

# Iowa CONSERVATIONIST

.....  
 June, 1968  
 Volume 27  
 Number 6  
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## The Art of Walleye Fishing

THE TRAVELING LIBRARY  
 JUN 19 1968  
 IOWA

By Gary Ackerman

District Fisheries Manager  
 Northeastern Iowa



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Without challenge some of the finest sport fishing in Iowa is on the Upper Mississippi River. Here, there exists a variety of warm-water fish and, seemingly, an inexhaustible supply of sport fish.

An intensive creel census was made in 1962 by the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee (UMRCC) to evaluate this resource. According to the creel count, the rank was (one through ten): crappie, channel catfish, white bass, fresh water drum, sauger, yellow perch, bullhead, walleye, and largemouth bass. Generally speaking, walleye and sauger fishing tends to be better farther north along the Iowa boundary.

Better fishing is in Pools 9, 10, 11, and 12 from Bellevue north to Lansing, Iowa. For comparison, UMRCC data revealed that 17,877 sauger and 2,968 walleye were taken in Pool 11, whereas 2,410 sauger and 538 walleye were taken in Pool 18.

Mississippi River walleye and sauger fishing is much different than angling on inland lakes and streams. Some methods used by Mississippi River fishermen who catch these species are jigging, still fishing, trolling, and casting.

But, as important as methods or lures is the angler's knowledge of the Mississippi River. Knowing where wing dams are located, knowing the secret of sunken rip-raps or gravel bars, and knowing the traditional "hot spots", are prerequisites for success. Most of this knowledge comes through experience. Yet much useful information can be obtained by asking local sportsmen, marina operators, commercial fishermen, resort owners and boat livery operators—or by hiring a guide.

Contact with a reputable fisherman who lives along the Mississippi will be a valuable source of information. He can inform the "pilgrim" fisherman *when, where, and how* fish are being caught. The condition of the river and the success of the previous fishermen will be known by the "native" and the wise visitor will listen to the advice.

Herman Benskin, Guttenberg, and Lacey Gee, Independence, proudly display their 10 lb. and 11½ lb. walleyes caught this spring at Guttenberg, Iowa near Lock and Dam No. 10.

(continued on page 47)

## COMMISSION MINUTES

State Conservation Commission  
Meeting Held in Des Moines, Iowa  
April 2 and 3, 1968

The following B.O.R. projects were approved for submission to the B.O.R. for Federal cost sharing under the Lands and Waters Conservation Fund Program:

The Des Moines County Conservation Board proposes to acquire approximately 50 acres of good quality woodland located southwest of Burlington for the purpose of developing an outdoor classroom and limited development including nature trails, hiking trails, primitive camping, and arboretum and possibly a small artificial lake or pond.

The Audubon County Conservation Board proposes to acquire approximately 11 acres of level land including a small two-acre water area in an abandoned gravel pit located adjacent to the Nishnabotna River northeast of Audubon. The area is being acquired for fishing, picnicking and river access.

The City of Ankeny proposes to carry out initial construction and development on three of its city parks. Proposed work will include clearing of land, grading, property line fence, concrete walks, baseball backstops and bases, seeding, installation of playground equipment, roads and parking and, in Hawkeye Park, a three-acre pond and an outdoor amphitheater.

Approved the proposed re-routing of the transmission line around the Big Creek Recreation Area and thanked the Iowa Electric Light and Power Company of Cedar Rapids for their cooperation and consideration in this matter.

The State Conservation Commission representatives were instructed to inform the Corps of Engineers that it prefers no regulations below the locks and dams on the Mississippi River, except within three hundred feet of the roller structures a life preserver must be worn.

Willard Graham was granted a leave of absence from May 1 through July 31, 1968.

The request of the Audubon County

### Iowa Conservationist

Vol. 27 June, 1968 No. 6  
Published monthly by the Iowa Conservation Commission, State Office Building, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Address all mail (subscriptions, change of address, Form 3579, manuscripts, mail items) to the above address.

Subscription price: two years at \$1.00.  
Second class postage paid at Des Moines, Iowa.  
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CIRCULATION .....65,122

Conservation Board for approval to acquire 11 acres of land for the purpose of developing a fishing and picnicking area surrounding an abandoned gravel pit located approximately 3 miles northeast of Audubon was approved.

The request of the Black Hawk County Conservation Board for approval to acquire 10 additional acres of land on their Wapsie River Green Belt project 3 miles northeast of Dunkerton was approved.

The request of the Clay County Conservation Board for approval to acquire 35.88 acres of land for the purpose of developing a multiple use outdoor recreational area 2 miles southeast of Everly was approved.

The request of the Delaware County Conservation Board for approval to acquire 55 additional acres of land at their North Bailey Ford Access Area 4 miles southeast of Manchester was approved.

The request of the Des Moines County Conservation Board for approval to acquire 58.15 acres of land as a naturalist's timber and hunting area located approximately 3½ miles southwest of Burlington was approved.

The request of the Hamilton County Conservation Board for approval to revise their Little Wall Lake Park development plan and report by the addition of a trailer camping area with all the necessary facilities for a successful operation located north of their present tent camping area approximately 2 miles south of Jewell was approved.

The Jackson County Conservation Board was authorized to execute a lease on the proposed civic center at Maquoketa on a year-to-year basis.

The option offered by Crandon Paper Mills on 30 acres of timber was exercised.

The Commission exercised the option of Hubert H. and Mary G. Sternberg on approximately 2.5 acres of land on which is located the state-owned outlet structure at Lower Gar Lake, and a parcel of approximately 4.5 acres of uncultivated land lying north and adjacent to the 2.5 acre tract.

