

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

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, Narembeen.
Powell, A.G.	Chillinup, via Borden.
Quartermaine, F.L.	"Palomar", Northam.
Warham, J.	C/- Mrs. James, "Coringa", Upper Kalgan River, Albany.