

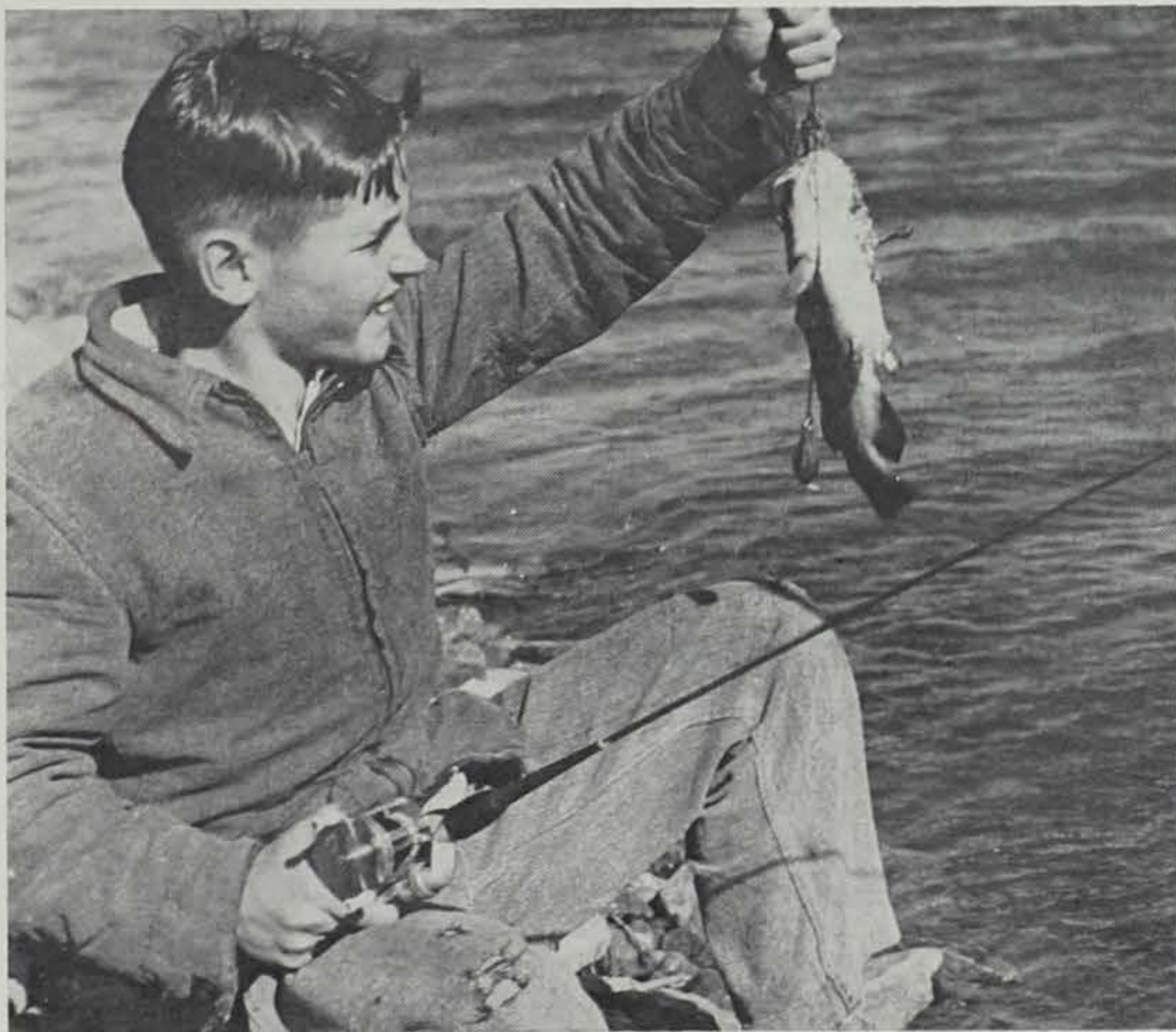


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 February, 1969  
 Volume 28  
 Number 2  
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IOWA STATE TRAVELING LIBRARY  
 FEB 17 1969

# Anglers! It's Fishin' Time

## 1969



Anglers of all ages and sizes will soon be heading for lakes, rivers, and streams in pursuit of the many fish species which abound in Iowa waters.

Anglers—GET READY!! It's time to go to your basements or attics and drag out all that fishing gear and prepare it for YOUR spring and summer season.

The Iowa Conservation Commission during its January meeting set the dates and established the regulations for the 1969 fishing season.

The new regulations take effect March 1, 1969, and will extend through February 15, 1970. No major changes were made in the rules which followed the framework of previous years. However, some points in the regulations should be stressed.

Noted at the meeting was the section of the departmental rules governing areas open to the public. Where waters are located within the boundaries of state, county, city parks or state fish and game management areas, fishing will be permitted only when these areas are open to the public.

Exceptions to the "public area" rule were specified on natural lakes, where all ice fishing is prohibited from 8:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., and on the border lakes, where daily catch and possession limits, and open season dates for certain species are itemized.