The office of the Attorney General was instructed to pursue, on behalf of the Iowa State Conservation Commission, a proper common law action claiming compensatory damages for any and all damages caused by the City of Des Moines, Iowa in the discharge of sewage and other products causing a pollution of the river, into the river, including resulting damages to fish, game, desecration of the sand bars and gravel, and to the abutting areas of the river under the jurisdiction of the State Conservation Commission and the office of the Attorney General was instructed to bring an injunction against the City of Spencer, Iowa for polluting the Little Sioux River at Spencer.

The Bellevue Sand and Gravel Company making proper application with the needed documents, the Director and the Chief of the Lands and Waters Division were granted permission to cut a channel by dredge from the Mississippi River into a gravel pit on property owned by the Company in Jackson County approximately

2½ miles up river from Bellevue.

A motion was approved that it become a part of the permanent policy of the Commission that persons desirous of securing permits for any particular activity submit an understandable set of plans and specifications, with a bond consistent with the risk involved in each circumstance; and that, further, the Commission, having regard for the particular type of specifications, adopt as its policy the establishment of a reasonable inspection fee to cover the cost of inspections by Conservation Commission personnel.

The application of the Board of Water and Light Trustees of Muscatine for a permit for the construction of cooling water intake and discharge structures was approved subject to the approval of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Iowa Natural Resources Council, and the thermal limits as established by the Iowa Water Pollution Control Commission.

The firm of James Lynch and Associates was awarded the contract for the design of the training center at Springbrook State Park and directed to complete the design plans for bid solicitation at the earliest possible date.

The Commission granted a permit to Gerald Cox of Storm Lake to construct a commercial boat dock off of state property on the north side of Storm Lake and that Mr. Cox enter into a three-year probationary agreement with the State Conservation Commission as a concessionaire.

The Director was authorized to exercise the agreement with the City of Chariton that incorporates both furnishing water for Red Haw State Park and the construction of sewer lines by the City of Chariton to the park and forward it to the State Executive Council for approval.

Contracts were awarded as follows:  
North Twin Lake, Calhoun Co., lake bed dredging, disposal area preparation and miscellaneous items to Oscar Ahrenholz & Sons, Inc., Waterloo.

Shimek Forest Area, Lee Co., roadway construction, grading, drainage, surfacing and seeding to Carroll E. Wilson, Donnellson.

Prairie Rose Lake, Shelby Co., construction of water treatment plan and water lines to Christoffersen & Christensen, Kimballton.

Lake Anita State Park, Cass Co., construction of shower and toilet building, trailer sanitary station to Wetzel Construction Co., Audubon.

Lake of Three Fires, Taylor Co., construction of sewer and water lines to Buchan Construction Co., Perry.

McIntosh Woods State Park, Cerro Gordo Co., construction of service building (with living quarters) to Nonweiler & Reichardt, Garner.

The Commission accepted Mr. E. B. Speaker's resignation as Director of the State Conservation Commission effective upon finding a suitable replacement for the position.

An option offered by Bernard Faber, et al., on 40 acres of marsh upland was ex-

(continued on page 48)

## EDITORIAL

Iowa residents are among the more fortunate in our nation when it comes to opportunities for outdoor recreation.

While it's true that the Iowa outdoor scene has changed greatly since buffalo, elk and prairie chickens made their home here, we are now in a new and different era. And today Iowa has become one of the top outdoor recreation states.

Iowa's pheasants are providing some of the best shooting in the country. More ringnecks are harvested in Iowa than in any other state. Thousands of anglers enjoy good sport fishing. Parks are more popular than ever, and state forests are providing saw logs in addition to other recreation uses.

Not only Iowans, but visitors from other states as well are making use of our bountiful natural resources.

However, all of this did not come about by accident. It is the result of hard work and planning by your State Conservation Commission. This Commission is dedicated to providing the people of Iowa with outdoor recreation and it is charged with the conservation and wise use of our natural resources.

### Great Responsibility

The State Conservation Commission has jurisdiction over and manages 79 state parks (29,871 acres), 11 state preserves (581 acres), seven state forests (20,683 acres), a state nursery (97 acres), 35 natural lakes for general recreation (32,738 acres), 26 artificial lakes (4,478 acres), ten meandered rivers (1,640 miles) 111 wildlife refuges (66,803 acres), 266 public hunting and fishing areas (126,316 acres), nine state fish hatcheries and four fish management stations.

These areas and facilities are managed for the people of Iowa by the Commission and its staff of approximately 420 permanent employees.

The Commission is made up of seven Iowans who are interested in, and have substantial knowledge of conservation matters. They are appointed by the governor with approval of two-thirds of the state senate. No more than four commissioners can belong to the same political party. They serve six year terms unless a member is appointed to fill an unexpired term caused by a vacancy.

Present Commissioners are Mike Zack, chairman, Mason City; James Hamilton, vice-chairman, Storm Lake; Earl Jarvis, Wilton Junction; Dr. Keith McNurlen, Ames; Rev. Laurence Nelson, Bellevue; William Noble, Oelwein; and Edward Veinheimer, Greenfield.

### More Problems

The Commission is faced with a gigantic task. The enormity of the job is emphasized by the increasing number of

people who are hunting, fishing and using state land. In 1947 there were some 445,251 licensed hunters and fishermen. In 1966 the number jumped to almost 600,000. In addition there were some 225,000 non-licensed hunters and anglers.

Nearly everyone is aware of the tremendous increase in the number of people who use parks. In 1947 there were about 2½ million visitors at the parks. Now, an estimated 10 million people use Iowa parks each year.

Yes, it is a big job to provide outdoor recreation for Iowans who now have more leisure time, better cars and roads, and who live in a more affluent society. The management of natural resources, in this respect, becomes increasingly complex and difficult. With our booming population we have reached the point where some management of the resource-user is needed, as well as management of the resource.

