild duck or other game birds are to be marked in any manner in order to safeguard our own duck research programme.

### SALMON AND SNAPPER TAGS RECOVERED

The following internal tags, additional to those reported in this Bulletin last month, have been recovered recently :-

#### Salmon

Medium White	7017	Released at Ceduna, S.A. 10/1/52. Length unknown.	Recovered at Torbay, west of Albany, W.A., 1/4/55, by W. North. Length unknown.
Large White	4233	Released at American River, Kangaroo Is. S.A., 29/11/52. Length unknown.	Recovered at Torbay, February, 1955. Length unknown.

#### Snapper

Small	3269	Released at Wilson's Inlet, 22/1/53. Length $7\frac{3}{4}$ ".	Recovered at Wilson's Inlet, 27/4/55. Length $15\frac{7}{8}$ ".
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Three tagged snapper were caught by Inspector N.E. McLaughlan at Shark Bay last month. These fish had been tagged by Technical Officer L.G. Smith at No. 1 Lease, Useless Inlet (Shark Bay), on July 16, 1954:-

10524	Length on release, $7\frac{3}{4}$ "	Length on capture, $11\frac{7}{8}$ "	Captured 14/4/55
10562	Length on release, 9"	Length on capture, $13\frac{1}{2}$ "	Captured 14/4/55
10437	Length on release, $10\frac{3}{4}$ "	Length on capture, $13\frac{7}{8}$ "	Captured 15/4/55

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. IV. No. 3.

March 1, 1955

STAFF NOTES

The Clerk-in-Charge, Mr. B.R. Saville, and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson visited the Pemberton Hatcheries on February 16 and 17 for a routine inspection.

The Supervising Inspector (Mr. Bramley) will spend some time this month in the Albany district. Portion of the time will be spent at Denmark in company with the Minister (Mr. Kelly).

Assistant Inspector V.J. Sinclair has, with the approval of the Public Service Commissioner, withdrawn his resignation and will continue to assist at Mandurah.

Inspector J.C. Thair has resigned from the public service as from February 28, and Inspector A.K. Melsom has taken over the Shark Bay district pending Inspector N.E. McLaughlan's permanent transfer there later this month.

Assistant Inspector G. Coombes will assume command of the p.v. "Kooruldhoo" as from March 1, and with Cadet Inspector J.D. Milne as crew member will patrol in Abrolhos waters during the crayfishing season there.

Assistant Inspector B.H. Boyd has been transferred to Fremantle as assistant to Inspector Davidson.



Survey Section of C.S.I.R.O. and the Zoology Department of the University have also used the centre as headquarters for ecological studies on the Rottneest quokka. (Incidentally the recent disastrous fire did not harm the buildings but it has caused a break in the quokka research. The work done to date will have to be written up and then a fresh start made).

The station has also been used for instructing zoology students in such field work as trapping, marking and releasing animals and in statistical methods of sampling from small numbers.

On the resignation early this year of the Minister (Mr. Kelly) as a member of the committee (representing the Rottneest Island Board of Control) the Board has appointed Mr. T. Sten, Superintendent of Teacher Training, Department of Education, and Principal of the Teachers College, Claremont, as a member. In addition to Mr. Sten the members are -

Mr. A.J. Fraser (Chairman), Dr. K. Sheard (C.S.I.R.O.) and Professor H. Waring (University of W.A.). Mr. B.K. Bowen, of the Fisheries Department, is the Secretary.

#### VACANCY FOR TAXIDERMIST

The Acting Director of the Perth Museum, Mr. A.M. Douglas, has advised that a vacancy exists on the staff for a cadet taxidermist. A salary will be paid according to the age, ability and qualifications of the successful applicant and general Public Service conditions of employment will apply. The successful applicant will receive proper training and there will be opportunities for advancement. Any person interested should apply in writing direct to the Acting Director of the Museum, Beaufort Street, Perth.

#### DUCK BANDING

As reported in the last issue of this Bulletin, advice had been received that a number of ducks were being held by a co-operator at Cape Riche.

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Technical Officer J. Traynor left Perth on February 1, arriving at Cape Riche in the evening of February 2, and trapping operations were commenced the next day. The co-operator, Mr. D. Moir, had 85 ducks (mainly black duck and grey teal) already penned and these birds and a further 118 were banded before the rains set in and the birds dispersed. The birds banded at this station brings the total of all species banded to 2389 plus a further 36 birds - mainly coot - which have been marked with returned duck bands.

After leaving Cape Riche on February 14, Mr. Traynor paid a visit to the Pallinup Estuary which he found to be deserted and with no signs of fish movement. A few ducks and an estimated two to three thousand black swans were on the water. This was the largest number of swans Mr. Traynor had ever seen congregated in any one place. As may be surmised, the heavy and widespread rains have caused an immediate dispersal of the ducks throughout the southern half of the State. Compared with a few weeks ago, the metropolitan swamps and lakes are practically deserted, and the same is reported to apply throughout many of the country districts. Reports have come to hand, however, of aggregations of ducks in the Beverley - Brookton areas, and Mr. Traynor will make an inspection there early this month.

#### Recoveries.

Until the rains came, and the birds scattered, bands were coming in steadily. Some further long flights were recorded, the most noteworthy being that of two ducks which were shot 30 miles north of Coolgardie. One of these had been banded at Dawson's Lake, south of Dumbleyung, and the other on Wardering Lake in the Woodanilling Road District. Reports from shooters (on any aspects of duck distribution and behaviour) will be particularly welcome between now and the close of the season.

The following table sets out the bands returned since the previous list was published :-

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Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2270	23/1/54	Lake Karrinyup	26/1/55	Moore River, 80 miles from Perth	60 miles
2588	24/3/54	Queen's Gardens	not known	caught in clay hole in Bellevue	10 "
<u>Grey Teal</u>					
3148	9/12/54	Meckering	8/2/55	North Meckering	nil "
3152	do.	do.	14/2/55	do.	nil "
1367	13/2/53	Wardering Lake	22/1/55	30 miles nth of Coolgardie	315 "
2059	19/12/53	Dawson's Lake, Dumbleyung	22/1/55	do.	280 "
3091	28/11/54	Lake Mears	22/1/55	Toolibin Lake	50 "
2790	20/5/54	Cape Riche	5/2/55	Willy's Lake	220 "
3060	24/11/54	Lake Mears	8/2/55	On Avon River near Bridge, 14 mls east of Brookton	7 "
3157	14/1/55	Taarblin Lake	22/1/55	Taarblin Lake	nil "
<u>Mountain Duck</u>					
2958	26/10/54	Cockleshell Gully	25/1/55	Poverty Point, Mandurah	175 "
2025	15/12/53	Dawson's Lake, Dumbleyung	26/1/55	"Chillinup", south of Borden	85 "

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Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
		<u>Maned Goose</u>			
2642	10/4/54	Lake Karringup	21/1/55	2 miles from Harvey Weir	90 miles
2665	14/4/54	Lake Karringup	6/2/55	near Bokal Siding, on the Beaufort River	130 miles

#### LOSS OF THE "EVA PELSART"

Inspector S.W. Bowler has reported that the above auxiliary fishing boat was lost at sea on February 25. Owned and operated by Mr. J. Grubba of Geraldton, the "Eva Pelsart" was 19 feet long and had a beam of 6 feet. She was valued at £600 and her gear at £250.

Prior to the mishap Mr. Grubba was sailing from Geraldton to Rat Island. He was overtaken by the "Eureka II", skippered by Mr. R. Saunier, about 23 miles west of Geraldton near Mid Reef, and was advised that he was off course. It was decided that the "Eva Pelsart" should be taken in tow and a rope was passed through the fair leads and secured to the mast. When the "Eureka II" commenced to tow, the "Eva Pelsart" suddenly yawed to the port side, causing the towline, which had not been firmly secured, to work up the mast, and capsize her. Being a heavy boat, full of ballast, she sank immediately. The owner, Mr. Grubba, and another man were taken aboard the "Eureka II".



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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. IV. No. 2.

February 1, 1955

STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent (Mr. A.J. Fraser) is holidaying at Eagle Bay in the Busselton district and will resume duties on February 2.

The Senior Inspector (Mr. J.E. Munro) commences three weeks' annual leave on February 2. Inspector A.K. Melsom will be in charge of the metropolitan district during Mr. Munro's absence.

Inspector and Mrs. A.V. Green were blessed with an addition to their family on Saturday, January 2. Betty and the baby, Glenice Margaret, are both well.

On January 27, Assistant Inspector V.J. Sinclair tendered his resignation from the Department, giving the usual one month's notice. His duties will be taken over by Assistant Inspector B.H. Boyd.

Inspector N.E. McLaughlan, with Cadet Inspector D. Wright as crew member, will bring the p.v. "Kooruldhoo" to Fremantle in the middle of this month to refit for the Abrolhos season.

Inspector R.J. Baird, with Cadet Inspector M.J. Simpson as crew member, will continue to patrol the Lancelin area in the p.v. "Garbo" until the "Kooruldhoo" returns to Fremantle when he will proceed to the Cervantes - Jurien Bay area.

DUCK BANDING

Since the details published in the previous issue, Technical Officer J. Traynor has visited Lakes Taarblin (some 20 miles east of Narrogin) and Yealering (about 30 miles east of Pingelly). Reports of a profusion of ducks at Taarblin were more or less confirmed by Mr. Traynor but conditions were inimical to successful trapping. Only 4 ducks entered the traps. They were then shifted to Yealering Lake and nearby swamps where 69 (almost all grey teal) were banded.

Telegraphic advice reached Mr. Traynor later that a co-operator at Cape Riche was holding 150 ducks, mostly black, and Mr. Traynor will proceed there early in February. It will be remembered that 134 ducks were banded at Cape Riche in May last year.

Recoveries came in steadily during January and since the season opened in December, the following bands have been returned :-

Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Mountain Duck</u>					
2965	27/10/54	Cockleshell Gully, N.W. Dandarragan	14/1/55	On the lakes at Capel	245 miles
<u>Black Duck</u>					
1685	23/3/53	Swamp near N. of Gingin	14/1/55	Salt Lake, 6 miles E. of Mandurah	90 "
2970	29/10/54	Cockleshell Gully N.W. Dandarragan	3/1/55	Harvey Cut	210 "
2904	23/10/54	do.	1/1/55	The Island, Harvey Estuary	185 "



Band No	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
1657	22/3/53	Big Bootine Swamp, Beer-mullah N. of Gingin	7/1/55	Cooper's Lake, near old mill in Peel Inlet.	95 miles
2874	21/9/54	Glengarry Station near Geraldton	19/12/54	Greenough River, 15 mls S.E. Geraldton	7 "
2473	5/3/54	Wardering Lake Woodanilling	9/1/55	Swamp 15 mls W. of Wagin	15 "
2733	19/5/54	Cape Riche	Dec. '54	Ludlow	200 "
2517	12/3/54	Wardering Lake	26/12/54	6 mls W. of Boyerine N. Woodanilling	5 "
2975	20/11/54	Lake Mears Brookton	Not yet known	Dumbitmooney Hotham R. 28 mls W. of Pingelly	About 50 miles
2811	21/5/54	Cape Riche	Jan. '55	15 mls S. of Borden on the Pallinup River	30 "
2953	26/10/54	Cockleshell Gully	24/1/55	Amelup, 15 mls S. of Borden	340 "
<u>Maned Goose</u>					
2673	15/4/54	Lake Karrinyup	2/1/55	2 mls E. of Quindanning on Williams River	95 "

Band No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
			<u>Grey Teal</u>		
3101	29/11/54	Lake Mears	19/12/54	Lake Mears	--- miles
3064	24/11/54	do.	26/12/54	do.	" "
1656	22/3/53	Big Bootine Swamp Beer-mullah	1/1/55	10 miles south Borden	250 "
3111	2/12/54	Meckering District	Dec. 1954	Rocky Lake on Avon River	about 45 "
3102	29/11/54	Lake Mears	do.	5 miles W. of Harvey	110 "
3058	24/11/54	do.	27/12/54	Taarblin Lake	50 "
3024	23/11/54	do.	13/1/55	4 miles W. of Coolup	100 "
3030	23/11/54	do.	16/1/55	14 miles E. Brookton	10 "
3104	29/11/54	do.	Jan '55	Avon River, 12 mls N. Yealering	15 "
1658	22/3/53	Big Bootine Swamp, Beer-mullah	9/1/55	Marle's Pool Arthur River, E. Highbury	155 "
3087	28/11/54	Lake Mears	27/12/54	Lake Mears	-- "





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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. IV, No. 1.

January 1, 1955

STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent, Mr. A.J. Fraser, will leave Perth by air on January 9 for a short inspection of the Broome pearl fishery. Mr. Fraser will commence two weeks' annual leave on January 17.

Officers at present on annual leave include supervising Inspector J.E. Bramley, Senior Clerk H.B. Mugg, Technical Officer J.S. Simpson, Inspector R.J. Baird and Relieving Inspector A.K. Melsom, who has completed a successful convalescence after his appendicectomy operation.