For Walleye, Sauger, and Northern Pike, the season has been set from May 3, 1969, to February 15, 1970. In all streams, Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, oxbow lakes, and artificial lakes, a continuous open season for these species shall apply.

The specified dates, therefore, apply to all other water areas, which includes the border lakes—Little Spirit Lake, Dickinson County; Iowa and Tuttle (Okamanpedan) Lakes, Emmet County; Burt (Swag) Lake, Kossuth County; and Iowa Lake, Oseola County.

On these border lakes listed above, there also is a daily catch and possession limit of six (6) for Largemouth and

(Continued on page 16)

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**COMMISSION MINUTES**

**State Conservation Commission Meeting  
Held in Des Moines, Iowa,  
December 3, 1968**

Three land purchase options on the Volga River Project in Fayette County totaling 169 acres were approved.

The projected five year state park road construction program (1969-73) was approved. It included the following projects; Lake Macbride, .75 miles; Bob White, 1.30 miles; Beeds Lake, .75 miles; Margo Frankel Woods, .29 miles; Bellevue State Park, 1.25 miles.

Funds were transferred in the budget of the fish and game division for land acquisition at Fallow Marsh in Palo Alto County in Schwob Marsh in Kossuth County.

Approved for submission to the BOR for federal cost sharing under the lands and waters conservation fund program the following projects;

Fremont County Conservation Board—Tennis Court—Development.

Black Hawk County Conservation Board—Hickory Hills Park—Development.

The following County Conservation Board land acquisition projects were approved:

Des Moines County Conservation Board—Agusta Skunk River Access Addition.

Decatur County Conservation Board—Trailside Historical Park.

Dubuque County Conservation Board—New Wine Township Park Addition.

Harrison County Conservation Board—Niles Historical Museum.

Lee County Conservation Board—Pollmiller Park.

The following County Conservation Board development plans were approved:

Green County Conservation Board—Management Agreement—Spring Lake State Park.

Hardin County Conservation Board—Management Agreement—Hardin City Access Area.

**Our Readers Write . . .**

Dear Sirs:

I am enclosing a letter from John Taylor from Mendip Terrace, South Stanley, County Durham, England. Mr. Taylor had an article in the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST in January, 1968, and now he has sent me a letter to see if you would put this in one of your future papers.

We made him an honorary member of our Marshall County Wild Life Club and he has been quite thrilled about it. We have received a couple of letters and brochures of hunting and fishing over in England. We have enjoyed his material and letters.

I am vice president of our club and historian, so I collect all the material I can for our club. I have sent Mr. Taylor a lot of our conservation material from Iowa. He appreciated this very much and also sent me some home made "pies" that he made for trout fishing. Enough of my explanation. John's letter follows:

**TO THE CONSERVATIONIST:**

Friends, may you and your paper go from strength to strength and surely it is doing just this, as every month I see some article which is new. Believe me I know how difficult collecting interesting and relevant articles can be.

I work in the shadow of one of the oldest cathedrals in England and feel protected by the old castle which is checked (sic): (guarded) by an owl.

The cathedral and the river Wear are in sight of my office window. This river has had a wonderful run of sea trout (salme Trutta). Some of the fish were about 8 to 15 pounds in weight. I hooked four in a half hour and lost all one evening.

It is just wonderful, when the work hours drag, to just lift one's eyes from the work and within seconds see a sea trout leaping clear from the river.

Apart from fish, the river supports the usual wild life—minnows, trout, duck, waterhens, gulls, along with water voles, water rats, and eels. These creatures all live within a very short distance from a busy and noisy cathedral city.

More Strength to Your Pens  
John Taylor

Letters from Lester R. Olsen, Marshalltown, Iowa.

Dear Sirs:

I sure enjoy your little magazine, the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST, and have taken it since way back in the 40's.

I have one thing to ask you about. Is there any way a fellow might get his magazine a little sooner? My November one arrives about December 4. Would a little extra money for postage help?

When one gets articles pertaining to November and its already December they do not do you much good. If it can't be sent sooner then maybe those articles could be put out a month earlier.

How is the Red Rock Refuge working out? I have not heard anything as yet. I have been a duck hunter ever since I was a child but our season was set so we could not get much to hunt. It should have been a split season with some of it earlier and some later than it was.

This made it nice for the hunter that could go to Canada and to Stuttgart, Arkansas, but we cannot all do that. This may result in fewer duck hunters which would be bad for conservation. Also we duck hunters help pay the bills.

Yours truly,  
Marvin Cecil  
Route 3  
Knoxville, Iowa

P.S. I am teaching my 12-year-old hunter safety and I hope he will be a good hunter and not a game hog.

Calhoun County Conservation Board—Development Plan—Lake's End Access Area.

Decatur County Conservation Board—Development Plan—Slip Bluff Park.

Hamilton County Conservation Board—Development Plan—Brigg's Woods Park Revision II.

Contracts were let for the following projects:

Construction of Conservation Training Center—Springbrook State Park, Shriver Construction Company, Jefferson, \$452,666.

