

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 -

Possoms: 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.

Black Duck: These are said to be plentiful in the Murchison area and better seasons have been reported from Busselton, Katanning, Murray and Albany districts. Within each district, however, reports do differ and generally there appears to be a scattering of these birds. At Lake Gundaring on the opening day of the duck shooting season, black ducks comprised only about 1% of the total ducks taken.

Grey Teal: These were reported as plentiful during the breeding season in outlying areas such as Yilgarn and Dalwallinu, but as the water there dries up they are of course moving to their usual habitat. They are reported to be plentiful at present in the Murchison, Three Springs and Busselton districts and commencing to arrive in the Murray district in increasing numbers. Many reports speak of a decline in numbers generally for which the advent and increase of the fox receives the main blame.

Quail: These are said to be abundant at Esperance and Narrogin. They were present during the harvest time in Dalwallinu and Yilgarn districts and have been reported in fair numbers from quite a few areas.

Brush Wallabies: There has been some increase reported from forest reserves, etc., and there is an indication that protection is arresting their decline.

A number of reports from the Katanning area mention tamar and a colony of quokka was reported from the Drakesbrook district. In one reserve in the Mount Marshall area some dunnarts, spiny ant-eaters, numbats, possums, native cats and gnows are said to be present.