Inspector N.E. McLaughlan, with Cadet Inspector D. Wright as crew member, brought the p.v. "Booruldoo" into Fremantle on December 22.

Assistant Inspector J.L. Gallop transferred to Bunbury temporarily in charge of that district on December 6, and Assistant Inspector V.J. Sinclair commenced as assistant to Inspector H.J. Murray at Mandurah on December 23, after completion of his annual leave.

Assistant Inspector B.H. Boyd and Cadet Inspector J. Milne came to Perth for a break in the metropolitan area on December 22. They will return to Melin Island early this month.

The Clerk-in-Charge, Mr. B.R. Saville, Assistant Inspector B.A. Carmichael and Cadet Inspector J. Simpson resumed duty last month after annual leave.

STRANDING OF L.F.B. "THELMA"

About 10 p.m. on December 15 the L.F.B. "Thelma" (F91) ran on the northern reef of the south passage at Lancelin Anchorage. Assistant Inspector Bruce Boyd immediately went aboard L.F.B. "Trimmer-wheel" (skipper F. Connell) who moved his boat, which is fitted with a powerful searchlight, close to the "Thelma" and played his light on the stricken vessel, which was hard and fast astern about 50 feet from Lancelin Island, with a fairly heavy sea running. L.F.B. "Carmen", with Cadet Inspector John Milne aboard, also went out to the anchorage in the hope of putting a rope aboard the "Thelma," but the rope was too short. Sixteen-year-old Cadet Milne in the meantime had gone over the side into "Carmen's" dinghy to see whether he could board and assist "Thelma". Eventually a longer line was secured and with the help of Cadet Milne and his dinghy, made fast to the "Thelma." "Trimmerwheel" then towed her off.

"Thelma" had thrown overboard a number of heavy objects, including 21 bags of crays, but when morning broke 18 of the latter were recovered, the contents of only 2½ bags having died overnight. Despite the pounding she took "Thelma," which is 31' in length, incurred only slight damage, although she was compelled to return to Fremantle for such repairs as were necessary.

Mr. Boyd says that high praise has been given to Cadet Milne by all at Lancelin for the fine job he did in passing the line from "Thelma" to "Trimmerwheel". He adds that he fully deserves all the praise he has received.

WILD DUCKS

(a) Duck Banding: After many disappointments at various lakes and swamps in the South-West, Technical Officer J. Traynor achieved some successful trapping at Lake Mears in the Brookton - Quairading area in November. A total of 137 birds was banded - mostly

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grey teal with a few mountain duck, a black and a pink-eared duck. A further 45 ducks were banded last month in the Meckering district at swamps on private land: again grey teal predominated.

The number of ducks banded since Mr. Traynor resumed operations last spring is 294 to the end of December, bringing the total banded since the inception of the scheme to 2113 birds. The individual species totals are as follows -

Black Duck	1511	Mallards	14
Grey Teal	497	Coot	14
Mountain Duck	49	Blue bald Coot	2
Maned Geese (Wood Duck)	21	Moorhens	5
Blue Wing Shoveller	1		
Chestnut Teal	2		
Pink-eared Duck	3		
		TOTAL ...	2113

In addition 16 coot and 1 crow have been banded with used duck bands previously returned.

(b) Recoveries: Although the duck-shooting season opened two weeks ago there has been a singularly low number of bands returned. Only 5 were received to the end of December and these were all from grey teal - four from birds banded within 3 weeks of opening day and one from a bird banded on February 16, 1953, at Wardering Lake, near Woodanilling. The birds are believed to have been shot in the Brookton district, and as four of them were banded at Lake Mears they had not got very far. The persons who sent the bands in are being asked to supply the exact date and location and details will be published in the next issue of this Bulletin if received by then.

(c) Opening Day: Reports so far to hand indicate that many shooters this year had a light Christmas dinner so far as wild ducks were concerned. Good shooting was had at Taarblin Lake near Toolibin (east of Narrogin)

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where most of the 60 shooters were able to secure the maximum bag. In the coastal areas between Mandurah and Bunbury the results were poor and at Chittering not much better. Gundaring Lake, though drier than last year, provided reasonable opportunities for shooters, as did Lake Mears north of Brookton, but generally these lakes represented isolated good spots.

Black ducks are reported to be scarce from most centres - they only comprised about 2% at Taarblin - and at least one Brookton shooter would like to see them protected for two years to give them a chance to build up again. We would be very pleased to receive notes of the occurrence of this species - especially if they are seen in great numbers or in districts where they are not normally in quantity.

#### LOST AND FOUND

The long arm of coincidence has reached out from a West Norway canning factory to this fair land of Australia.

A Norwegian woman worker in the factory lost a gold wedding ring a year or so ago, and although she looked high and low was unable to find it.

Now a letter has been received by the packing firm from an Australian correspondent who says he has found the ring in a tin of sardines. It is now on its way back to the owner.

Not surprising, really, for after all Norwegian sardines are only young her-ring!

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 11.

November 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

Inspector F.A.L. Connell, Fauna Warden, has submitted his resignation from the Department as from November 4 - the greener fields of private enterprise having lured him into the crayfishing industry. In addition to actively crayfishing at Lancelin Island, he will transport crays from the Abrolhos to Geraldton, using the T.M.V. Trimmerwheel. He is also negotiating for the lease of the Abrolhos and, if successful, intends to rebuild the tourist camp there.

Inspector G.C. Jeffery will succeed Inspector Connell as Fauna Warden, and Inspector A.V. Green will take over the Albany district. Assistant Inspector J.L. Gallop will be transferred to act as inspector temporarily in charge of the Bunbury district and Assistant Inspector V.J. Sinclair will replace him at Mandurah after the latter has completed his annual leave; Inspector A.K. Melsom will be stationed at Bunbury pending Assistant Inspector Gallop's transfer. Assistant Inspector G. Coombes will be transferred to Fremantle as assistant to Inspector Davidson, and Assistant Inspector B.A. Carmichael will be transferred to Geraldton, after completing annual leave, as assistant to Inspector S.W. Bowler.

Inspector J.C. Thair, on October 23 took over the Shark Bay district from Inspector R.J. Baird, who has been transferred to Fremantle in command of the P.V. "Garbo." The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, was at Shark Bay to supervise the handover. Assistant Inspector B.H. Boyd is located in Perth and

OPEN SEASON FOR DUCKS

The early summer this year will be taken into account by the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee when deliberating on their recommendation to the Minister on a suitable period for the next open season. While some reports mention successful breeding in districts where permanent water abounds, it is considered that generally the year has been a poor one for our wildfowl.

The Committee has made arrangements to meet representatives of the Capel Gun Club and local residents at the Elgin Hall at 8 p.m. on the evening of November 2 to hear their views on the date and times of the opening of the season this year.

C.S.I.R.O. BIRD BANDING COMMENCES

Operators approved by the Chief Warden of Fauna have been appointed and equipped by the C.S.I.R.O. to mark wild birds, using numbered aluminium C.S.I.R.O. rings.

Among these operators is Mr. Ray Aitken, headmaster of the Nyabing State School, who is specialising at the moment on marking parrots and galahs, and despite the short time he has been operating he has had one recovery.

Mr. Aitken banded an adult smoker parrot at Nyabing on August 24 last. The bird was shot on September 1, i.e., 7 days later, at a farm 28 miles east of Kulin by Mr. R.G. Argent. This represents a travel, in a northerly direction, of some 70 miles.

It is expected that considerable information on the feeding movements and general dispersal of parrots will be accumulated as the result of these banding activities.

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 10.

October 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

The Clerk in Charge, Mr. B.R. Saville, and the Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, will attend a meeting with representatives of the Mandurah Licensed Fishermen's Association at the Mandurah Road Board office on Friday October 1.

The Superintendent, Mr. A.J. Fraser, recommenced work, after annual leave, on September 20.

Inspectors W. Davidson and J.C. Thair resumed after annual leave on September 22 and 27 respectively.

Inspector S.W. Bowler plans to start his annual leave on October 1 and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson commences one week's annual leave on October 4. Inspector A.K. Melsom will relieve at Geraldton during Mr. Bowler's absence.

Mr. B.R. Saville had a week's holiday on the Goldfields from September 20 to 26.

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, will leave Perth on October 11 for a tour of inspection of the Albany district generally, including both Brookes' and Wilson's Inlets.

Mr. B.K. Bowen of Head Office will commence two weeks' annual leave on October 25.

Mr. B.H. Boyd will commence duty as Assistant Inspector at Head Office on October 4.

Inspector J.C. Thair will proceed to Shark Bay on October 21 to take over the district. Inspector R.J. Baird will return to Perth and, after annual leave, assume control of the p.v. "Garbo".

#### PERSONAL PARS

During the month Dr. G.M. Dunnett, Research Officer of the Wildlife Survey Section of the C.S.I.R.O., called on the Superintendent and discussed aspects of his proposed work at Rottnest Island. Dr. Dunnett will for the time being be engaged on a population study of quokkas.

#### INCREASED ALLOWANCE

Administrative Instruction No. 93 received from the Public Service Commissioner sets out the rates of allowances to apply as from September 1, 1954.

Travelling and related allowances have been increased by 3/-d per day from 28/-d. to 31/-d.

The allowance for meals when overnight travel is not necessary has been increased from 6/-d to 7/6d.

The subsistence allowance for seagoing inspectors has not been altered as this allowance is not included in the general agreement between the Commissioner and the Civil Service Association. It is understood that a separate submission is being considered by the Commissioner.

#### DUCK BANDING

Technical Officer J. Traynor last month spent 12 days in districts as far north as Eradu, but

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was unable to locate a suitable banding station. Twenty-five ducks were trapped and banded at Glengarry on the Greenough River and one bird which had previously been banded at Moora entered the trap. Enquiries and observations made in the Three Springs and Winchester areas led to the opinion that the poor winter had resulted in the early drying out of the smaller lakes and swamps. Mr. Traynor found that there were any number of birds on Yarra Yarra Lake, but owing to its extent trapping was impossible there.

Other inquiries indicated that ducks are still well scattered in the south and are not in any numbers at the Cape Riche, Wardering or Karrinyup banding stations. An encouraging report mentioned large numbers of duck at Lake Jasper south of Nannup, and observations by the Fauna Warden (Mr. F.A.L. Connell) during his wheatbelt inspections confirmed reports that Lake Mears (about 17 miles south of Quairading) should be successful as a banding station.

#### REMARKABLE RECOVERIES

##### A Little Crow

During September one of our most interesting band recoveries occurred when a band previously placed on a Little Crow was returned.

In order to ascertain which species of crow had been plaguing Kalgoorlie residents, Honorary Warden Paul Wood caught a bird and forwarded it to Perth by passenger train on June 1. It was identified as being an immature Little Crow (Corvus bennetti). A band was placed on the bird's leg by Technical Officer Traynor and it was released from the latter's home in North Perth on the evening of June 2. Mr. C.F. Brewster returned the band last month and informed us that he had recovered it from a crow on September 22 at a place 40 miles east of Narrogin between Harrismith and Tinkurra. As far as we are aware, this is the only crow to have been banded and the recovery of the band, besides being the first recorded movement of this species, also demonstrates the remarkable results which may be obtained by the use of banding techniques.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Volume III, No. 9

September 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent, Mr. A.J. Fraser, the Clerk-in-Charge, Mr. B.R. Saville and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson, together visited Mt. Barker, Albany and Pemberton from August 27 - 30 on trout acclimatisation. They attended the quarterly meeting of the Trout Acclimatisation Council of W.A. at Albany and the annual meeting of the Pemberton-Warren Trout Acclimatisation Society at Pemberton.

The Superintendent will start annual leave on September 4 and recommence duty on September 20.

Inspector W. Davidson will commence annual leave on September 2. He intends to holiday in Sydney.

Messrs N.E. McLaughlan and J.C. Thair have been promoted to Inspectors, Grade 2, Class G-II-1 as from June 15, 1954.

Mr. B.K. Bowen of Head Office has been appointed to Item 1618, Class C-II-1 as from June 30, 1954.

Inspector N.E. McLaughlan, with Cadet-Inspector D. Wright as crew member, brought the p.v. "Kooruldhoo" to Fremantle from Geraldton on August 27. She will be refitted immediately for the southern crayfish season commencing about December 1.



OPEN SEASON FOR EMUS

In a recent Government Gazette emus were declared to be not protected in the Albany, Denmark, Plantagenet and Manjimup road districts for six months as from August 1, 1954. During this period any person may take emus on Crown land or on private land with the owner's permission. As in the case of kangaroos protection is not lifted in flora and fauna reserves, timber reserves, and all State Forests and National Parks and any other reserves under the control of a board or other body which has gazetted regulations protecting fauna.

OPEN SEASON FOR FINCHES

As conditions in the Kimberleys were reported to be normal, the open season proclaimed this year is for the usual period from September 1 to December 31. During this period people desiring to trap any of our indigenous finches for gain or reward may obtain a license providing they satisfy the Chief Warden of Fauna that their trapping techniques and holding facilities are of a sufficiently high standard. The fee of such a license is £2 but it does not relieve the holder from the necessity of obtaining separate licenses for each consignment of finches to be exported from the State.