There are many problems to overcome. There is the task of encouraging hunting and fishing privileges on private land for the sportsmen. There is the problem of pollution and littering. There is a need for more game cover and recreation areas, more wetlands, more fishing access and watershed protection, more public hunting areas, and hunter safety education. Legislation and funds are needed to carry out projects demanded by citizens.

Obviously the Commission can't possibly provide every sportsman with all the game he wants or every park user with all the facilities he desires for a picnic or weekend of camping. It simply cannot be done.

### Challenges of the Future

However, the State Conservation Commission has one big advantage. It recognizes that there are problems, and that it can equip itself to cope with them. Half the solution lies in recognizing the problems. With the cooperation and assistance of the people of Iowa, these problems can be alleviated or solved. The Commission appreciates the support given by the Legislature and citizens in the past in order to have carried out its projects. However, more challenges face conservationists in the future and new efforts will be needed to overcome the difficulties.

The day will never come again when market hunters can kill all the game they want. And one doesn't lament this.

But the day will never come again when people can depend solely on wild game and fish to provide for their table or when a man can move on because he's seen smoke from a town and feels crowded. Perhaps one should lament this.

In the future, Iowa's wildlife and other natural resources will be used largely for recreation. Your State Conservation Commission will continue its efforts toward this end—that there will always be game and fish and space to be enjoyed, both for the present generation and for the generations of the future.



DIRECTOR FRED A. PRIEWERT

## Prewert Named New Director

Fred A. Prewert, 45, of Pierre, S. D., was named director of the Iowa State Conservation Commission last month.

Prewert succeeds E. B. Speaker who resigned as director last April to become special projects coordinator for the Commission.

Prewert, who had been chief of the Game Management Division of the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, began his new duties in Des Moines June 17. He has 20 years of professional experience in wildlife and natural resource management, including a broad background in wildlife conservation and administration.

A native of Wisconsin, he served in the Army during the Second World War and spent three years in the European Theater of Operations. He attended high school at Superior, Wis., and Superior State College.

He received a bachelors degree in wildlife management at the University of Minnesota and attended graduate school there. He is married and has two children.

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Above: Larry Dean, science coordinator and director of the outdoor classroom, points out fossils and mineral layers in the copperas beds at Dolliver State Park.

Below: Sylvan Runkel, field biologist for the Soil Conservation Service, has his sections find examples of plantlife found in the "woodland community."



## The Outdoor Classroom:

# "An Activity Worth A Million Words"

By Kris Elin  
Editor

"We try to teach conservation by doing, seeing, and touching rather than by reading alone. I feel this type of outdoor education is the best way to reinforce the conservation taught in the classroom. If a picture is worth a thousand words, an activity is worth a million," stated Larry Dean, science coordinator for the Fort Dodge Public Schools, explaining an outdoor classroom program which took place last month at Dolliver State Park.

About 850 students from Fort Dodge public and parochial schools and surrounding rural schools participated in the program now in its second year of practice at Dolliver.

Organized and directed by Mr. Dean, this outdoor classroom was the first of its kind in Iowa initiated in the spring of 1967. Since then, its success has been felt not only in the expanded program at Dolliver this year, but also in the similar programs that have been instituted throughout the state.

Consultants from the Soil Conservation Service, the Iowa State Geological Society, various departments from Iowa State University at Ames, County Conser-

vation Boards, and the State Conservation Commission taught sections on soils, the woodland community (botany), forestry, wildlife management, and geology.

Approximately 80 students per day were bussed to the park and divided into the five sections with parents and teachers serving as group leaders. The sections rotated at 40 minute intervals to the consultants stationed at various locations around the park.

In observing the students, all on the sixth grade level, it was obvious to the reporting Conservation Commission personnel that this type of program did much more than teach conservation. By actually *being* in the outdoors, the students learn the basic facts that they would in classroom books, but more important, they learn to *appreciate* nature and conservation.

As one consultant told his students, "We must learn to live with nature. By *watching* flowers grow . . . by *seeing* the balance in nature . . . we can see that man must correct the man-made pollution problems and restore the natural beauty to the land."

The students saw this, they learned, and they *appreciated*. Each child left with an enthusiasm that only personal involvement can foster. One twelve-year-old's question at the end of one of the morning sessions illustrated the tremendous worth of the program. She asked, "What can *we* do to help nature?" By the end of the full day program, her question was answered.

The State Conservation Commission through its individual park and conservation officers can assist in more programs of outdoor classrooms. The Teachers' Camp program held annually at Springbrook State Park can provide the basics for teachers and education administrators who wish to begin this type of program in their own districts.

Seeing these programs in action and observing both the students and consulting staff is enough to predict the long range value of the outdoor classroom, and is more than enough to want to promote them, and to provide the opportunity for every child to learn by "seeing, doing, and touching."