Construction of beach facility, Lake Anita State Park, Betts & Bear Construction Co., Adair, \$62,220.

Construction of biology building, near Bellevue, Wilbur A. Hammond, Bellevue, \$21,750.

## EDITORIAL

A great challenge faces Iowa today in the field of outdoor recreation. The problem comes to this: how can the state continue to provide outdoor recreation facilities for the people of Iowa?

The present facilities simply cannot meet the demands of the public. The primary reason for the dilemma is two-fold—the dramatic increases in the number of park users and the lack of funds for maintenance and development. As a result many serious shortcomings in the state park system became magnified last summer. Although the state has excellent areas, many suffered from a lack of personnel to carry out the most elemental of maintenance tasks.

There has been a truly dramatic increase during the past years in the number of people using the parks. This year ten million people flocked to Iowa's state parks. Compare this to 6½ million in 1957 to 2¼ million in 1947. Why are we faced with this upsurge in park use?

One reason is that the Conservation Commission has, in spite of difficulties, been able to provide a good park system. People today have more leisure time, more money and better transportation. In our urbanized society people are seeking more opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Any state agency must provide services for the public. The wishes of the people concerning outdoor recreation and parks in particular, have been made clear. However, without adequate funds for personnel, maintenance, equipment and development, the wishes of the public cannot be met.

The answer is not in just buying more land or building a dam in a creek. There must also be funds to provide the necessary facilities and roads on the area and carry out a program of watershed protection to halt siltation.

In past years only limited funds have been provided for hiring maintenance personnel and replacing worn out facilities. On the other hand, money for new areas has often been obtained. These new areas and lakes will, of course, be of great benefit to Iowa and it's necessary to prepare for the future. But what about the existing parks and lakes that the people are using in greater numbers all the time? Are they to suffer because of a lack of funds for maintenance?

Without personnel or funds, garbage cans may overflow, sanitary facilities deteriorate and weeds and grass grow into a mini-jungle. No one wants to see this happen at Iowa parks. But deterioration can set in at all levels—from rust on a garbage can to major siltation. This is happening at some of Iowa's most popular parks.

The question then arises: should we provide funds to keep these parks in good shape for use by the public today, or should money be spent on new areas that will be developed at some future date? It would be ideal if funds were available for both maintenance of established areas and development. However, with limited funds provided, the emphasis should be on bringing existing facilities up to par.

It must be realized that there is much more to establishing a park system than just buying the land and putting up signs. There must be prior planning and a good program set forth to provide for development and maintenance. There is a need for acquisition in the recreation system. However, along with acquisition funds, there must be a plan and funds for development.

Let's take a look at the existing situation as far as park needs are concerned. Presently over 40 parks require a minimum amount of basic repair work and alterations to meet the demands placed upon them. These must be carried out on such things as cabins, trails, bridges, fences, latrines, boat docks, shelters, parking areas, water systems, and beach facilities. Emergency spillway repair is a continuing item. There is a long list of things that need to be done in Iowa parks simply to meet the ever increasing pressure from an outdoor oriented public.

With some 10 million people having picnics, tramping the trails, bathing on the beaches, singing in the shelters, packing the parking lots, and roaming the roads, it's easy to imagine what a big job it is during the summer.

There are over 10,161 picnic tables, 39 beaches, 1,444 benches, 3,694 fireplaces, 24 enclosed shelters, 68 open shelters and 821 signs to be protected, cleaned, painted and generally cared for. This is a small part of the big picture.

There are 74 permanent men in the parks section and some 130 temporary employees during the summer months.

What does the future hold for outdoor recreation in Iowa? With proper legislation, adequate funds and proper development programs, Iowa's recreation areas can indeed become the state's proudest possessions. Then, they can and will continue to provide millions of people with great opportunities for outdoor recreation.



With the arrival of spring many anglers will get "the fever" and to remedy this they will pack up their fishing paraphernalia and head for Iowa's well-stocked lakes, streams and rivers.

To please your favorite fisherman make his return home a triumphant one by planning a superb fish dinner. Invite some neighbors over to enjoy a good, old-fashioned fish fry and to swap some of the traditional "fish tales".

In order to make the "first big catch" of the season really special, here are two recipes you might try for a super kick-off that may result in requests for "re-plays" later in the season.

### FISH FILLET

Allow one large fillet or one steak per person. For each piece of fish tear off a section of aluminum cooking foil large enough to wrap up the fish. Butter the foil, place the fillet or steak on it, season with salt and freshly ground black pepper and dot with butter. Fold the foil over the top and double the edges together to make a tight case.

Fold up the ends of the foil. Arrange foil packages on a baking sheet and bake in a 425° oven for 18 minutes. Then open one of the foil packages and test the fish for doneness with a fork or toothpick. If it is not done yet, roll it up again and continue cooking for a few more minutes.

(Herbed: Top each fish fillet with 1 teaspoon of grated onion and 1 tablespoon of chopped parsley before baking.)