DUCK BANDING

Technical Officer J. Traynor has made arrangements to commence banding operations at Glengarrrie Station near Eradu in the Geraldton district this month.

Mr. Traynor has pointed out that if trapping is successful it will be the first time that ducks have been banded north of Moora. It will be interesting to discover whether birds from Geraldton migrate to the south or to the north, or whether they scatter indiscriminately as appears to be the case from the southern banding stations.

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Recoveries: Since the publication of the last Bulletin the following bands have been recovered:-

No.	Date Banded	Place Where Banded	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2103	8/1/54	Karrinyup	Between Jan. and April	Found dead Hyde Park	Found by gardener
2093	do.	do.	do.	do.	do.
2293	25/1/54	Queen's Gardens	do.	do.	do.
2575	23/3/54	do.	do.	do.	do.
1785	21/4/53	do.	do.	do.	do.
1937	2/5/53	Karrinyup	do.	do.	do.

#### OUR FAUNA CHAMPIONED

When addressing the Pan-Indian Ocean Science Congress Dr. S.L. Hora attacked what he called our wanton destruction of kangaroos and emus. He expressed the view widely held overseas, that this State is a museum of living objects and our fauna should be counted among the wonders of the world and preserved for posterity. Dr. Hora's views should be treated with the utmost respect, as in addition to being qualified as the director of Zoological Survey of India he is also Secretary of the Indian Board for Wildlife and his opinions on the worth of our fauna are unsullied by familiarity. He has suggested that the State should set up an organisation to capture some of the surplus kangaroos and emus and export them to other countries where they would bring high prices. He warned Australia against such actions as the spreading of the kookaburra and the importation of rabbits and foxes and pointed out the tremendous amount of damage exotic fauna caused when once acclimatised in a new locality.

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(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 8

August 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

Technical Officer L.G. Smith entered hospital on July 29 and underwent an operation on the same day. On the following day he rang to say that the operation was successful and that he was feeling one hundred per-cent.

The Superintendent, Mr. Fraser, returned to Perth on July 17 from an interstate Fisheries conference in Sydney.

The Supervising Inspector, Mr. J.E. Bramley, will carry out a northern inspection lasting about a fortnight commencing on August 9. He will proceed as far north as Carnarvon, taking in Dongara, Geraldton and Shark Bay en route.

Mr. Ian Bartholomew of Head Office intends taking his annual leave from August 9. Inspector A.J. Bateman will also take annual leave this month. Inspector A.V. Green, of Bunbury, commenced leave on July 26. Inspector Melsom is relieving.

Inspector H.J. Murray recommenced duty after annual leave on July 26.

Tech. Off J. Traynor was absent on sick leave from July 13 to 19 but now seems his normal self again.

### WHEAT-BELT INSPECTION

Shortly after the party returns from the Murchison-Cockleshell Gully areas, Fauna Warden F.A.L. Connell will carry out a detailed inspection of areas lying between Perth and Merredin. He will proceed through York, Beverley, Quairading, Bruce Rock and Narembeen to Merredin and the lower part of the Mt Marshall Road District and return through Kellerberrin, Tammin, Cunderdin and Northam.

Apart from investigating the prevalence of kangaroos and emus, he will interview Road Board Secretaries, Farmers' Union officials, Police Officers and Honorary Wardens in respect to fauna matters generally. Many complaints have been received of unlicensed shooting and other breaches of the protection laws in these areas in recent months.

### DUCK BANDING

Last month Technical Officer J. Traynor, visited a site at Greenbushes which had been recommended as a banding centre.

Although disappointed with the number of ducks which used the area, Mr. Traynor decided that it may be possible to establish a station there at certain times of the year.

On his way and on the return, investigations were made into alleged breaches of fauna protection. Mr Traynor was accompanied by Inspector A.V. Green in the Bunbury district inspections.

Recoveries: Since the publication of the previous Bulletin the following bands have been returned.

All but one of these were handed in by Mr. R. Cook whose farm near Moora was used as a banding station. Mr. Cook is of the opinion that from the time they were banded until they were shot the ducks had not left his property.

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### WARNING FOR WILDFOWL

In June last, Honorary Warden Waverney Ford of Fremantle reported that many black swans and wild duck were being killed by crashing into a recently erected high tension cable intersecting their flight path between Bibra Lake and North Lake.

The matter was investigated and a report forwarded to the State Electricity Commission. The Commission proved most co-operative. A senior engineer accompanied the Department's Fauna Warden, Mr. F.A.L. Connell, to the site and made an inspection. Advice has since been received from the Commission that a measure recommended by Mr. Connell has been adopted. Aluminium discs treated with luminous paint will be suspended at intervals along the cable, and it is hoped that they will give the birds adequate warning of the new hazard in their established line of flight.

### TROUT

On July 1 Technical Officer J.S. Simpson inspected a dam on the property of Mr. S. North at Byford. The dam was approximately 8 yds long and 5 yds wide and only 2'6" deep. It is fed by a permanent stream and both the inlet drain and outlet are screened. Trout fry were planted in the dam in 1952 and 60 or 70 fish have survived and are now 10-12 inches in length and are reported to be in excellent condition. Mr. North hopes that the fish will spawn in the feeder drain and does not intend to fish his pond until after the third year.

From July 19 to 23 the Clerk-in-Charge, Mr. B.R. Saville, and Technical Officer J.S. Simpson held meetings with interested people at proposed trout distribution centres. The purpose of the meetings was firstly to acquaint farmers with the details of arrival times and delivery arrangements, and secondly to minimise losses due to incorrect handling from the moment of delivery to the time of release of the trout in the dams or ponds. Arrangements were made at each centre for the use of a central dam from which water will be taken for the farmers'

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3(7) Jul 1954

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

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Vol. III, No. 7

July, 1954

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STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent (Mr. A.J. Fraser) will leave Perth on Sunday July 4 to attend a conference in Sydney.

On June 18 Miss Carol Paramor was farewelled at an informal afternoon tea. She had tendered her resignation from the Service to enter Nurses' Training School. Carol was presented with an Onoto pen and pencil set and subjected to a spate of good wishes.

Miss Paramor was replaced by Miss Pam Pegrum who came to us from the Superannuation Board.

On April 5 Miss Val Hogan was sent to us as a forward replacement for Shirley Norwood and it just shows how well Val fitted into our family that we overlooked welcoming her at the time of farewelling Shirley.

Inspector F.A.L. Connell handed over the p.v. "Kooruldhoo" to Inspector Neil McLaughlan on June 15 and came to Perth to assume the duties of Fauna Warden.

Inspector H.J. Murray had proposed to take his leave last month but it was found necessary to postpone it until July 5.

Inspector A.V. Green plans to take his annual leave commencing July 26. Inspector A.K. Melsom will relieve at Bunbury during Mr. Green's absence.



It will be seen that the total production was stepped up almost 100,000 lb. as the result of an increased take from all Groups. The catch per man increased in two areas but decreased in the other two. The month was unexpectedly good, but so far no convincing reason has been propounded to account for the improvement. The progressive totals show that for the period to the end of May this season there is an increase of 336,870 lb. over the production for the same period last year.

#### FAUNA PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At a meeting of the sub-committee on bird banding the Chairman (Mr. Fraser) read a letter received from the C.S.I.R.O. Wildlife Survey Section which set out the Council's plan regarding centralisation of bird banding. Mr. Fraser said that at the recent Interstate Fauna Conference in Melbourne some States opposed the idea of centralisation on the grounds that they would lose their identity with current banding programmes and also lose the contacts and goodwill established after considerable effort and expenditure.

After some discussion it was decided to recommend to the full Committee that complete State control be maintained over the banding of traditional game birds. With regard to all other species of birds it was considered that while permits should be issued to approved personnel, it was felt that it should be a condition of the permits issued that copies of all records and information supplied by them to the C.S.I.R.O. should be forwarded at the same time to this Department. It was decided to make a recommendation accordingly. The Chairman stated there would be no administrative objection to the Department advising whether applications for permits made by C.S.I.R.O. operators would be approved before similar application was made to C.S.I.R.O. Any C.S.I.R.O. operators working on the State's duck banding programme would be required to use the Department's own rings and record forms.

Mr. Fraser said that the duck banding season just concluded was a disappointing one in that only just over 800 ducks had been banded as against the target of

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2,000. He pointed out that the decline in the banding figures was not the result of any lessening of activity, but rather because of a number of unavoidable causes, the principal one being the abnormal seasonal conditions, which caused ducks to congregate in a different pattern from last year. Mr. Traynor said that next season he would commence early in the Three Springs area and gradually work southwards. He considered the size of the present bands was satisfactory for mountain duck, but needed to be  $\frac{1}{8}$ " shorter for black duck and  $\frac{1}{4}$ " shorter for grey teal. Mr. Fraser said that the required sizes would be procured before the next banding season commenced.

The full Committee met on June 24, when the recommendation of the sub-committee was approved.

At this meeting the acting Chairman, Mr. B.R. Saville, announced that the Governor in Executive Council had appointed Mr. John Bateman Higham, of "Minigin", Narrogin, as a member of the Committee in place of the late Major H.M. Whittell. It is understood that Mr. Higham is at present on the high seas on his way to England and will be away from Western Australia for about six months. It will be remembered that Mr. Higham was some time ago appointed an Honorary Warden of Fauna for the Narrogin District.

#### HONORARY WARDENS OF FAUNA

The Governor in Executive Council has appointed a further six Honorary Wardens and their names and addresses are listed below. Mr. C.A.S. Stark, late of Collie has been transferred and has tendered his resignation. These alterations bring the number appointed and currently holding office to 161.

Colliver, S.G.	159 Victoria Avenue, Claremont.
Day, E.H.	Carradine Road, Armadale.
Loveridge, R.	Box 65, Naremburn.
Powell, A.G.	Chillinup, via Borden.
Quartermaine, F.L.	"Palomar", Northam.
Warham, J.	C/- Mrs. James, "Coringa", Upper Kalgan River, Albany.



ECHIDNA OR SPINY ANT-EATER

Inspector S.W. Bowler reported last month that two natives captured one of these interesting little animals close to the town of Geraldton. Local residents told Mr. Bowler that they were the first seen for a number of years. It should be understood however that the echidna, like the numbat or banded ant-eater, is a shy and more or less nocturnal creature and is rarely seen because of its nature and habits rather than its rarity. Mr. L. Glauert states that numbers of specimens have been forwarded from Geraldton to the Perth Museum in the past.

DUCK BANDING

Banding activities concluded for the winter, at least in the South-West, on Mr. Traynor's return from Cape Riche last May.

Recoveries to hand since the publication of the last Bulletin are as follows:-

No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2207	19/1/54	Lake Karrinyup	9/5/54	Dale River, Beverley district	60 miles
2427	18/2/54	Cook's Farm Moora	22/5/54	Wannamal, Gingin District	35 "
1932	1/5/53	Gwelup Swamp, Wanneru	16/5/54	Duck Pool near Lake Clifton	60 "
1084	20/1/53	Queen's Gardens	24/5/54	Gwambygine Pool on Avon River, 7 miles sth of York	55 "

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No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u> (Contd)					
2189	15/1/54	Lake Karrinyup	26/5/54	In paddock at Waroona	65 miles
2246	21/1/54	do.	27/3/54	Wokalup	85 "
2315	13/2/54	Cook's Farm Moora	14/5/54	1 mile N.E. Mogumber	30 "
2338	15/2/54	Cook's Farm Moora	28/5/54	5 miles Nth of Mogumber	25 "

The following table sets out the different species of ducks banded, bands recovered from each species, and the percentage of recoveries up to June 30, 1954.

	Black Ducks	Grey Teal	Mountain Duck	Maned Geese	Others	Total
Banded	1414	318	33	21	33	1819
Recovered	75	18	3	-	-	96
Percentage of Recoveries	5.3%	5.66%	9.09%			5.28%

# ODDS AND ENDS

The Hippopotamus is a valuable aid to commercial fisheries in Uganda. He is an inhabitant of rivers and lakes, and his excreta contributes to the formation of phytoplankton, which serves as food for tilapias, those fish which are an indispensable part of native economy.

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3(6) Jun 1954

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT. WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 6

June, 1954

STAFF NOTES

Supervising Inspector Mr. J.E. Bramley and the Relieving Inspector, Mr. A.K. Melsom, last month carried out district inspections in the Bremer Bay and Albany areas and later in the month in the Mandurah district.

Mr. Bramley, accompanied by Technical Officer Mr. J. Simpson, will shortly visit Moora to investigate reports of the presence of 10 inch fish in a dam which has been dry at different times in the last three years.

Inspector H.J. Murray proposes to take his annual leave this month. Mr. A.K. Melsom will assume the Mandurah district responsibilities during Mr. Murray's absence.

Captain H.C.W. Piesse with crew members R.M. Crawford and Cadet Inspector M.J. Simpson sailed on the research vessel "Lancelin" for Exmouth Gulf at midnight on Monday, May 24. C.S.I.R.O. Technical Officer K. Godfrey is also on board and will assist in research work on prawn and other fisheries in northern waters up to Hampton Harbour. The "Lancelin" is not expected back in Fremantle until next November.