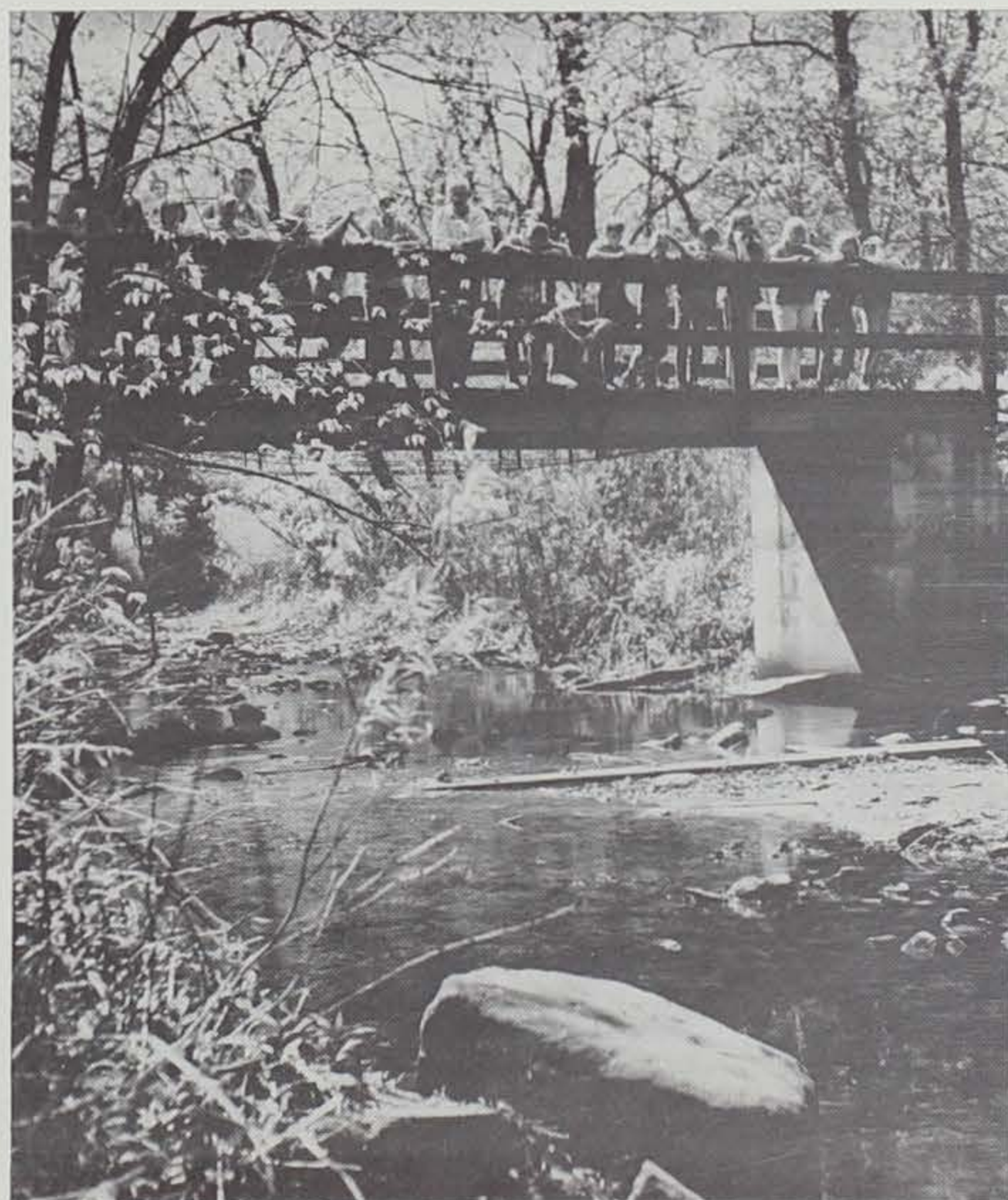
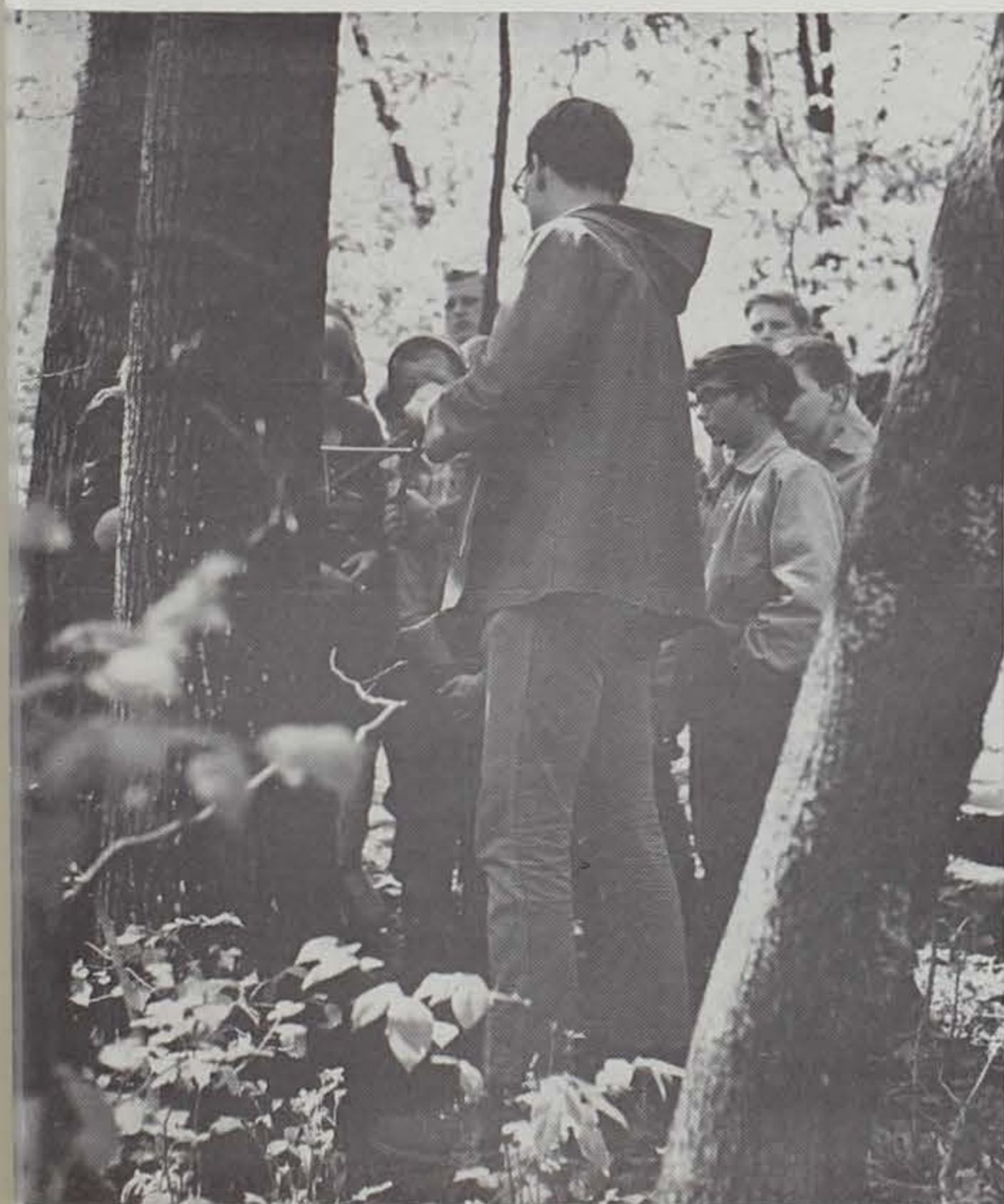
Left: Learning the history of soils through glacier charts and then "seeing" the soil types, Gene Walthers explains why terrain differs throughout the state.