### FISH WITH RICE

- 1 3-lb. dressed fish
- 2 tblsp. butter or margarine
- ½ lb. mushrooms, chopped
- 2 tblsp. chopped onion
- ¼ cup butter or margarine
- 1 cup cooked rice (½ cup uncooked)
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ½ tsp. poultry seasoning
- 2 beaten eggs

Place fish in a shallow pan. Broil 15 minutes, basting with 2 tablespoons butter. Turn, broil 10 minutes. Season.

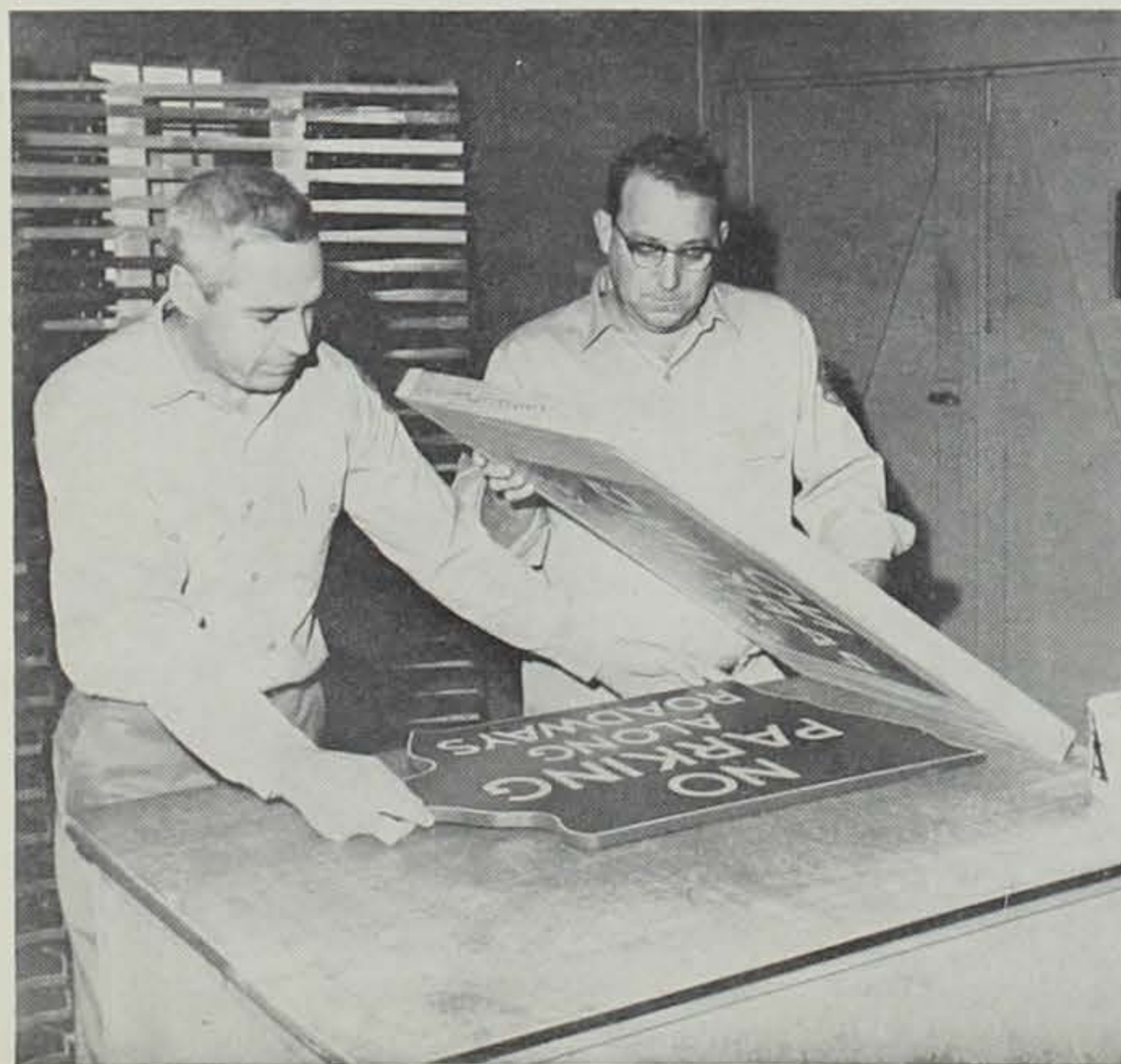
Cook onions and mushrooms in ¼ cup butter until tender. Add rice, seasonings, and eggs; mix well. Cook over low heat until eggs are set. Mound in center of platter; place fish over rice.

To bake, place fish over rice mixture. Bake in moderate oven (350°) 45 minutes, basting with butter. Garnish with lemon slices. Makes 4 servings.



Above: Paul Wears handles the spray gun used for painting the basic brown of Iowa's park signs. This is the third step in the assembly-line job and follows the shaping of the sign and the sanding.