Assistant Inspector N.E. McLaughlan and Cadet Inspector J. Milne are patrolling the Rottnest area in the P.V. "Garbo".



7 fish. As may be judged from this, Mr. Simpson has the transportation unit functioning in first-class working order.

FAUNA

From the 3rd - 13th May, the Senior Clerk and the Technical Officer, Mr. J. Traynor, carried out a survey on the prevalence of kangaroos and emus in many road districts in the South-West. They were joined at Bridgetown on the 10th by Inspector A.V. Green, who accompanied them through the Bridgetown, Upper Blackwood, Balingup, Preston and Capel districts. Opinions of Road Boards, Farmers' Union Branches, local farmers and Honorary Wardens were obtained on the amount of damage suffered and the pros and cons of open seasons. Wherever necessary, details of the permit system were explained, as it was known that there was, in some quarters, a poor conception of the laws relating to protection and permits obtainable by property owners.

As would be expected, there was a marked difference of opinion even within one section of the same road district, and all opinions will be carefully weighed before any action is taken to have further open seasons proclaimed.

DUCK BANDING

Acting on information received from Inspector G.C. Jeffery at Albany, Technical Officer J. Traynor proceeded to Cape Riche and in less than a week was able to band 134 ducks. This number consisted of 69 black duck, 62 grey teal, one mountain duck and two chestnut teal, the latter being the first chestnut teal banded. These figures bring the total number of bandings for the year to 644 and the grand total to 1819.

Recoveries: Since publication of the last Bulletin the following bands have been returned:-

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NO.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Traveled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2092	7/1/54	Lake Karrinyup	20/4/54	Lake Clifton near Lime Kilns	65 miles
1709	20/4/53	Queen's Gardens	27/3/54	Wokalup	80 "
2481	5/3/54	Wardering Lake	1/5/54	1 mile west Norring Lake	6 "
2108	8/1/54	Lake Karrinyup	4/5/54	Wilson's Inlet	232 "
2504	9/3/54	Wardering Lake	unknown	Brunswick Junction	85 "
2516	12/3/54	do.	15/4/54	Quarbin Lake	10 "
2476	5/3/54	do.	6/5/54	Douglas swamp Woodanilling	8 "
2378	16/2/54	Cook's Farm Moora	2/5/54	Main Chittering Lake	50 "
1595	6/3/53	Queen's Gardens	5/5/54	Zoological Gdns South Perth	2 "
2495	8/3/54	Wardering Lake	14/5/54	3 miles west Norring Lake	6 "
2513	12/3/54	Wardering Lake	7/5/54	Capel District	65 "
<u>Grey Teal</u>					
2052	18/12/53	Watson's Lake Dumbleyung	24/4/54	Cape Riche	100 "

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No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Grey Teal (contd)</u>					
1599	19/3/53	Big Bootine Swamp, Gingin	9/5/54	Gundaring Lake, Wagin	170 miles
1500	26/2/53	Lake Karrinyup	not yet known	On a dam near Wagin	130 "

#### SEA POLLUTION

With the erection of an oil refinery at Kwinana well under way, and progress being made in the establishment of other refineries around Australia's coast, it is indeed fortunate for us that concerted international efforts are being made to reduce oil pollution of the sea.

Britain in 1922 prohibited the discharge of oil within territorial limits of her coast and since 1926 ship owners of many countries have voluntarily refrained from discharging oily waste within a 50-mile limit. Contamination from sea waters comes from two main sources - tankers and oil burning ships. In tankers, during the trip from the point of loading to the port of discharge, an oily sludge tends to form at the bottom of the crude oil tanks and over a long journey this sludge may amount to 20 or 30 tons. After discharging its oil, the tanker has to fill up some of its tanks with sea water as ballast and later at sea all tanks are cleaned and the contaminated water pumped out. The total discharge of sludge contaminated water may approximate 7,000 tons from a single tanker. These crude oil washings spread rapidly over the surface of the sea; prevailing winds and currents can carry them to the shore even though they may have been deposited many miles out to sea.

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3(5) May 1954

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 5.

May 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

A Buffet Lunch was partaken at Head Office on Thursday 15th April for the occasion of farewell-ing Miss Shirley Norwood, who resigned as from 5 p.m. to become Mrs. Frank Silva. Various officers extended to Shirley and Frank their best wishes and hopes for the future and the Superintendent (Mr. A.J. Fraser), on behalf of officers of the Department, presented her with an eight piece crystal fruit set. Miss Norwood bravely responded and specially asked that officers who were not able to be present be extended her, and Frank's, appreciation of the gift which they would cherish.

Clerk-in-charge Mr. B.R. Saville commenced annual leave on the 21st April.

The Superintendent and the Clerk-in-charge will attend a meeting of the Trout Acclimatisation Council at Bridgetown on Sunday 9th May.

Assistant Inspector N. McLaughlan returned from leave on 12th April.

Cadet Inspector M.J. Simpson will finish his National Service Training on the 4th May and return to duty on the 5th May.

The Supervising Inspector J.E. Bramley and Inspector A.K. Melsom will shortly be going to the Bremer Bay and Albany areas on special investigation-al work.

P.V. "Garbo" is ready now to go to sea and will operate in the Rottnest area for the herring



season. Assistant Inspectors N. McLaughlan and J. Sinclair will be on board.

Inspector S.W. Bowler expects to go to the Abrolhos Island early in May on inspectorial work.

#### DUCK BANDING

The Fauna Research Officer, Mr. J. Traynor, accompanied by an officer of the Zoological Department of the University, visited Gingin area early last month to collect blood samples of kangaroos and also to ascertain the possibilities for banding in the Bambun and Nambung Lake districts. Geographical conditions were favourable at one small lake, but the total of ducks present was only about 100 and not worthwhile bringing the traps up from Perth. After the research work was completed Mr. Traynor returned to Perth and proceeded later to Karrinyup where he set up his traps on 6th April.

Up to the date of publication approximately 80 ducks have been banded this month - the majority being black, but including 20 maned geese. Apart from one other, which has been retrapped on a number of occasions at Queen's Gardens, these are the first maned geese banded.

On the 26th April the traps were shifted to Queen's Gardens.

While at Karrinyup Mr. Traynor was able to secure some well conditioned specimens of various birds: some of these have been donated to the Museum and others will be held in the Department which is creating its own series of specimens for display purposes.

Recoveries: Since the publication of the previous Bulletin the following bands have been recovered:-

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No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>BLACK DUCK</u>					
2182	14.1.54	Karrinyup	1.4.54	Wilson's In-let	232 miles
1872	23.4.53	Queen's Garden	27.3.54	Chittering Lake	40 "
2381	16.2.54	Cook's Farm Moora	6.4.54	3 miles south Beverley	120 "
1752	21.4.53	Queen's Gardens	27.3.54	Chittering Lake	40 "
2201	19.1.54	Karrinyup Lake, Wanneru	15.4.54	1 mile up Avon River from Beverley	65 "
2215	19.1.54	Karrinyup	Feb '54.	24 Mile Peg Wanneru Rd.,	125 "
1304	30.1.53	Yanchep	April '54	Near 18 Mile Peg, Wanneru Rd.	12 "
<u>MOUNTAIN DUCK</u>					
2652	10.4.54	Karrinyup	13.4.54	Found dead (killed by fox) Karrinyup	
2013	13.12.53	Dawson's Lake Dumbleyung	17.4.54	S. end of Lake Preston	120 "
<u>GREY TEAL</u>					
2023	15.12.53	Dawson's Lake Dumbleyung	Not yet known	Between Cape Rich and Bremer Bay, 80 miles E. of Albany	104 "
2050	18.12.53	Dawson's Lake Dumbleyung	Not yet known	9 miles from Coolgardie	265 "
1428	16.2.53	Lake Wardering	18.4.54	Dam 3 miles S. of Borden	65 "

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 4

April 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Fraser, and the Clerk in Charge, Mr. B. R. Saville, together during March visited Albany in connection with the salmon season and later called in at the Pemberton Trout Hatcheries to discuss the organisation of trout distribution.

Mr. B. R. Saville intends to take his annual leave following the Easter holidays.

Mr. H. B. Shugg was appointed to the position of Senior Clerk in Head Office on the 11th March.

Assistant Inspector Neil McLaughlan commenced annual leave on the 22nd March.

Miss Shirley Norwood has tendered her resignation as from the 15th April. Her betrothed is Frank Silva, late of the Agriculture Department, but now a commercial artist with Claude Neon. Officers who will not be fortunate enough to attend the farewell function to Miss Norwood will no doubt join with us in extending to Shirley and Frank sincere good wishes for their future happiness.

#### FAUNA PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

A meeting of this Committee was held at Head Office on 25th March. The principal items discussed concerned the reports being received from honorary wardens, matters relating to reserves and sanctuaries, open seasons for kangaroos and emus in the South-West and aspects of the application of the Fauna Protection Act.

The Committee decided to carry out a tour of inspection in the Murchison area in June next and to hold its next meeting while on tour. Before then the Secretary of the Committee and the Fauna Warden are to investigate the kangaroo and emu problems in certain districts in the lower South-West where open seasons were proclaimed last year.

A review of the reports submitted by honorary wardens has been prepared and will be supplied to all appointed honorary wardens, to Fisheries Inspectors and to fauna authorities in the eastern States.

#### DUCK BANDING

The Fauna Warden, Mr. J. Traynor, left Perth on the 4th March for the Wagin district.

Although banding had been quite successful on Lake Wardering last year, Mr. Traynor found conditions far less satisfactory this year. Hundreds of black duck were present at Wardering but did not enter the traps at all freely.

An inspection was made of surrounding lakes including Quarbin, Norring and Little Norring and, in an effort to improve results, the traps were shifted from Wardering to Quarbin. However only one mountain duck was banded there. The ducks left the lake in the morning and returned in the evening but varying conditions tended to keep them away from the traps. Altogether a mere 41 ducks were banded in the area in a fortnight and it was decided to return to Perth.

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The traps were set up in Queen's Gardens on the 20th March but up to the end of the month only another 86 ducks were ringed.

On the 31st March Mr. Traynor proceeded to the Gingin district to inspect lakes Nambung and Beermullah to see if conditions were more favourable there.

# RECOVERIES

Since the publication of the last Bulletin the rate of recovery of rings seems to have increased and the following have been received in this office.

No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date Recovered	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>BLACK DUCK</u>					
1441	24.2.53	Karrinyup	12.2.54	Marrinup, S.E. Pinjarra	55 miles
2106	8.1.54	Karrinyup	--	Wanneroo	--
1873	23.4.53	Queen's Garden	4.3.54	Strawberry	190 "
2140	9.1.54	Lake Karrinyup	6.3.54	6 miles E. of Bindoon	45 "
2385	16.2.54	Moora	14.3.54	Qualen Lake	75 "
2269	23.1.54	Lake Karrinyup	5.2.54	Hyde Park	4 "
1535	4.3.53	Queen's Garden	23.3.54	Queen's Gardens	--
2483	8.3.54	Wardering Lake	21.3.54	15 miles S.E. of Narrogin	35 "
1625	21.3.53	Big Bootine Swamp, Beermullah	14.3.54	Lake Mears	115 "

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No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travell
2201	19.1.54	Karrinyup	15.3.54	1 mile up Avon River from Beverley	70 miles
2474	5.3.54	Wardering Lake	29.3.54	1 mile from Norring Lake, 12 miles S.W. of Wagin	6 miles
2421	18.2.54	Cooks Farm, Moora	28.3.54	Dam in Eradu 35 miles E. of Geraldton.	140 "
<u>GREY TEAL</u>					
1389	14.2.53	Wardering Lake	14.2.54	Karnup	115 miles
1383	14.2.53	Wardering Lake	19.3.54	4 miles S. of Minah Siding	125 "
2056	18.12.53	Dawson's Lake, Dumbleyung	23.12.53	Dam 11 miles along Esperance Rd. from Ravensthorpe	145 "
<u>MOUNTAIN DUCK</u>					
2015	14.12.53	Watsons Lake, Dumbleyung	16.3.54	Norring Lake, Wagin	25 mile

It is interesting to note that bands have been returned from areas further north and further east than previously. This is in keeping with the more widespread condition of ducks this year.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. III, No. 3

March 1, 1954

OBITUARIES

On February 7 at Bridgetown Major Hubert Massey Whittell, O.B.E., died after a long illness. He was born in London on March 24, 1883, and was educated at Edinburgh University. He served with the Royal Sussex Regiment from 1904 as a Second Lieutenant, was appointed a captain in the Indian Army in 1913 and promoted to major in 1918. Upon his retirement from the Army in 1926 he took up farming in Bridgetown. Major Whittell was for many years actively interested in ornithology and was president of the R.A.O.U. from 1941 to 1943. He was appointed a member of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee on its establishment in 1946. In co-operation with Dr. D. L. Serventy, he wrote two important works, namely "A Systematic List of the Birds of Western Australia" and "A Handbook of the Birds of Western Australia". He had completed a further book, "The Literature of Australian Birds", and this has been in the hands of the publishers for some time. A commonwealth grant had been bestowed upon him to assist him in research on the subject. He left a widow, a daughter and two sons to whom is extended the sincere sympathy of the staff of the Department.