Below: Commission Conservation Officer, Dick Tellier teaches wildlife management by a step-by-step growth process. Using preserved species, charts, and live animals, the children learn the basic needs of game, fish, and fowl in their natural habitat.



Bottom left: Consultants from Iowa State University at Ames teach sections on forestry. Dick Schultz and Larry Promnitz demonstrate "tree ring" by taking an increment core sample of the tree and showing how specialists can determine the age of a specific species. Tree identification, tree harvest, and uses of the forest are also taught.

Bottom right: Fred Dorheim of the Iowa Geological Society instructs his sections on rock formations, fossils, and the basic chemistry of geology by pointing out the subtle differences of river bed minerals.





## Lake Anita —

# Another Opportunity For Park Recreation

If you're one of the summer chefs who feels that vacation cooking is *no* cooking at all, or if you're the "galley mate" who wants to take the "wash" out of dishwashing, here's an all-in-one meal that will thrill the galley mate and make the chef a little happier.

Many campers have used this recipe, but in spite of common use, its ease in preparation and nutrient value, makes it worthy of repetition.

Actually, the work begins at home and the complete meal is taken, via cooler, to the campsite.

Aluminum foil is the key to no dishes, and hamburger, potatoes, carrots, and onions (with seasoning to taste) make the meal.

Using a double square of foil, garnish a hamburger patty with potato and onion slices and carrot slivers. Draw the corners of the foil together crimping and folding where they meet to insure that steam and juices will be held in the package.

For a special touch and nourishing dessert, you can try the campers version of baked apples. Again, use a square of foil and place a partly cored apple in the center. Fill the holes with raisins, butter, and sugar plus a sprinkle of cinnamon.

Cooking time for the meal and dessert is about 40 minutes over moderate heat—just enough time for a quick swim or hike.

When the meal is ready, just open the foil, use the package as a plate and enjoy an almost effortless lunch or supper.

Looking for a new recreation area to visit with your family this year? Lake Anita, Iowa's most recently developed state-owned recreation area is worth investigating. Lake Anita State Park is located 60 miles west of Des Moines, close to Interstate 80. The park covers 942 acres and offers a variety of recreation ranging from fishing, boating, camping, swimming and nature study.

Land for Lake Anita was purchased by the state for \$209,040.04 with initial park construction beginning in 1963. Many state-owned parks containing artificial lakes were developed by constructing the lake first with other land facilities following. Such a construction pattern frequently draws many Iowans to parks prior to the necessary development of facilities. Lake Anita's construction pattern was reversed so that building crews would not be working while crowds of Iowans tried to use the new lake.

The only fly in the ointment of Anita's lake development is the drouth which set in during 1966. Rainfall in 1967 was also well below normal. Precipitation records of the Weather Bureau indicate the Anita area had its second driest fall on record in 1966, with only 2.11 inches of rainfall. Only the drouth of 1939 was more severe.

Providing Lake Anita fills with runoff from winter snows and spring rains, and fish are stocked on schedule, anglers may expect good fishing by 1969. Eight specially constructed fishing jetties were built along the lake's 6.8 miles of shoreline, to enhance the angler's chances of catching stocked largemouth bass and catfish. More ambitious fishermen will be trying their luck from rented boats.

Light lunches, ice cream, pop and boats will be available from a concession to be installed this year.

Persons wanting to "get away from it all" will find a relaxing row in the sun a pleasant change of pace when the lake fills. Boating enthusiasts will have 171 acres in which to navigate. Since the artificial lake will be larger than 100 acres, boats powered by motors up to six horsepower will be allowed.