Right: In the silk screen process, a stencil is cut and placed under a cheese-cloth "screen" which allows the yellow paint to flow through the letter shapes only. Wears puts pressure on a scraping tool which ensures total and even coverage on the board, while Milt Hunt stands by.



Left: Hunt assists in removing the sign after the letters have been stenciled.

## Park Signs —

# Where Have They All Come From?

Photographs — By Russell Nelson

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By Kris Elin  
Editor

Every visitor to Iowa's state parks is directed around the area by neat, brown and yellow signs, strategically placed at entrances and forks in the road.

These "word-maps" didn't just appear, and they don't last forever. Two Conservation Commission employees work year round making these signs and other furnishings for park cabins, as well as maintaining and restoring the thousands of signs and furniture now in use in Iowa's public areas.

Located at Lake Macbride State Park, near Solon, Iowa, the complex of four buildings, known as the Central Shop houses the material and equipment used by Milt Hunt, shop manager, and his assistant, Paul Wears.

These men make and restore all the signs and build furniture for family cabins on an order basis. Each park officer requests a certain number of signs which are then made on assembly-line style.

Although orders are placed all year, most of the work for the parks is done during the winter months so that it may be available for the busy summer park schedules.

Different sizes of sugar pine, and also, a special treated material are used for the park signs, which come in two types, the routed (or depressed) letter, and flat painted signs.

First the board is cut in the shape of Iowa, then sanded, and prepared for painting. On the flat signs, a silk-screen process is used, which is basically a stencil type of painting letters. When routing, a special tool is used to "dig out" the letters, after which they are painted by hand.

On the signs in the Iowa shape, an edging tool is used next to paint a thin line around the board. Lastly, large drying racks hold the group of signs until they are taken to the individual parks.

Usually about 100 signs are made simultaneously and the total process time is about two days. Hunt estimated that if one sign were to be made from start to finish, it would involve just over an hour. Due to quantity, making only one at a time would be impractical and costly.

Regarding commercial cost, Hunt had "no idea as to the price of these signs."

"At one time we tried to find a commercial company that made signs like these, just to see what it would cost. But as far as we know, no one makes signs of this type, size, and quantity, so we really can't estimate a price."

Between 75 and 100 routed signs and an equal number of silk-screened signs are made per year at the Central Shop.

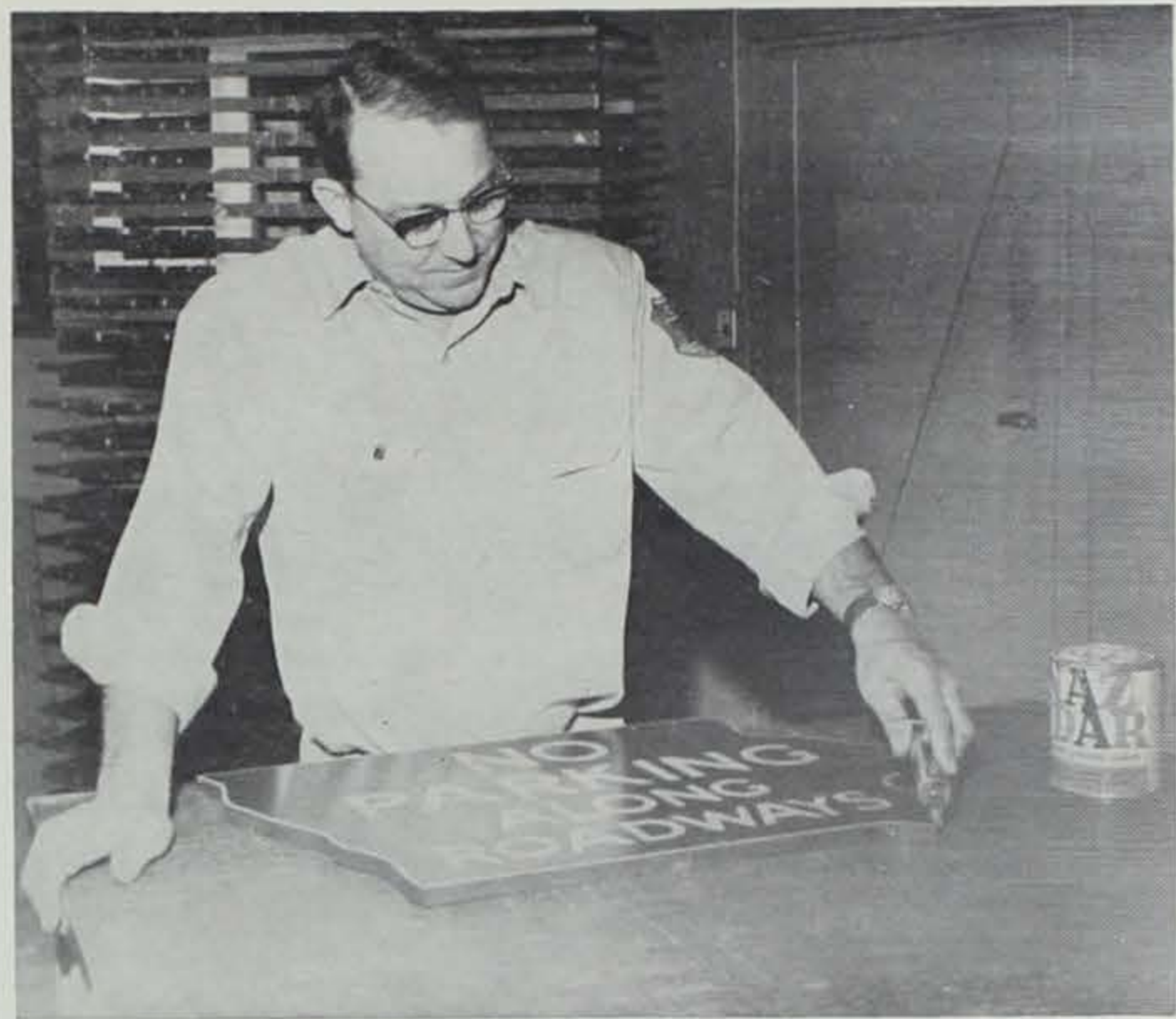
In addition to sign production, furniture for group cabins is made as needed. This includes upholstered chairs and davenports, and tables, benches, and bed frames.