We were shocked to hear of the death of Mr. A. J. Davis on the 2nd February and extend our deepest sympathy to his bereaved. In 1947, after 6 years' service in the R.A.A.F., Darkie, as he was popularly known, entered into partnership with Mr. W. Taylor and commenced



Mr. Munro paid tribute to the work of Inspector S. W. Bowler for his efforts in preparing the stall and also to Assistant Inspector G. Coombes for his assistance.

The attendance was quite good and as usual Mr. Munro enjoyed answering the multitudinous questions of the children.

#### DUCK BANDING

On the 3rd February Fauna Warden J. Traynor proceeded to the Three Springs area following reports of large aggregations of duck in the vicinity of Yarra Lake. Although these reports were factual, the lake proved quite unsatisfactory for trapping purposes. Consequently Mr. Traynor investigated the possibilities of the many swamps between Yarra Lake and the coast, but he was disappointed to find trapping everywhere was impossible for one reason or another.

On the 9th Mr. Traynor proceeded to Moora where, through the kind co-operation of Mr. Cook, he was able to set up his traps on some promising swamps on the latter's property. Although there were hundreds of grey teal present, only two came into the traps and one blue-winged shoveller. Black ducks entered the traps fairly freely and 121 were banded.

Mr. Traynor returned to Perth on the 21st and will shortly proceed to Lake Wardering, in the Woodanilling district, where banding operations were quite successful last year. A start, of course, must be made in the south before the early rains commence.

#### Recoveries

The following rings have been recovered since the issue of the February Bulletin.

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No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date Recovered	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>BLACK DUCK</u>					
1833	22.4.53	Queen's Gardens	13.2.54	Swamp 7 miles west Waroona	65 miles
1112	9.5.53	do.	31.1.54	Chittering	40 "
1745	21.4.53	do.	14.2.54	Hyde Park	3 "
<u>GREY TEAL</u>					
1381	14.2.53	Wardering Lake	12.2.54	Swamp North-West Brunswick	85 miles
2065	19.12.53	Watson's Lake, Dumbleyung	25.2.54	Gundaring Lake	15 "

N.B. In the February Bulletin band number 2135 was shown as having been placed on a duck on the 24th January. This should have read ringed 9.1.54, recovered 24.1.54.

#### FISHERIES ACT

##### Section 24 - Seizure of Fish

Some doubt recently arose as to whether fish seized under Section 24 may be disposed of before the case is heard. The Departmental view is that the Act is quite clear in that fish seized under the provisions of this Section shall be forfeited and may be disposed of in accordance with the procedure set out in Section 50. Despite this authority for disposal, however, it is always advisable to keep a sample of the seized fish to be produced in court as evidence.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

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Vol. III, No. 2

February, 1954

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STAFF NOTES

The Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Fraser, left in the company of the Hon. Minister, Mr. L. F. Kelly, M.L.A., for the eastern States. Mr. Fraser does not expect to be back until February 17.

The Supervising Inspector, Mr J. E. Bramley, entered the Repatriation General Hospital, Hollywood, on January 12 and was discharged on the 23rd after treatment. After another month at work he will have to report for further medical attention.

The Acting Senior Clerk (Mr. H. B. Shugg), Captain H. C. W. Piesse, Inspectors J. E. Munro and R. M. Crawford and Assistant Inspector N. E. McLaughlan all recommenced duties in January after annual leave.

Mr. Ian Bartholomew of Head Office is serving again in the Navy for a month's refresher course under the National Service scheme.

Our hearty congratulations and best wishes are extended to Inspector Fred Connell who was married on Saturday, January 30, in the Trinity Church to Miss Elaine Shapcott. Fred and his bride are on three weeks' honeymoon in the eastern States. They left by road for Brisbane via Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney and will be returning through Alice Springs.



Assistant Inspector N. E. McLaughlan and Cadet Inspector M. J. Simpson are at present on p.v. "Kooruldhoo" at Lancelin Island.

Assistant Inspector V. J. Sinclair and Cadet Inspector B. Carmichael are now stationed at Lancelin Island.

Mr. George Coombes rejoined the staff as a temporary Assistant Inspector and is at Geraldton assisting Inspector S. W. Bowler.

The Relieving Inspector (Mr. A. K. Melsom) has proceeded to Broome to act as Pearling Inspector during Mr. M. Goodlad's period of biennial leave.

#### DUCK BANDING

On January 6 Fauna Warden J. Traynor proceeded to Karrinyup Lake and commenced trapping at that locality. He estimated that there were about 1,000 birds on the Lake, comprising mainly black duck and coot with small numbers of grey teal and musk duck and a few white-eyed duck, blue-winged shovellers and others.

The results were not entirely satisfactory, due partly to the number of coot which ate the bait and appeared to keep ducks from entering the traps readily, and also to the receding water level which necessitated the traps being moved at least every day. Up to January 25, 207 black duck, one grey teal and 2 coot were banded. Traps were then lifted and brought to Queen's Gardens for another trial there. However, our large trap (7' x 6' x 3'6") disappeared completely during the night of the 27th. The C.I.B. were called in immediately but at the time of going to press the trap has not been recovered. Mr. Traynor has left for the Three Springs area following confirmed reports of good banding prospects there.

The presence of swamps in different centres, where, at this time of the year, such waters are usually dried up, is keeping the ducks scattered and making it difficult to band ducks in the hoped-for numbers. It is anticipated that, as the season

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progresses and the small swamps dry up and the availability of natural feed decreases, the ducks will come into the larger lakes and be trapped more readily.

Since the previous figures were published, the following recoveries of bands have been reported -

No.	Date Ringed	Place where Ringed	Date Recovered	Place where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
2107	8.1.54	Karrinyup Lake	20.1.54	Bindoon (Brockman R)	40 miles
2208	19.1.54	do.	20.1.54	do.	do
2211	do.	do.	20.1.54	do.	do.
2135	24.1.54	do.	24.1.54	Moondine	30 miles
2128	9.1.54	do.	24.1.54	Bailup Farm on the Avon	32 miles
2264	22.1.54	do.	24.1.54	do.	do.

#### HONORARY WARDENS' QUARTERLY REPORTS

The first series of reports by recently-appointed honorary Wardens are coming to hand and to date over 40 have been received. Some very interesting information is being provided which it is intended to tabulate for departmental information and for the guidance of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee. The following information is a very brief summary of the reports received to date -

Possums: Increases have been reported in the Beverley, Cuballing and Katanning districts but it would appear that only a few of these creatures are concerned in each report.

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

CALM LIBRARY ARCHIVE  
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Vol. III, No. 1.

January 1, 1954

STAFF NOTES

Officers who took annual leave and returned to duty during December were Messrs. A. J. Fraser, G. C. Jeffery and J. C. Thair.

Mr. H. B. Shugg, who spent several weeks during November and December in Royal Perth Hospital, finished sick leave towards the end of December and is now on annual leave.

Mr. A. K. Melsom, Relieving Inspector, spent a few days in hospital during December to undergo a minor operation.

Mr. W. R. Robinson has been appointed to the Head Office temporary staff during Mr. Shugg's absence. He will remain with the Department until Mr. I. Bartholomew returns from one month's national service training towards the end of February.

Mr. N. E. McLaughlan is at present on annual leave, and Mr. J. E. Munro will commence annual leave on January 5.

Inspector S. W. Bowler, of Geraldton, paid a flying visit to Perth on private business on Christmas Eve.

The Superintendent, in the capacity of President of the Civil Service Association of W.A., spent three days in Kalgoorlie during December to attend the annual meeting of the Kalgoorlie Branch of the Association.



CONVICTIONS RECORDED

October 1 to December 31, 1953.

Date	Defendant	Court	Charge	Result
12.10.53	Waters, W.A.	Fremantle	Fish in close waters	Fined £5
12.10.53	Waters, W.F.	do.	Undersize fish	" £5
3.12.53	Rowland, J.	Geraldton	Undersize crayfish	" £2
3.12.53	Smith, G.F.	do.	do.	" £2
3.12.53	Penniment, C.	do.	do.	" £3
3.12.53	Worthington, R.	do.	do.	" £2
3.12.53	McEvoy, E.	do.	do.	" £2

BANDING OF WILD DUCK

On December 2, 1953, the Fauna Warden, Mr. J. Traynor, commenced the Department's duck banding programme for the current season. Three traps were set at Watson's Lake, about 5 miles south of Dumbleyung. This body of water covers an area of approximately 300 acres. Mr. Traynor estimated that there were 600 to 700 birds on the lake. Grey teal predominated, but there were also on the lake mountain duck, black duck and swan.

The number of ducks trapped was rather disappointing. This lack of success was due mainly to the abundance of natural food, which made the food offered by Mr. Traynor less acceptable. The situation was aggravated by the blocking of the entrances to the traps by weed stirred up by persistent strong winds.

In all only 64 birds were trapped, comprising 41 grey teal, 7 black duck and 16 mountain duck.

On December 20 the traps were lifted and two were set at Queen's Gardens, Perth. Here 15 black ducks

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were trapped and 13 banded, the remaining 2 being re-traps.

Since the opening of the duck season on December 20 the following recoveries have been reported.

No.	Date Ringed	Place where Ringed	Date Recovered	Place where Recovered	Distance Travelled
<u>Black Duck</u>					
1054	11.6.52	Queen's Garden	22.12.53	8 miles S. of Northam	50 miles
1732	21.4.53	do.	30.12.53	Busselton	135 "
1950	4.5.53	do.	22.12.53	Mandurah	45 "
<u>Grey Teal</u>					
1494	26.2.53	Karrinyup Lake	20.12.53	Roelands Swamp	97 "

Mr. Traynor proposes to start at Karrinyup Lake early in the new year.

FREMANTLE FISHERMEN'S CO-OP. SOCIETY LTD.

This Co-operative is reconstructing the old fish markets building at Fremantle which it acquired under lease from the Public Works Department three years ago. Structural alterations and additions to the existing building are estimated to cost £25,000. Provision has been made for the processing of crayfish and other fish, quick-freezing and holding rooms, a merchandise store, a retail shop for fresh and cooked fish, a machinery room and office. Deep sewerage has been connected to the building and the necessary approval to process fish on the premises will be granted when the constructional programme is completed. It is anticipated that the building will be finished and the plant installed by the end of March.

Government assistance to the extent of £15,000 by way of guarantee against overdraft has been granted

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DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 12

December 1, 1953

STAFF NOTES

Mr. H. B. Shugg, Acting Senior Clerk, has been in Royal Perth Hospital for some weeks with a "slipped disc". It is not expected that he will return to duty much before the New Year.

Inspector A. J. Bateman of Fremantle returned to duty during November following  $3\frac{1}{2}$  months' long service and annual leave. Mr. Bateman has assumed command of m.v. "Silver Gull" and will in future be responsible for patrolling the sea fisheries of the Fremantle area, i.e., from Yanchep to Long Point, and including Rottnest and Garden Islands.

Miss Carol Paramor has been appointed to Head Office staff in place of Miss Davidson, resigned.

Inspector F. A. L. Connell, accompanied by Cadet Inspector B. A. Carmichael, sailed for Cervantes Island in m.v. "Kooruldhoo" on November 28, and Cadet Inspectors N. E. McLaughlan and M. J. Simpson sailed for Lancelin Island in m.v. "Garbo" on the following day.

During November, the Superintendent paid visits to Geraldton with the Fishermen's Advisory Committee, to Serpentine to attend a special meeting of the Serpentine-Jarrahdale Trout Acclimatisation Society, and to Rottnest Island to inspect the buildings recently taken over as a Field Station and Laboratory for use jointly by the Department, the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries and the Department of Zoology of the University of Western Australia.



In command of Captain H. C. W. Piesse, m.v. "Lancelin" returned to Fremantle in November after several months' absence in northern waters. Her crew comprised Inspector R. M. Crawford and Assistant Inspector J. C. Thair. Mr. K. Godfrey, Technical Officer of the C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries, was also on board.

Mr. J. Traynor, Fauna Warden, has left for the Nyabing district to commence duck banding operations for the current season.

Inspector G. C. Jeffery of Albany, is on annual leave. Inspector A. K. Melsom is relieving him.

PRESENTATION TO MR. E. J. BROWNFIELD.