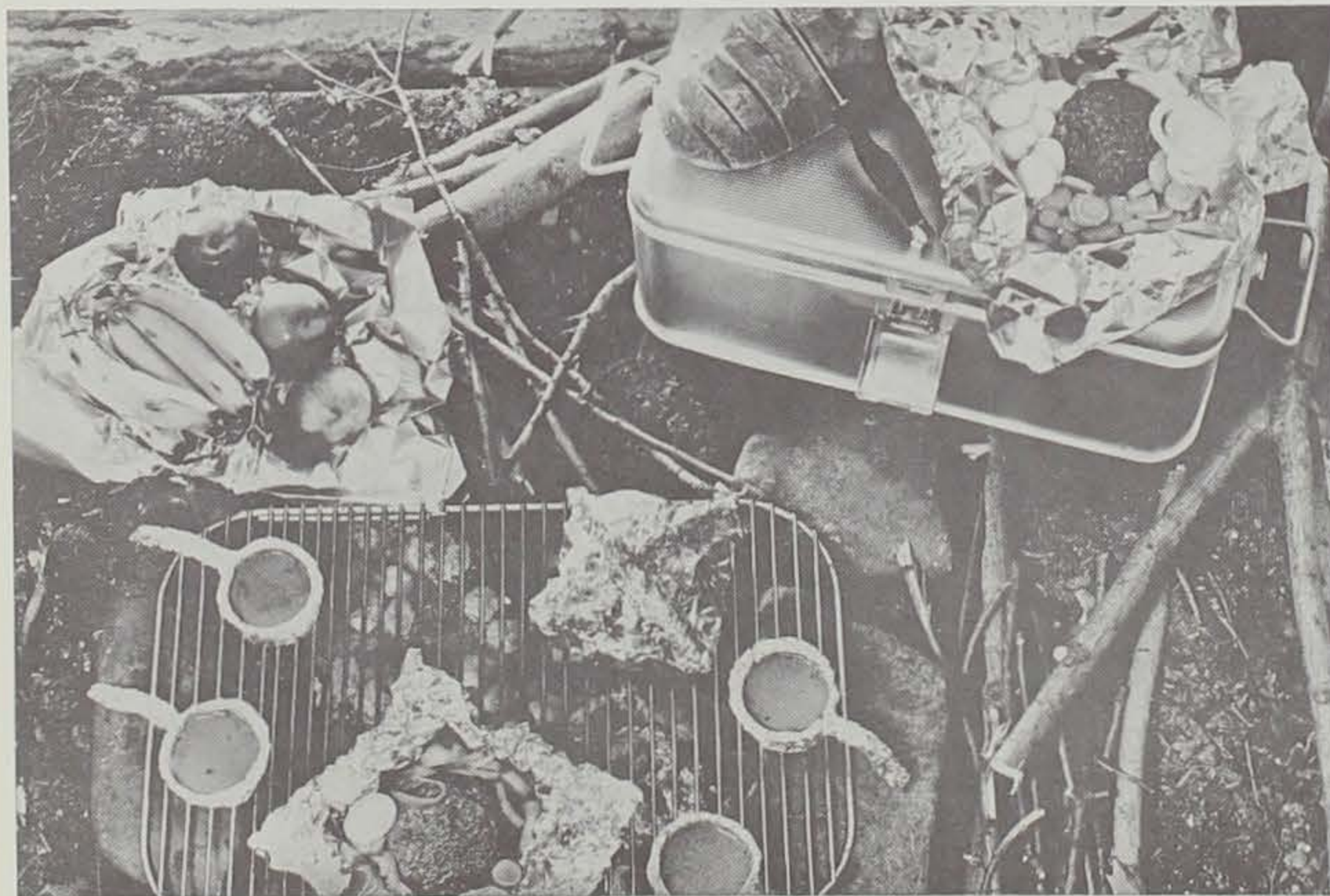
A boat ramp and dock will ease the skipper's task of launching his craft. Swimmers will enjoy the fine sand beach provided in a roped off section of Lake Anita. Future plans call for construction of a boathouse and swimming beach supervision.

Nearly five miles of park roads lead visitors to four picnic areas equipped with tables, benches and fireplaces. Campers following this road to the northern edge of Lake Anita will find a camping area where space and electricity are provided for 100 units.

All campers must register with the park officer upon entering Lake Anita. They are charged a nominal fee of one dollar per night per camping unit and may stay as long as two weeks. The fee will be raised to \$1.50 when a shower facility is installed this summer.

Persons who look forward to visiting state park areas to enjoy the beauties of nature will want to put Anita on their list of places to visit in 1968. Quiet and patient observers will find wildlife abundant in the area. Multi-species tree groves and colorful wild flowers will tempt those visitors who enjoy hiking and nature study.

Sounds like an enjoyable spot to visit, doesn't it? Well, it is! Such wholesome family recreation activities as fishing, swimming, camping, picnicking, boating and varied nature studies are available for enjoyment during your visit to Lake Anita State Park.



Prepared at home and taken via cooler to the campsite, this basic meal is a tried-and-true favorite of many campers.

## For Safe Boating Know Buoy Markings

The Iowa State Conservation Commission has adopted the buoys shown below for use on state waters. Iowa cooperates in a nationwide uniform marking system to insure these buoys have the same meaning in all states. The uniform marking system is an important part of water safety and boaters should familiarize themselves with the markings on buoys.



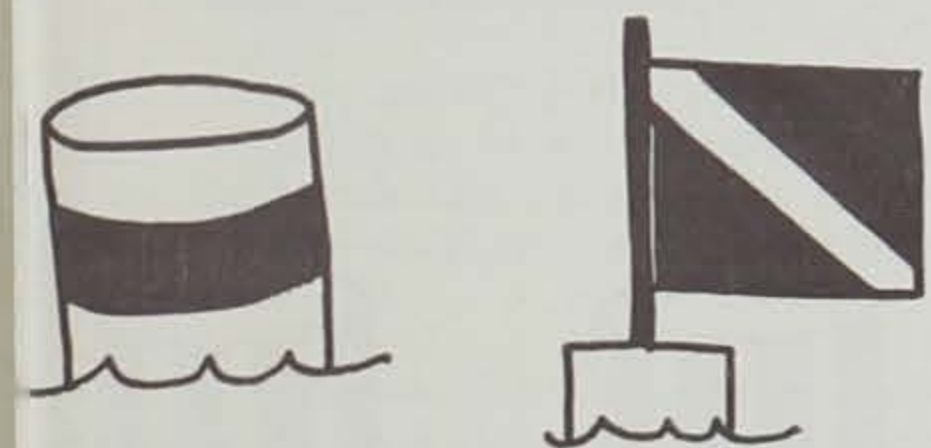
**Figure 1:** CAUTION! Controlled areas indicated by 5 mph, no fishing, no swimming, ski only, and other controls. Bands and circle in orange. Figure and letters in black.