Native lumber, such as cottonwood, oak, and walnut, provides the materials for the furniture which lasts from three to five years and then is returned to the Central Shop to be refinished.

Activity at the shop is now at a maximum; orders have been placed for signs and furniture for next summer's camping and park season, and the men and machinery are busy trying to fulfill these needs.

But their efforts now will be more obvious about May or June when the thousands of visitors head for Iowa's state parks and are guided by the neat, brown and yellow directional signs.

Few people realize the craftsmanship, time, and effort that was expended on these signs as they are guided to a beach or campground area. But few people would discredit the invaluable service provided by these men and their work.



Above: A specially designed edging tool enables Wears to quickly and efficiently make the even yellow border found on many of the park signs.

Below: Large drying racks hold all of the completed signs, like the one Hunt is placing on the shelf.



# Forney's Lake — More Than A Hunting Area

By David Evans  
Superintendent Information and  
Education

Last November a wet, but happy hunter, waded out of a marsh with a brace of geese in his hand that he had just brought down from the gray winter sky.

At the same place last spring a man was busy taking photographs of the goose migrating while his family sat awe struck by the sight of thousands of the great birds winging north.

The site was Forney's Lake—a public hunting area and refuge managed by the State Conservation Commission. From the days of black powder, this area on the Missouri River has been a goose hunting spot. But, today Forney's Lake means much more to the people of Iowa. Operated by the Commission's Game Section, Forney's Lake continues to provide hunters with shooting and everyone with a spectacular view of the annual goose migration.

Forney's Lake is really a tribute to that often unappreciated American—the sportsman and hunter. You see, Forney's Lake was purchased, developed and managed with funds from the sale of licenses and money received through the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act. P-R funds are derived from an 11 percent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition with the money prorated back to the states. While the hunter has footed the bill for the area, the whole state benefits.

In the fall blue and snow geese, reacting very sensibly, head south for the winter on the ancient migration route along the Missouri River. They will winter on the warm gulf coast of Texas and Louisiana. However, like all travelers they stop to feed and rest along the way. And a major rest and feeding area for years has been Forney's Lake. And it is here that hunters are able to har-

vest some of the surplus. Forney's Lake, located in Fremont County, 2½ miles northwest of Thurman, comprises about 1,073 acres of shallow marsh. Approximately 450 acres are refuge.

Because of the concentration of geese, there have always been a large number of hunters . . . all hoping to bring down a limit of birds. This led to problems. Hunting areas often became crowded, almost gunstock to gunstock. The eager nimrods are sometimes over-anxious about getting in the first shot resulting in "sky busting" and cripples.

Three years ago the Commission established a measure of controlled hunting from blinds in part of the area and it has been generally accepted. There are 25 blinds on the north and west sides of the marsh, 40 yards from the shooting line and 115 yards from the refuge line.

Open hunting is allowed on the south side where crowded conditions are still a problem on some weekends. There is a retrieve zone between the shooting zone and refuge. Most of the hunting is pass shooting, but some men in blinds use decoys. Blinds are obtained on a reservation basis and there are certain advantages in this. There is less crowding and a person with a reservation is assured of a place to hunt. It also provides a degree of quality hunting not found in the open zone. However, there is still some "sky busting" from the blinds.

There is a check station for hunters at the service building on the area. Commission personnel age and sex the birds brought in by hunters. Through information collected at the station they can determine the productivity and kill ratio. Usually there are more young birds brought in than old ones and this indicates good productivity. However, when the young to old ratio is close it indicates lower productivity.

Generally hunting is good—running about three-fourths of a goose per man day in the blinds. Most of the geese taken are blues and snows. Naturally, not everyone scores every day, but it does provide the opportunity to hunt that some people might not otherwise have.