Opportunity was taken at a social gathering following the 11th Annual Inspectors' Conference to say farewell to Mr. E. J. Brownfield; formerly Clerk-in-Charge, who was recently transferred to another Department, and to make a presentation in token of the esteem in which he was held by departmental officers. In the course of his remarks the Superintendent (Mr. Fraser), said that Mr. Brownfield had been with the Department in an executive capacity for almost 13 years, and had seen it grow up. He said Mr. Brownfield had always had a keen interest in the fishing industry and had made a very close study of all factors connected with it. For 18 months during the war, when he (Mr. Fraser) was on loan to the Commonwealth Government, Mr. Brownfield had with considerable satisfaction to the Government carried out the duties of Chief Inspector, and taking into consideration his experience in the Department and his knowledge of the industry, the Department could ill afford to lose his services. He wished him success and happiness in his new Department. Mr. B. R. Saville supported the Superintendent's remarks and said that the administrative staff of the Department were exceedingly sorry that Mr. Brownfield had left. On their behalf he wished him a successful and happy future. On behalf of the inspectors, the Supervising Inspector (Mr. Bramley) said that during Mr. Brownfield's association with the office, he had been a real friend to every member of the field staff, and they were deeply grateful to him for his kindness and considerateness. The Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Kelly)

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 9

September 1, 1953

STAFF NOTES

During August the Supervising Inspector (Mr. Bramley) visited the Geraldton and Bunbury districts.

In company with the Superintendent, Inspector J. S. Simpson and Cadet Inspector D. Wright, the Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Kelly) was present at the annual meeting of the Pemberton-Warren Trout Acclimatisation Society on August 1, and at the quarterly meeting of the Trout Acclimatisation Council of W.A. on the following day. Both meetings were held at Pemberton.

Inspector F. A. Connell has been at Geraldton for the greater part of August, having taken the place of Assistant Inspector J. L. Gallop, who was compelled to return to Mandurah owing to family illness.

Assisted by Cadet Inspector B. A. Carmichael, Inspector Connell brought m.v. "Garbo" to Fremantle from Geraldton during the month.

Inspector A. J. Bateman, of Fremantle, commenced 3 months' long service leave on August 1. At the conclusion of such leave Mr. Bateman will take his 1953 annual leave, returning to duty towards the end of November.

The Superintendent took a week's leave during the last week in August, and Mr. B. K. Bowen commenced his 1953 leave on August 24. Warden J. Traynor and Inspectors A. K. Melsom and J. S. Simpson took annual leave during August.



Town Clerk or Road Board Secretary. They will always be glad to see you and will generally be found to be the fountain-head of local information.

Keep these points in mind when on night patrol -

- (1) Oars and rowlocks to be effectively muffled;
- (2) Smoking is taboo. The glow of a cigarette can be seen for long distances at night, and the smell of tobacco smoke carries a long way;
- (3) A grapnel is a must for night patrols. Only by this means can you locate sunk nets or nets the corks of which have been forced under the surface by the current or tide;
- (4) Torches should be used judiciously. Never flash yours unless absolutely necessary;
- (5) If alone row by "pushing" the boat, so that you can see where you are heading. Even if two men are present one rowing is usually sufficient - if both row the speed of the boat is stepped up to such an extent that the patrol loses most of its efficiency and usefulness;
- (6) Always keep in mind the fact that the moon, or street, shop or house lights, or the like, can disclose your presence. Keep close inshore and as well hidden as possible;
- (7) Use a car with discretion. Rushing here and there at night seldom gets results, although mobility, i.e., the ability to move quickly from vantage point to vantage point, is a prerequisite of all inspectors, and sets the poacher thinking.

#### WILD DUCKS

Following on an American idea, the Department is trying, through the co-operation of the Gun Clubs, to secure information which will lead to a reasonable estimate of the wild duck population of the State.



Gun Club members and prominent duck shooters will be asked to complete a score card indicating the number of banded and other ducks bagged, the number crippled, and the locality in each case, and also whether more ducks were taken this season than last season.

Reports as received will be tabulated into an informative statistical statement and together with reports from Honorary Wardens and Departmental Inspectors provide a good measure of information on which to base reasonable regulations for conservation and rational taking.

All inspectors are requested to endeavour to sell the idea of sportsmen co-operating with the Department to obtain any information likely to secure these objects. It would assist also in mileage economy. If inspectors would advise this office of any authentic reports on duck congregations in their areas where duck banding operations could be profitably pursued. Where desired cards will be made available to inspectors for distribution.

#### CORMORANT CONFERENCE

On August 13, in the Minister's office, members of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee (Mr. A. J. Fraser, Chairman; Dr. D. L. Serventy and Mr. A. M. Douglas (deputising for Mr. Glauret)) met representatives of the Yacht Racing Association, comprising Mr. W. J. Lucas (Royal Perth), President; and Messrs. S. Craig (Rear-Commodore, Royal Freshwater Bay); W. Crommelin (Commodore, Claremont) and R. Tough (Claremont). Also in attendance were Messrs. H. B. Saugg, Acting Secretary of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, and J. Traynor, Fauna Warden.

The Minister opened the proceedings by referring to the deputation from the Association which had waited on him previously, and to the subsequent meeting he had had with the F.P.A.C. (vide July "Bulletin"). He also read one of many letters received from members of the public, and stated that for every person who wanted cormorants destroyed there were three who did not want them harmed. He said that the dissection of the three

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2(7) Jul 1953

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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Vol. II, No. 7

July 1, 1953

STAFF NOTES

Assistant Inspector J. L. Gallop, who is assisting Inspector Bowler during the crayfish season, returned to duty early in June after annual leave.

Mr. L. G. Smith and Inspector H. J. Murray are at present on leave - the former for two weeks and the latter for six weeks. Inspector A. K. Melsom is relieving Mr. Murray at Mandurah.

Cadet Inspectors B. A. Carmichael and M. J. Simpson have been appointed to the permanent staff.

Inspector F. A. L. Connell is assisting Inspector Jeffery during the Albany whaling season.

Cadet Inspector D. Wright is undergoing training in hatchery techniques at Pemberton Trout Hatcheries, where he will remain for approximately three months.

Inspector R. M. Crawford has joined the crew of the "Lancelin" on indefinite posting.

Mr. E. J. Brownfield's appointment as Accountant, State Hotels Department, was gazetted on June 12.

C.S.I.R.O. PERSONNEL

Mr. R. G. Chittleborough, research officer, Division of Fisheries, who was recently sent to the



### RUFF MIGRATIONS

Two more ruff which had been tagged and liberated at Ceduna in June, 1952, were recovered in Western Australian waters during June of this year. One was caught at Yallingup and the other at North Mole, Fremantle.

### WILD DUCK BANDING

Two more duck bands (1958 and 1961) were returned to the Department during June. They were both taken from black duck said to be shot at Chittering "early in May". They were both banded in Queen's Gardens, Perth, by Warden Traynor on May 5, 1953.

The wild duck open season concluded on May 31, and their taking by any means is now prohibited until just before Xmas.

### MID-YEAR INSPECTORS' CONFERENCE

The mid-year conference of district inspectors and other senior departmental personnel, to which reference was made in the last issue, was held at Geraldton between June 3 and 6. The officers mentioned in the June number were all present.

In addition to discussions on departmental matters, inspections were made of local processing establishments and the like, as well as of localities of importance in the fishing industry.

The following is a brief resume of some of the subjects dealt with -

Breaches of Acts. It was agreed that from time to time in the Bulletin notes be published concerning the procedure to be followed when inspecting catches, seizing fish, nets, etc., or apprehending offenders.

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 6

June 1, 1953

STAFF NOTES

Assistant Inspector G. Coombes has tendered his resignation from the Department. His last day of service will be June 18.

Inspector F. A. L. Connell left for Albany towards the end of May to assist Inspector Jeffery during the whaling season.

Cadet Inspector D. Wright, who has been serving on m.v. "Lancelin" for several months, has been transferred to Pemberton for the trout hatching season.

Mr. I. Bartholomew and Cadet Inspector M. J. Simpson have returned to duty after four months' national service training with the Navy.

Towards the end of May the Superintendent, in the capacity of Chairman of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, visited the South-West with other members of the Committee. He was accompanied by Mr. H. B. S. Shugg and Warden J. Traynor.

Assistant Inspector J. L. Gallop has been enjoying three weeks' annual leave.

Cadet Inspector B. A. Carmichael has joined m.v. "Kooruldhoo" at the Abrolhos Islands.

BANDING OF WILD DUCK

With the onset of winter rains and the dispersal of ducks, banding operations were finalised at Queen's Gardens on May 12, 1953. The total of ducks banded since June 4, 1952, and recoveries made, are set out hereunder -

	<u>Banded</u>	<u>Recovered</u>
Black Duck	749	16
Grey Teal	205	4
Mountain Duck	15	-
Coot	12	-
Mallard Duck	8	-
Moor Hen	5	-
Blue Bald Coot	2	-
Maned Goose	1	-
Totals	<u>997</u>	<u>20 (= 2%)</u>

During May three more recoveries of black duck were reported, as follows -

No.	Date ringed	Place where ringed	Date recovered	Place where recovered	Distance travelled
1305	30.1.53	Yanchep	2.5.53	Wanneroo	10 miles
1793	21.4.53	Queen's Gardens	4.5.53	Hyde Park, Perth (found dead)	1 "
1917	30.4.53	Karinyup Lake	17.5.53	Boyanup	110 "

CONFERENCE OF FISHING INDUSTRY

The Minister for Fisheries (Hon. L. F. Kelly, M.L.A.) has expressed his desire to meet as good a cross-section of the fishing industry as possible, to allow the various interests concerned to place before him their views on any subject connected with fisheries, and generally to inform himself in relation to the problems confronting the industry.

A conference has accordingly been arranged for Monday, June 8, 1953, in Perth, and invitations have been sent out to all professional fishermen's associations, to canners, freezer-boat operators, crayfish processors and fishermen's co-operatives, to C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries and members of the Fishermen's Advisory Committee. Departmental officers who will be present are Messrs. Fraser, Saville and Bramley.

DF "MSB" June 1953, Vol. II, No. 6.

[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN  
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

2(5) May 1953

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 5

May 1, 1953

STAFF NOTES

The Minister for Fisheries (Mr. Kelly) and the Superintendent (Mr. Fraser) visited Mandurah towards the end of April and discussed with local fishermen several matters dealing with the fisheries of Peel Inlet.

Inspector F. A. L. Connell has resumed duty after annual leave, which he spent in Singapore.

Inspector J. E. Munro is at present on annual leave. Inspector A. K. Melsom is acting as Metropolitan Inspector.

Assistant Inspector G. Coombes has returned to duty after leave, and Cadet Inspector B. A. Carmichael is back on the job following 3 months' national service training with the Army.

Mr. B. R. Saville is acting as Clerk-in-Charge during Mr. Brownfield's absence relieving in the State Hotels Department. Mr. H. B. S. Shugg, of the Native Affairs Department, is relieving in Mr. Saville's position.

Mr. J. E. Bramley, Supervising Inspector, spent some time during April in the Bunbury and Mandurah districts.

Assistant Inspector J. L. Gallop has gone to Geraldton to assist Inspector Bowler during the Abrolhos crayfish season. Inspector R. M. Crawford is at Mandurah in his stead.



The Gnowangerup Road Board subsequently made by-laws and assumed control of the fisheries of the inlets concerned, and although by agreement between the Board and the Department the by-laws were at one time revoked and control handed back to the Department, fresh by-laws were later promulgated, and control of the fisheries once more reposed in the Board. That is the situation today.

When the Department first heard of the mortality, Inspector G. C. Jeffery, of Albany, in whose district the waters lie, made contact with the Road Board and suggested that all restrictions on fishing be lifted for a time so that the fish would not be wasted. The approach was successful and the waters were opened for a month, and fishermen Swarbrick and Heberle made one or two good hauls.

Mr. Heberle has now produced for the inspection of the Minister and head office personnel a number of photographs taken at Beaufort Inlet, as well as a sample of fish he caught there. The photographs, one or two of which will be reproduced in the next issue, bear out his statement that "hundreds of tons" of good fish had perished. The fish themselves were in shockingly poor condition, and were covered in sores.

The view of the Professional Fishermen's League, which to a large extent is shared by departmental officers, is that the control of these two fisheries should revert permanently to the Department. It is believed that as all our marine and estuarine fisheries are interdependent, any damage which may accrue to any one of them through faulty management, due either to a lack of appreciation of overall fishery problems or else to a purely parochial outlook, must be felt, to a greater or lesser degree, by all other fisheries.

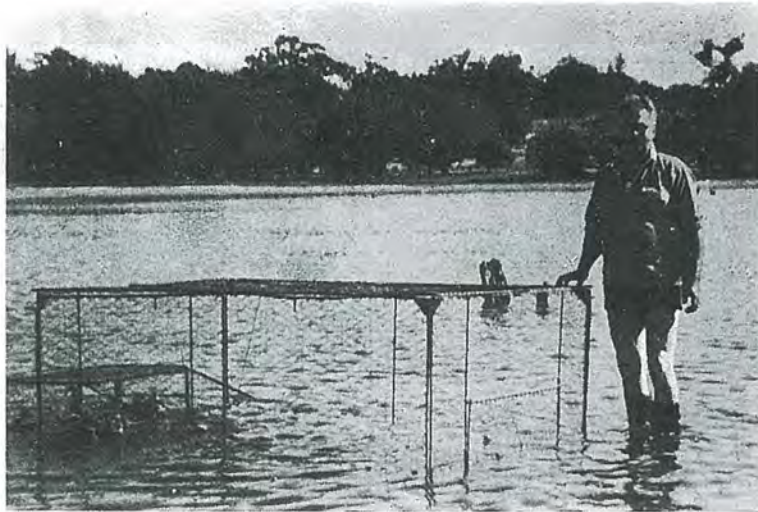
#### DUCK BANDING

Warden J. Traynor has almost reached the thousand mark with his duck-banding operations. As soon as this figure is reached he will pack up his traps until next spring. His work during April has been confined to Queen's Gardens, Perth, and Lake Karrinyup, Balcatta.

