

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.

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 "
(Grey Teal) 1625	21.3.53	Big Bootine Swamp, Beermullah	14.3.54	Lake Mears	115 "

No.	Date Ringed	Place Where Ringed	Date of Recovery	Place Where Recovered	Distance Travelled
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 miles

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.