There will be from several thousand to 50,000 geese on the marsh. During the season many hunters will bring their campers and stay at the area in parking lots provided by the Commission.

Several thousand hunters will use the area during a season. The blinds are filled on weekends by advance reservations, but during the week a person can usually find a vacancy.

Historically, Forney's Lake was a noted hunting area—a natural marsh, larger and deeper than it is now. Like most of the river bottoms at that time it was filled with water backed up an outlet ditch from the Missouri River. Control of the wild Missouri eventually cut off this source of water. The State Conservation Commission purchased the major portion of the area in 1943-44 and it was named after the Forney family.

Two large pumps that keep the water level up were installed. Part of the area was established as a refuge after it was purchased providing protection for the waterfowl and keeping them in the area.

Many people like to recall when there was more water in the marsh. However, changes have taken place. There is no longer any back-up water and no seepage into the marsh because of the low river level. It would be impractical to try and keep it full all year with two pumps. Actually, there is not much lake bed left. The floods of 1952 and 1958 put as high as 5 feet of silt in the marsh. There is 3 to 4 feet of silt on the average—filling what was once a depression.



In the spring of the year geese head north to their nesting grounds in the Affin Islands. This migration is one of nature's most impressive sights in Iowa. There will be up to 10,000 people at the area on a weekend in the spring to view the goose flight. Commission personnel are kept busy directing traffic, keeping the parking lots and other facilities cleaned up and answering questions about the migration.

Photographers flock to the area with a variety of cameras and other equipment. The amount of film used would probably be more than enough to film the last two world wars. Some beautiful color photographs have been made at Forney's Lake during the goose flight.

Commission personnel are busy the other months of the year. Vegetation control by mowing is a must in the summer or the cattails, bullrushes and willows would be over a man's head. Crops are planted to provide food for wildlife.

Some of the real early visitors to the area were Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. According to their daily log it was July 19, 1804, when their expedition camped southwest of what is now Labor and it was noted: "At 4½ miles reached high cliffs of yellow earth on the south. The sand bars are more numerous as they approach the Platte River." Lewis and Clark, both hunters and outdoorsmen, would no doubt be satisfied with the use being made of the area.

With proper management, Forney's Lake will continue to serve the people of Iowa. It will remain a jewel in the sparkling recreation necklace along the Missouri River. An area for all people.

## When We Plant A Tree

What do we plant when we plant a tree?  
 We plant the ship, which will cross the sea . . .  
 What do we plant when we plant a tree?  
 We plant the houses for you and me . . .  
 What do we plant when we plant a tree?  
 A thousand things we daily see, . . .  
 We plant all these when we plant a tree . . .

By Gene Hertel  
 Asst. State Forester

The lines from Henry Abbey's poem may not list all our goals for tree planting, but they encompass most of them.

Foresters would be mistaken to advocate tree planting on land that will yield a greater monetary return from grazing, farming, or other enterprises. But a landowner may wish to plant trees on parts of his farm that are inaccessible to farm equipment.

On other parts of the farm, erosion may be so serious that tree planting for erosion control would be desirable. Some landowners may be interested in producing Christmas trees, posts and poles, or growing some quality hardwood trees such as black walnut, black cherry or oak for future income.

Having once established his motive for planting trees, his first decision is where to plant. Whether a given tract of land should be planted to trees depends upon the answers to three questions. Will trees grow there? Will it pay to grow them there? And, is it necessary to plant them there?

The answer to the first question has to do with the productivity of the land and this is important in terms of the final product attainable.

The second question has to do with economics. Whether or not it will pay to plant trees on an area depends upon the purpose of the proposed plantation.

On the other hand, if the purpose is to grow a merchantable crop, the question can be answered in dollars and cents by comparing the tree crop income with that of an alternate crop.

The third question relates to areas with some trees already growing and where more may be needed to produce a full tree crop.

Many woodland acres in Iowa are producing neither the amount nor the quality of wood of which they are capable. Where soil productivity is adequate, planting open timber areas with quality hardwoods can produce a far greater income than permitting low value trees to occupy the site for several decades.

District Foresters of the Conservation Commission are available to assist in about 75 counties in the state. Soil Conservation Service and Extension Service personnel are knowledgeable about tree planting and can give advice where a forester is not available.

There are several details which must be worked out and carried through in any planting.

(Continued on page 16)

**FISHING . . .** (Continued from page 9)

Smallmouth Bass during the open season, May 3, 1969, through February 15, 1970.

On inland lakes the daily catch limit is five (5) and possession limit ten (10) for Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass. This variation in limits is due to Minnesota regulations. Iowa and Minnesota departments work cooperatively in establishing seasons and limits on these border lakes.

Daily catch and possession limits for all other species are listed in the table on this page of the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST.

It should be noted that the possession limit cannot exceed a total of 50 fish of the combined species where a daily catch limit is specified. For these species where no daily catch limit is noted, an angler may have any number of these fish in his possession.