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# TRAPPING WILD DUCK FOR BANDING



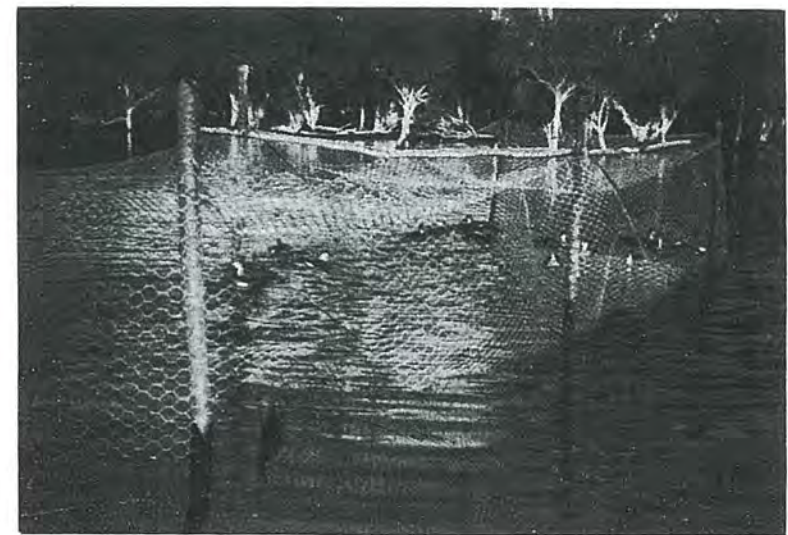
Warden J. Traynor with ducks in trap (Lake Karinyup)



"Dry" trap, duck entering box (Yanchep)



Shallow-water trap (Lake Karinyup)



Improvised deep-water stake trap (Lake Wardering)

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In the last issue of the "Bulletin" a table of recoveries was given. The following recoveries were reported to the Department in April:-

No.	Date ringed	Place where ringed	Date recovered	Place where recovered	Distance travelled
					Miles
<u>BLACK DUCK</u>					
1035	5.6.52	Queen's Gardens Perth	ca.8.1.53	8 m. S. of Boyup Brook	135
1154	11.11.52	Narrikup	14.4.53	Chittering Lake	225
1277	27.1.53	Yanchep	12.4.53	Yanchep (found dead)	-
<u>GREY TEAL</u>					
1317	10.2.53	Lake Wardering Woodanilling	29.3.53	11m.N of Kojonup	25
1342	12.2.53	do.	15.3.53	do.	25
1358	do.	do.	3.4.53	10m.N. of Kojonup	25

#### COCKROACHES

As is almost inevitable with small boats associating with other boats, one or two of our patrol vessels are slightly infested with cockroaches. The advice of the Government Entomologist was sought as to what control measures might be adopted, and he has replied as follows -

"Cockroaches may be effectively controlled by dusting or spraying with DDT. Where it is desirable to bring a heavy infestation under control quickly, kerosene sprays of 4% or 5% DDT should prove most satisfactory. If fire risk precludes the use of the kerosene mixture, then water mixtures could be substituted. If cockroach activity persists after two sprayings at an interval of about a fortnight, 10% Gammexane dust could be liberally applied behind cupboards and other fixtures likely to harbour the insects."

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Vol. II, No. 4

April 1, 1953

SEIZURE OF UNDERSIZE FISH

Section 24(1) of the Fisheries Act, 1905-1951, gives power to an inspector to seize undersize fish, and provides that "all such fish and all other fish contained in any boat or in any basket or other receptacle for fish containing more of such fish than one-twentieth in number of the whole number of fish contained in such boat, basket or receptacle shall be forfeited, and any inspector may seize the same".

Recently many legal size crayfish have been seized in pursuance of this power, but it has become the practice to determine the percentage of undersize fish in relation to all fish in a receptacle by weight, instead of by number, which of course simplifies the inspector's job. A case heard at the Fremantle Police Court towards the end of February shows how dangerous this practice is, and indicates that in the future the number of fish, both undersize as well as legal size, must be counted.

All told the consignment the basis of the charge consisted of 16 bags, each containing approximately 100 fish. The bags were emptied into a tank, and from the first 5 bags, which had been emptied one at a time, a total of 18 undersize crayfish were seized. Then owing to a misunderstanding 4 bags were emptied into the tank together. From this lot of fish the Inspector seized 73 undersize (approximately 18%). From the next bag, which was emptied separately, he seized 22, and from the next 20. The total number seized was therefore 133, of a total weight of 104 lb. The weight of legal size fish was 406 lb., and having regard to the fact that 106 lb. was more than one-twentieth of 510 lb., the inspector seized all fish, both legal size and undersize.

## BANDING OF WILD DUCKS

The practice of attaching small numbered rings on to the legs of birds, for the purpose of learning about their life history, has been practised in Europe since the end of the last century. Informative and intimate details have been learnt about such things as migration habits, dispersal, life span, homing tendencies and the like. This information, obtained in such a way, is a sound basis for conservation plans for maintaining a large population.

Early in November, 1951, the Department, on the recommendation of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee, decided to embark on a wild duck banding programme in this State. A sub-committee comprising Dr. D. L. Serventy and Mr. A. R. Tomlinson with the Chief Warden of Fauna, Mr. A. J. Fraser, as chairman, was appointed to draw up the programme. Mr. J. Traynor, Fauna Warden, was given the arduous task of carrying out all field operations.

On the arrival from England of 3,000 aluminium rings, each bearing a serial number and an inscription "Return to Fisheries Department, Perth", a banding test was made at Queen's Gardens, Perth, on June 4, 1952. The banding programme commenced officially on June 24, 1952, when the Minister for Fisheries (Mr. A. V. R. Abbott, M.L.A.) placed ring number 1071 on the leg of a black duck. It is not certain whether it was the pathetic look in the eye of the duck or the keen interest he has always taken in our fauna, but Mr. Abbott offered a reward of one guinea for the return of this ring (with the duck attached) to the Department. Since then several persons have been disappointed to learn that the reward is limited to that one ring.

To date approximately six hundred ducks have been banded at Queen's Gardens, Lake Karrinyup, Yanchep, Wardering Lake, Narrikup, Meralup, Wansborough and Big Bootine Swamp, Beermullah. Full particulars of the numbers and species ringed and the recoveries to date are shown on page 105.

In pioneering work of this nature many difficulties have to be overcome and perfection in trapping operations may only be attained on the basis of trial and error. Each locality has its own peculiarities

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and the success or failure of taking ducks in their native environment must to a large extent depend upon the initiative and ingenuity of the operator. We are indeed fortunate in having such ideal places as Queen's Gardens, Yanchep and the Lake Karrinyup Country Club, which are in close proximity to the city, for trapping stations. Experience here has shown that most difficulties in an extensive banding programme are encountered in establishing trapping stations in country districts.

Different types of traps have been used with varying results. The timber-frame trap covered with 2" mesh netting with a front door hinged for springing was discarded in favour of an iron-frame collapsible funnel trap covered with similar netting. The latter type proved more effective and did not subject the birds to the injuries caused by the spring door of the timber-frame trap. The iron-frame funnel trap attached to a wooden float has also been tried with moderate success. At Wardering Lake, 15 miles west-north-west of Woodanilling, Warden Traynor constructed a trap by driving sapling stakes into the bed of the lake and covering the area with wire netting. A large number of ducks were subjected to the indignity of having a ring attached their legs, and it is certain that Warden Traynor, by the time he had finished, was as wet as the proverbial shag. Photos of the traps will appear in the next issue of the Bulletin.

At Queen's Gardens, where the ducks are fed a daily ration of bran and pollard, little difficulty was experienced in enticing them to enter the traps for food. In other places the best results have been obtained by sprinkling liberal quantities of wheat in and around the traps. That the ducks are not to any great extent affected by handling or by ringing has been proved by the number of birds that have re-entered the traps. One young bird put in an appearance on five consecutive days.

Trapping results to date may be considered very satisfactory. In New Zealand during the initial year of similar operations 47 birds only were captured. The success of the field work in this State is due, it is believed, to the policy of the Department in placing that work under the supervision of one officer and to the enthusiasm of that officer. Warden Traynor is doing an excellent job, and there is still more hard work to be done if the desired results are to be achieved.

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Particulars of the rings returned to the Department are shown on page 106. The return of rings is a very important part of the banding programme, and as much publicity as possible should be given by the staff generally to this matter. The ultimate success of the banding operations will depend upon the co-operation of the sporting public in returning all rings found forthwith to the Department, together with information as to the species of duck and where and when it was shot.

DUCKS Banded IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA FROM JUNE 4, 1952,  
TO MARCH 24, 1953.

Locality	Species							Total Banded
	Black Duck	Mallard Cross	Moor Hen	Coot	Mountain Duck	Grey Teal	Blue Bold Coot	
Queen's Gardens	258	9	4	4				275
Meralup near Dumbleyung					4			4
Wansbrough near Tambellup					11			11
Narrikup	10							10
Yanchep	87							87
Wardering Lake Woodanilling	11					110		121
Karrinyup Lake Perth	43			6		29		78
Big Bootine Swamp 15 miles N.W. Gingin	33					65	2	100
TOTAL:	442	9	4	10	16	204	2	686

Repeats 134

Total Ducks Trapped 820

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BANDING OPERATIONS

Recovery of Rings to March 24, 1953.

No.	Date Ringed	Place where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place where Recovered	Distance Traveled
<u>BLACK DUCK</u>					
1105	21.1.53 7 p.m.	Queen's Gardens Perth	2.2.53	Avon River near Northam	50 mi
1316	31.1.53	Yanchep	8.2.53	10 miles south of Fremantle	50
1097	21.1.53 9 a.m.	Queen's Gardens Perth	8.2.53	Gillingarra, Moore River	68
1190	22.1.53 8 a.m.	Queen's Gardens Perth	8.2.53	Avon River, Burgess Siding	56
1351	12.2.53	Wardering Lake, 15 miles WNW Woodanilling	15.2.53	10 miles N.E. of Kojonup	10
1280	27.1.53	Yanchep	19.2.53	Yunderup	71
1457	24.2.53	Karrinyup Lake, Balcatta	1.3.53	half way between Wanneroo & Bulls- brook, commonly known as half way springs	12
1276	27.2.53	Yanchep	3.3.53 6.30p.m.	25 miles north of Perth (Wanneroo district)	18
1211	23.1.53	Queen's Gardens Perth	18.3.53	Swamp between Kelmscott and Forrestdale	20
<u>GREY TEAL</u>					
1339	12.2.53	Wardering Lake	21.3.53	Capel Lakes	100 mi

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(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES

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2(3) Mar 1953

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. II, No. 3

March 1, 1953

CHANGE IN MINISTERIAL HEAD

The Hon. L. F. Kelly, M.L.A. for Merredin-Yilgarn, was sworn-in as Minister for Fisheries on February 23. The new Minister, who it will be remembered was a member of the Royal Commission on the Fishing Industry which sat a few years ago, has been good enough to address a message to the staff of the Fisheries Department. It will be found immediately below. There is also a message from the retiring Minister, the Hon. A. V. R. Abbott, M.L.A. To the former we extend a very warm welcome, and to the latter we say "au revoir" and offer sincere thanks for many personal kindnesses.

(A. J. Fraser)  
SUPERINTENDENT.

From Mr. Kelly

I am very happy to have been honoured with the portfolio of Minister for Fisheries, because the fishing industry is one in which I have always been particularly interested and one which provides abundant scope for any Minister. During the late War the fisheries made great strides right throughout Australia, but the developments which have taken place in the West in the post-war period - developments which are second to none in the Commonwealth and which have been due largely to the energetic policy of the Fisheries Department - make me very proud that I shall be associated with that Department and able to play a part in the



STAFF NOTES

Inspector A. V. Green, of Bunbury, is on annual leave. Inspector A. K. Melsom is relieving him.

The permanent appointment of Mr. B. K. Bowen has been gazetted.

Messrs. Brownfield and Bramley have just concluded a tour of south coast salmon beaches.

Capt. H. C. W. Piesse is at present in the Bunbury area with m.v. "Lancelin".

Inspector M. Goodlad has resumed duty at Broome after sick leave and Inspector Munro has returned to Perth after relieving him.

Mr. L. G. Smith, Technical Officer, accompanied by Messrs. N. Millward and A. Lee, of C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries, is carrying out ruff tagging operations on the south coast between Esperance and Albany.

[ Mr. J. Traynor, Fauna Warden, has been duck banding in the South West. He met with little success at Bocal, where according to information received ducks were plentiful, but succeeded in banding quite a number of ducks at Lake Wardering, in the Woodanilling district. He has now shifted his traps to Lake Karrinyup, just north of Perth.