**Figure 2:** BOATS KEEP OUT! Marks waterfalls, swim areas, rapids, and other restricted areas. Bands, diamond and cross in yellow. Lettering in black.



**Figure 3:** DANGER! Warns of rocks, reefs, dams, snags, or other hazards. Band and diamond in orange, lettering in black.

**Figure 4:** INFORMATION! Tells of places, distances, food, supplies, and other non-regulatory messages. Band and rectangle in orange, lettering in black.



**Figure 5:** ANCHOR BUOY—with 2-inch reflectorized blue band—for permanent placement to moor or anchor watercraft. Blue band.

**DIVERS FLAG**—indicates presence of divers. Boaters should exercise caution. Red flag with white diagonal.

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## Walleye Fishing

(continued from page 41)

Maps of the Mississippi River Pools are another important source of information. Each pool is mapped to show the location of islands, stump patches, wing dams, chutes, channels, sloughs and other physical characteristics. These maps will serve as navigational aids and as a guide to the river. One can receive these maps by writing the Corps of Engineers, Tower Clock Building, Rock Island, Ill.

### Have Basic Knowledge

If one knows the techniques, and the idiosyncracies of the river, he only has a minor battle won. Basic knowledge of walleye and sauger habits is extremely important. Both species are primarily bottom and minnow feeders. They are generally considered a schooling species and usually found in current, on sand, gravel or rock bottom types. Therefore, the most productive walleye and sauger fishing is on or near a bottom that consists of sand, gravel, or rock with a bait imitating a minnow.

Fishing equipment, another important success factor, varies and is largely a matter of individual preference. Some recommend a medium action spinning rod (about seven feet long) and good spinning reel equipped with ten-pound or heavier test monofilament line. Have a supply of three-way swivels, an assortment of hooks and sinkers, and extra monofilament to construct walleye rigs. If you fish artificials, have a variety of colors and several extra plugs. If you fish live bait have the necessary live bucket. Have a good, large dip net and an ice chest or other container for the fish.

Many facilities are provided for the sportsman in the Mississippi Area. Fishing barges are available under most of the large closing dams on the Upper Mississippi River. Live bait, fishing equipment, information and refreshments are available. Boats and motors can be rented in most localities. Boat launching ramps and fishing access areas are provided.

In addition to basic knowledge, equipment, and good contacts, you might like to know "how" walleye and sauger are fished on the Mississippi, "what methods" successful anglers use, "when" the best times are. Here are some of those additional angling tips for you.

### Jigging

Some die-hard walleye and sauger anglers fish throughout the year in the open water areas below closing dams. Many can be observed in boats and on barges below closing dams like Lock and Dam No. 9 at Lynxville, No. 10 at Guttenberg, No. 11 at Dubuque, and No. 12 at Bellevue. Most fish are caught in the slack water adjacent to the roller and tainter gates. Usually, fishing is best about 100 yards below the dam, along the bank areas riprapped with rock, and off rock or gravel

bottoms in water depths ranging from 5 to 15 feet.

Jig fishing tends to be seasonal. Although many fish are taken by this method throughout the year, normally, peak fishing occurs during the first few weeks of April. It continues "hot" until walleye begin spawning activities, which occurs when water temperatures is from 56° to 60° F. While the fish spawn their intense feeding activities subside, so fishing is generally poor. However, smaller walleye that are not yet old enough to spawn can be taken.

Jigging with artificial lures is a unique method and quite simple. Start fishing on the bottom. Jig the bait by raising the rod tip with a sharp, jerky motion to give the lure its action. Allow the lure to rest for several seconds and settle to the bottom again, then repeat the operation. Vary the intensity of the jigging until the desired action is achieved. Continue to experiment until the lure travels about two feet vertically off the bottom. Usually only light, rapid jerks are necessary. But a more positive, snap-like movement is more productive when fishing sonar type lures.

### Variety of Lures

An endless variety of artificial lures is available. Some fool fish, but most only fool the fisherman. The most popular lure in use is a half-ounce sonar type. Most prefer yellow, red head, perch and hot orange colors. Many fishermen use commercial "lead heads" or "jigs" that range from 1/4 to 5/8 of an ounce, fixed on hooks from 6 to 1/0 in size, and with rubber, nylon, hackles, bucktail or marabou skirts. Colors and styles vary; one combination used with repeated success is a 3/8 ounce jig fixed on a No. 2 hook with a long, sparsely tied bucktail in natural, yellow or orange colors.

One can tie-in a no. 4 treble hook to trail the bucktail and thus increase the catch and cut down on fish loss. A live minnow hooked through its head on the main hook greatly increases the effectiveness of a jig. A small strip of pork rind on a night crawler is also helpful. Some jig fishermen are using imitation minnows with good results.

Locations for "fish-catching" range from banks to boats to barges. Boat fishing enables one to move to different locations, and is preferred by some for this reason. To keep the lure moving and thus increase your chances, it is more effective to slowly drift or troll, jigging or casting the lure. However, if boats congest at an area, it may be advisable to anchor.

Not all jig fishing is below closing dams. Many jig successfully by drifting along the edges of rip-raps, over gravel bars or by anchoring at the ends of wing dams. It's a very successful technique so don't be afraid to experiment in unusual habitat.

**Editor's Note**—This is the first of a two-part article on walleye and sauger fishing by Gary Ackerman. The second installment will be featured in next month's IOWA CONSERVATIONIST.

# Who Is A Fisherman?

By Andy Ruskanen

*Adapted from Wyoming Wildlife*

Who is a fisherman?

He's a freckle-faced kid using a willow stick and bent pin, or a business executive carrying \$500 worth of equipment.

He's a college professor gaining an inner feeling of contentment, or a sheepherder catching a batch of trout for an evening meal.

He's Grandpa fishing from a folding chair beside a quiet pool, or "Daddy's little girl," afraid to put the first worm on a hook.