Following a departmental regulation discussed by the Commission, "spears and bow and arrow may be used to take carp, buffalo, dogfish, gar, sheepshead, and quillback from sunrise to sunset during the period of May 1, 1969, to February 15, 1970, both dates inclusive."

Individual questions concerning the 1969 laws may be directed to the Law Enforcement section of the State Conservation Commission.

**TREES . . .** (Continued from page 15)

Your objective in planting and the type of soil which is to be planted are of high priority. The productiveness of the soil will dictate the kind of trees which can be successful.

When you know the kind of trees you will plant, the next concern is the number of trees to plant, their size and the place to buy them.

Farmland planting is usually done with seedling or light transplant trees, planted as bare rooted stock. These plants are low in cost and can be handled easily. Some loss can be expected, but in years of normal rainfall, plantings are very successful. Planting stock is available from many private nurseries and from the State Conservation Commission.

Planting may be done by hand, using a spade or special planting bar, or with a tree planting machine pulled by a farm tractor. Planting can be done as early as the frost is gone from the ground until around May 15. Stock which is kept dormant in cold storage may, in fact, be planted into June.

Final survival of the planted trees will depend upon the rainfall distribution and temperatures during the first summer after planting.

Tree seedlings are shipped in bales or crates with the roots protected with some form of moist packing material.

Take a tip from this packaging and make sure the roots are never permitted to dry out. Follow, in detail, any planting instructions on your tree package.

As with other crops, trees must be tended to accomplish the goal you have set. Weed or brush will compete with the trees; livestock can destroy a planting; fire and insects must be controlled.

Mowing weeds and brush may be used in some areas. Chemical weed control and cultivation are also possibilities during the early years of the plantation. Fencing may be required. Livestock must be kept from the planting area since tree tops will be eaten and the seedlings trampled.

Firebreaks around a planting to stop wildfires burning toward the area may be required. These are usually maintained by discing. Any plantation owner should check for insects or insect damage regularly and seek advice on control.

Whether forest products, soil protection, or establishing something of beauty is your goal, tree planting can accomplish it. Trees require your forethought and care, but they can return much satisfaction and value.

**Applications Accepted For Officers' School**

The State Conservation Commission's officer examination and school to establish an eligibility list will be held in March at Camp Dodge, north of Des Moines.

The eligibility list contains the top 20 applicants for Park and Water Officers who will be hired as these positions become available.

To take the examination, a person must first obtain an application blank by writing to: Personnel Section, State Conservation Commission, 300 - 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319. These must be filled out and returned to the Parks and Waters Section at the same address **NO LATER THAN February 25.**

The preliminary or screening examination will be held March 5 at Camp Dodge. Applicants for the exam must be at Camp Dodge by 8:30 a.m., March 5. The top 20 candidates for officers positions will be eligible to attend a 2½ day school at Camp Dodge on March 24-26.

At the officers candidate school they will take written examinations based on lectures presented by Commission personnel and present a brief talk on a subject of their choice. All candidates will be interviewed by a panel. They will be graded on these items and other factors.

The ranking on the eligibility list is determined by the final grade of the candidates. When openings are available, they will be filled from the eligibility list.

Further information on the examination and school can be obtained by writing the Commission.

**1969 FISHING SEASONS AND LIMITS**

INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE					BOUNDARY WATERS:
Kind of Fish	Open Season	Daily Catch Limit	Possession Limit	Minimum Length or Weight	Mississippi River, Missouri River, Big Sioux River and Inland Waters of Lee County
Carp, Buffalo, Quillback, Gar, Dogfish, Gizzard Shad, Sheepshead, Sucker, Redhorse, Chub, Sunfish, Bluegill, Crappie, Silver Bass, Bullhead, Rock Bass, Yellow Bass, Warmouth, Minnows and Sand Sturgeon	Continuous	None	None	None	Same as inland waters.
Rock Sturgeon	Closed				Closed.
Paddlefish	Continuous	2	4	5 lb.	Same as inland waters except no catch or possession limit on Mississippi River.
Perch	Continuous	25	50	None	Same as inland waters except no catch or possession limit.
Trout	Continuous	6	12	None	Same as inland waters.
Catfish	Continuous	8	16	None	Continuous open season, no catch or possession limit.
Largemouth Bass	Continuous	5	10	None	Largemouth and Smallmouth Black Bass. Continuous open season. Aggregate daily catch limit 10; aggregate possession limit 20.
Smallmouth Bass	Continuous	5	10	None	
Walleye and Sauger	May 3- Feb. 15*	Combined Walleye & Sauger 5	Combined Walleye & Sauger 10	None	Continuous open season. Aggregate daily catch limit 10; aggregate possession limit 20.
Northern Pike	May 3- Feb. 15*	3	6	None	Continuous open season daily catch limit 5; possession limit 10.
Muskellunge	Closed				Closed.
Frogs (except Bullfrogs)	Continuous	4 doz.	8 doz.	None	Same as inland waters.
Bullfrogs (Rana Catesbeiana)	Continuous	1 doz.	1 doz.	None	Same as inland waters.