Cadet Inspector N. E. McLaughlan has spent the greater part of February in Geraldton assisting Inspector Bowler.

Inspector F. A. L. Connell and Assistant Inspector L. C. Oliver have been on a cruise to Geraldton in m.v. "Kooruldhoo" to investigate complaints that crayfishing was being carried out in closed waters. No evidence was found of illegal practices. They returned to Fremantle about mid-February.

Inspector R. M. Crawford recently had the misfortune to drive a stake into his foot while on duty at Lancelin Island. After treatment Mr. Crawford

### DUCK BANDS RETURNED

Since banding commenced on June 4, 1952, a total of 435 rings have been placed on wild ducks in many parts of Western Australia. The vast majority of ducks banded were of the black (or grey) variety, just a mere handful of teal having been ringed.

Six bands have been returned to the Department, as shown in the following table, which gives an interesting picture of their dispersal. All recoveries were black duck.

No. of ring	Date ringed	Where ringed	Date recovered	Where recovered	Distance travelled
1105	1953 Jan. 21	Queen's Gardens, Perth	1953 Feb. 2	Avon River, Northam	50 miles
1316	" 31	Yanchep	" 8	10m. south of Fremantle	50 "
1097	" 21	Queen's Gardens, Perth	" 8	Gillingarra Moore River	68 "
1190	" 22	do.	" 7	Avon River, Burges' Siding	56 "
1351	Feb. 12	Wardering Lake	" 15	10m. N.E. of Kojonup	10 "
1280	Jan. 27	Yanchep	" 19	Yunderup	71 "

In the April issue of the Bulletin, Messrs. Saville and Traynor will tell the full story of the duck banding operations since their inception.

### REFUSAL OF LICENSES

Last year a number of Fremantle fishermen were prosecuted for having removed the berry from, or for having otherwise dealt with, spawning crayfish. A conviction was recorded in each case, but a fine of £1 only was imposed on each offender. There was considerable jubilation on the part of the fishermen

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ENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2(2) Feb 1953

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Vol. 2, No. 2.

February, 1953

STAFF NOTES

Inspector M. Goodlad, of Broome, who has been on sick leave since mid-December, expects to resume duty on February 2.

Messrs. Brownfield, Piesse, Connell, Coombes and McLaughlan have resumed duty after annual leave.

The crew of m.v. "Lancelin", which is at present operating off Fremantle but will shortly leave for the South-West to continue crayfishing, prawn trawling and ruff (sea herring) investigations, comprises Mr. H. C. W. Piesse, Assistant Inspector J. C. Thair and Cadet Inspector D. Wright.

Mr. L. G. Smith, Technical Officer, has been in the Denmark region in connection with the snapper investigation programme initiated by C.S.I.R.O. Division of Fisheries. During a week at Wilson's Inlet Mr. Smith, who was accompanied by Mr. A. Lee, of C.S.I.R.O., belly-tagged and released 150 snapper and preserved 50 others for raciation studies.

Mr. J. S. Simpson, Inspector, Pemberton, has been transferred to Perth with effect from January 27. Mr. Simpson's future role in the Department will be to investigate, after some tuition by C.S.I.R.O., the nature of inland dams and streams with a view to extension of trout acclimatisation activities.

In company with Inspector H. J. Murray, Mr. Simpson during December and January distributed to outlying centres approximately 112,000 fingerling rainbow trout.



During January the Superintendent visited Busselton and Cowaramup, and in company with Mr. E. C. Harris, President of the W.A. Professional Fishermen's League, inspected the waters of Cowaramup Bay, which had in August 1952 been closed against the use of fishing-nets. Later in the month the Superintendent visited Geraldton and the Murchison River. The Supervising Inspector and Inspector Bowler were with him.

[ Mr. J. Traynor, Fauna Warden, is continuing his duck banding operations at Yanchep. Mr. Traynor's health has now greatly improved, and he is fit for heavy duties again.

During the absence of Mr. Ian Bartholomew on national service training, Mr. Ian Cairns has been appointed to Head Office staff as temporary clerk. Mr. Bartholomew's permanent appointment was gazetted in January.

Inspector A. K. Melsom is acting as Metropolitan Inspector during Inspector Munro's absence in Broome.

#### C.S.I.R.O. PERSONNEL

Mrs. L. M. Willings, Technical Secretary of the Division of Fisheries, C.S.I.R.O., Cronulla, N.S.W., has returned to the East after a week's visit to Perth. During her stay Mrs. Willings had discussions with local officers of the Division and with the Superintendent. Arrangements were made for a visit to Rottnest Island and an inspection of Cockburn Sound in n.v. "Lancelin", and for an inspection of Fremantle, Rockingham, Safety Bay and Mandurah districts by car.

Mr. K. Godfrey was compelled as a result of illness to leave "Suda Bay" at Busselton about mid-January and to return to Perth for treatment. We are glad to say he is now well on the road to recovery and will join "Lancelin" early in February.

Mr. Athol Middleton, of the Hydrology Section of the Division of Fisheries, returned to Perth towards the end of January after having spent several weeks at Cronulla. A few days after he got back Mrs. Middleton gave birth to a son. Congratulations!

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1(10) Oct 1952

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

RVICE BULLETIN

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Number 10

October, 1952

PERSONAL NOTES

Messrs. Brownfield, Branley and Traynor have returned to Head Office from their visit to the Kimberleys.

Mr. Traynor later left for the Great Southern and South-West to continue duck-banding operations. He was accompanied by Assistant Inspector Oliver.

Assistant Inspectors G. Coombes and J. L. Gallop have been appointed to the permanent staff on six months' probation.

Congratulations are extended to Inspector and Mrs. A. V. Green on the birth of a son on September 11. Before her marriage Mrs. Green was Miss Betty Roberts, of the Head Office staff.

The Superintendent (Mr. Fraser) visited Pemberton during the week-end of September 6-7 to attend the ceremonies connected with the official opening of the new trout ponds. Other departmental representatives at the various functions were Inspectors Munro and J. S. Simpson and Cadet Inspector Carmichael.

Accompanied by Mr. Saville, of Head Office, the Superintendent visited Albany and Denmark from September 11 to 13. Enquiries were made into a proposal for the opening of a small area of Oyster Harbour to net-fishing, and in relation to the depredations of kangaroos and emus in the Denmark-Young's Siding-Tingledale area. On the evening of September 12, accompanied by Inspector Jeffery, they were present at a meeting of the Denmark Road Board, to which representatives of the local professional fishermen, anglers



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1(8) Aug 1952

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

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Number 8

August, 1952

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STAFF NOTES

Inspector R. M. Crawford and Cadet Inspector M. J. Simpson are at present patrolling the Abrolhos crayfisheries in M.V. "Garbo".

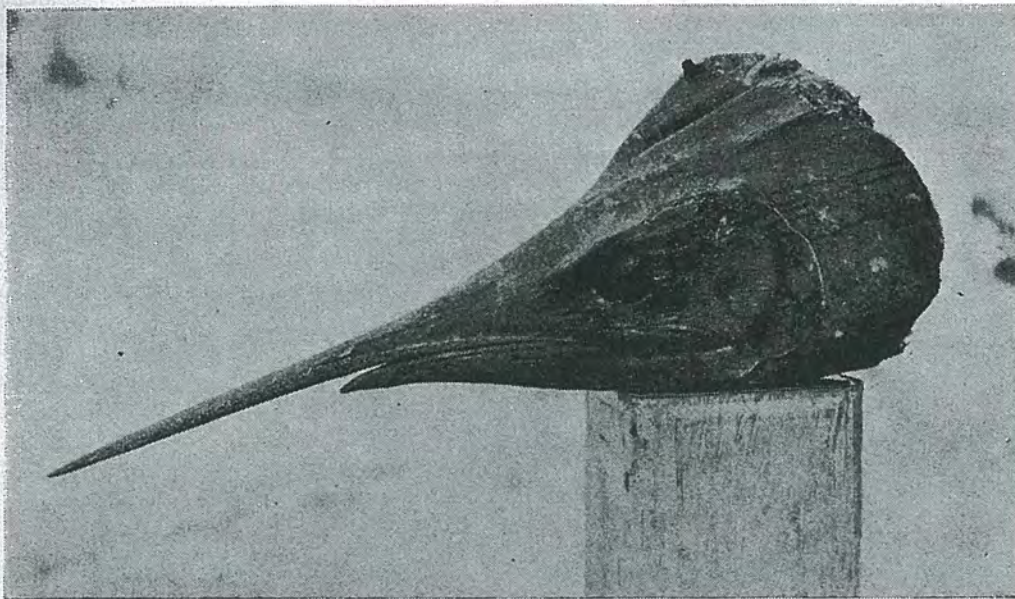
M. V. "Lancelin" left Geraldton on July 20 for an extensive cruise to Broome. The crew comprises Capt. H. C. W. Piesse, Skipper, and Inspector A. J. Bateman and Cadet Inspector N. E. McLaughlan. Inspector S. W. Bowler made the trip as far as Shark Bay, where he spent a couple of days with Inspector Baird.

Assistant Inspector R. J. Baird has been promoted to the rank of Inspector as from July 10, 1952.

On August 4 Mr. J. Traynor, Fauna Warden, will leave by air for the Kimberleys. He will make a comprehensive investigation in relation to the finches and wild turkeys in the Wyndham, Derby and Broome districts. On his return trip he will be met at Derby by the Deputy Chief Inspector (Mr. Brownfield) and Supervising Inspector (Mr. Bramley), who will leave Perth by Land Rover on August 7 for the purpose of inspecting all districts and activities north of Perth. Mr. Brownfield will return to Perth by air from Derby, and Mr. Traynor will accompany Mr. Bramley on the overland trip south.

The Superintendent (Mr. Fraser) during July visited the Abrolhos, Dwellingup, Pemberton and Mandurah. The visit to the Abrolhos was made in the company of the Hon. J. J. Dwyer V.C., M.H.A., Tasmanian Minister for Fisheries, and the Supervising Inspector.





**BLACK MARLIN IN SHARK BAY**

This picture shows the head of the black marlin recently landed by Mr. Axel Bertelsen, of Geraldton.



**DUCK TAGGING AT QUEEN'S GARDENS, PERTH.**

Left to Right: Dr. D. L. Serventy, Wildlife Section, C.S.I.R.O.; Hon. A. V. R. Abbott, M.L.A., Minister for Fisheries; Mr J. Traynor, Warden of Fauna; Mr. A. J. Fraser, Superintendent, Fisheries Department.

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**JOURNAL**

**[MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN  
(WESTERN AUSTRALIA. FISHERIES**

1(7) Jul 1952

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND WILDLIFE

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MONTHLY SERVICE BULLETIN

Number 7

July 1, 1952

FOREWORD

The financial year 1952/3 is now upon us with the promise of reduced appropriations and demands for the strictest economy. It is therefore necessary for us to take stock of our requirements for the coming year and by careful planning keep those requirements down to absolute essentials.

Those inspectors who are responsible for the maintenance of district stocks, the repair and upkeep of engines, boats and other equipment will be expected to assist in keeping expenditure to a minimum. It has been laid down that approval must first be secured following a requisition or report in writing before any expense is incurred. This procedure is to be followed implicitly and if departed from, the officers concerned may incur the liability of the unauthorised expenditure.

It is not intended that items of a petty nature involving only a few pence or shillings, be first referred, but the issuing of Direct Orders for services or goods must not occur before quotes and prior approval are secured. Telephoned approval can be sought in an emergency.

(A. J. Fraser)

SUPERINTENDENT OF FISHERIES.



FAUNA PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Fauna Protection Act, 1950, Messrs. H. M. Whittell, O.B.E., L. Glauert, B.A., F.G.S., and D. L. Serventy, B.Sc., Ph.D., have been appointed members of the Fauna Protection Advisory Committee for a period of three years from July 1, 1952. The Conservator of Forests, Mr. T. N. Stoate, and the Chief Vermin Control Officer, Mr. A. R. Tomlinson, with the Chief Warden of Fauna, Mr. A. J. Fraser, as chairman, are ex officio members of the Committee.

WILD-DUCK BANDING PROGRAMME

The Department is this year embarking upon an interesting new investigation programme on the native ducks, of which several species occur in Western Australia and are of considerable interest to the general public and naturalists. Very little real information is known about their habits locally, but impressed by the far-reaching results obtained in Great Britain and the United States, this State now follows New Zealand and Victoria in adopting the technique.

The rings being used are of aluminium and each bears a serial number and an inscription requesting the finder to return the ring to the Fisheries Department, Perth. The Department will operate regularly a duck-ringing trap at Queens Gardens, Perth, in association with the Perth City Council. The co-operation of the State Gardens Board has been obtained in working traps in other parts of the metropolitan area. Soon it is hoped to establish trapping stations in various other centres of the South West in association with competent ornithologists.

From the information obtained from the ringing programme, the Department hopes to trace the dispersal and general movements of the various species of ducks. Other factors of biological value for the conservation programme, such as the average life span, homing tendencies and the like, will be revealed.

Each district Inspector is requested to furnish a monthly report on the wild ducks in his district.

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