He's a deep sea enthusiast pursuing a shark or marlin, or Joe Smith sneaking on hands and knees to catch a seven-inch brookie from Podunk Creek.

He sits for hours in sub-zero weather by a pole punched in the ice, or under a tree on a sun-drenched June day.

A fisherman's courage and endurance—or stubbornness and foolhardiness—should never be underestimated.

Only an angler dares come home after a weekend trip, smelling like the bottom of a sardine can, with a three-day growth of beard and a bag of trout for his wife to clean, saying, "Hi, honey. Glad I'm home?"

And who but a fisherman returns sunburned, thorn-scratched, mosquito-bitten, soaking wet and with a case of poison ivy to say, "Boy, what a great trip!"

A fisherman is the only guy in the world who is excused for diverting his attention from a girl in shorts, while he admires a night crawler he's just uncovered.

A psychologist might say a fisherman yearns for bygone boyhood days when worms, frogs and pieces of junk were considered treasures. A psychologist might say it—if he weren't a fisherman himself.

Some people call fishing relaxing and restful. They have never watched an angler—tension etched on his face, every joint in his body taut, his brow wrinkled—as he prepares to cast a fly into a riffle where a huge rainbow awaits.

They haven't seen him lose self-control when the same trout nonchalantly turns tail and floats lazily away, even though the cast was perfectly executed.

The fisherman might be a fellow who counts his money carefully from day to day. He rarely puts a penny in a parking meter without first checking it against his monthly budget.

The same guy thinks nothing of losing a hundred yards of tapered line to an overgrown lunker or \$5 worth of hand-tied flies in the treetops.

Anglers come in assorted shapes, sizes, age groups, and from all walks of life. Each has opinions and methods on the

best way to outwit a fish. No larger body of individuals exists in the world today.

Each fisherman has one common interest—enjoyment of the sport. He enjoys his sport every season of the year. Seldom does he say, "I had a poor time today."

Fishing has aesthetic values. More than one poet, author and philosopher have expounded on the beauties found in angling.

Fishing is the great equalizer. It's the one facet of the modern world where each individual has equal opportunity to succeed.

Fishing is among the few sports where the participant comes within a hairbreadth of apoplexy one moment and is at the height of ecstasy the next.

The angler reaches the peak of frustration when a trout escapes, leaving the line dangling hopelessly in the trees. The next moment he smiles broadly as a better trout comes to net after a beautifully executed battle.

The fisherman is a study in contrasts.

Five days a week, he's the best-dressed man in town. Saturdays and Sundays he resembles a refugee from a hobo jungle.

He may be a typical John Milquetoast at the downtown office. Put a rod and reel in his hand and immediately he's master of all he surveys.

The fisherman might be a janitor during everyday life. Start him talking about flies and lures and he becomes the Charles Goren of the fishy set.

Thank God for fishing.

It's an activity where a man feels like a man—with his wife at his elbow.

It's one of the last outposts for individualists and free thinkers.

## Commission Minutes

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exercised subject to the approval of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

The request of Black Hawk County for a permit to construct a road and bridge across the Wapsipinicon River on the Childs Access Area was approved.

The request of Emmet County for a construction permit to facilitate a road improvement project on the road running through the southwest end of our East Swan Lake Area was approved.

A recommendation of the Division of Fish and Game to re-align the Fish and Game Conservation Officer territories in northwest Iowa and to hire one additional Conservation Officer was approved.

Mr. Earl Rose was authorized to solicit bids on approximately one ton of copper wire and scrap iron salvaged from the recently acquired Upper River Dam and abandoned power facility from various scrap buyers, sell it to the highest bidder, and waive advertising.

Upon a request of the town of Princeton for a permit to construct a 200 ft. jetty or breakwater in Princeton, the Commission moved that the City of Princeton submit to the Lands and Waters Division and Engineering Section of the State Conservation Commission the plans and specifications, and that upon the approval thereof by the respective departments and agencies that they may forthwith proceed with construction.

Moved to secure the construction of picnic tables by Commission personnel at the Yellow River Forest Area for temporary loan to the State Highway Commission for use of the public at highway rest stations, the number of tables to be determined by Mans Ellerhoff through contact with the State Highway Commission.

The invitation extended by the Association for the Preservation of Clear Lake to hold the August Commission meeting at Clear Lake was accepted.

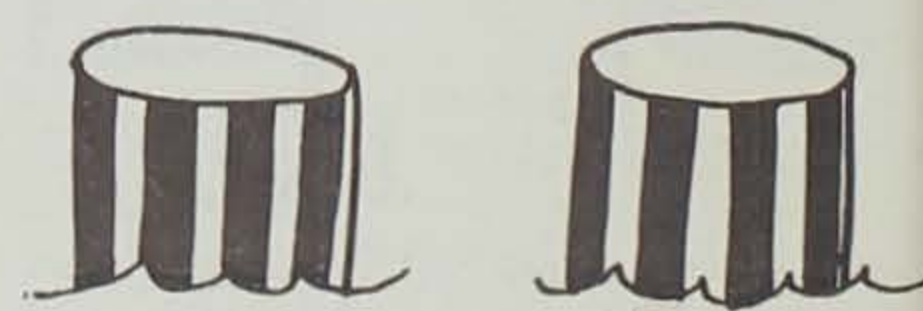
## Cardinal System Navigational Aids

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**Figure 6: CHANNEL MARKER**—Boat should pass to south or west of buoy. Red and white.

**CHANNEL MARKER**—Boat should pass to north or east of buoy. Black and white.



**Figure 7: OBSTRUCTION MARKER**—Boat should not pass between buoy and nearest shore. Red and white stripes.

**CENTER-OF-THE-CHANNEL MARKER**—Boats keep to the right. Black and white stripes.