

**MARCH
1970**

STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION OF IOWA
Historical Building
DES MOINES, IOWA 50319

RED ROCK is READY

By Roger Sparks

With the coming of spring and warmer weather, thoughts invariably turn to outdoor fun. Lake Red Rock, offering a wide variety of water sports, will hum with activity as the barnacle-backed bunch goes berzerk again.

If it hums in the spring, it'll scream by mid-summer! The lake's size and location plus Iowa's hot 'n humid summers may lure more than 800,000 visitors annually, estimates the Corps of Engineers from whom the state has leased much of the surrounding land.

BOATING

Red Rock is (and will be until Rathbun fills) the largest body of water in the state. At its normal conservation pool level, Lake Red Rock extends 11.3 miles upstream impounding 8,950 acres of water. At maximum flood-pool capacity, water would back up 33.5 miles, swelling the lake's surface to 65,500 acres. At any level there's plenty of room for water skiers, fishermen, sailboaters, everyone!

Public boat launching ramps are available at Roberts Creek County Park and at both state owned day-use areas, plus the waters station.

It seems, however, there's a snag in every anchor rope. Did I say snag? The Corps cleared timber (and that's about all) up to, approximately, the conservation pool level. When spring rains enrage the Des Moines, the lake sweeps out, engulfing timber, roads and other high areas normally above water level. Ghost-like snags, logs, debris, even bridges loom just under the surface at various levels, inviting speeding boaters into their hull-smashing clutches. Even at the conservation pool level, submerged roads, railroad beds, gravel quarry mounds and other debris can spell peril for the careless.

Although cases of wrecked boats, water skiing mishaps, and other "near-misses" were displayed, Roy Downing, supervisor of waters, notes: "We were extremely fortunate last summer in not having any deaths or serious injuries on Red Rock. But, the novelty has worn



off, and people may get less water safety conscious this year."

"For the most part, people were cautious last year," Downing continued, "and that undoubtedly saved lives!" That key word again is CAUTION.

PICNICKING, CAMPING

If all goes well this summer, much of the initial development on the Red Rock area will be completed. For the folks who enjoy picnicking or just lying around under a big hardwood shade tree overlooking the lake, the state will operate and maintain day-use areas on the north and south sides of the lake (see map on page four). These areas will contain restrooms, shelter houses, picnic tables, boat launching ramps, and parking for day time use only.

The state will not in the immediate future operate overnight camping facilities. Joe Brill, parks superintendent, ex-

plains: "Camping facilities will be available, maintained and managed by the Marion County Conservation Board at Roberts Creek (county) Park." This will accommodate campers this summer.

Eventually the state plans to develop a much larger recreational area than is presently in operation on the south side of the main lake body.

HUNTING

Certainly no one is more enthusiastic about the Red Rock project than central Iowa hunters. The establishment of a 15,691 acre state game management area, west of the Highway 14 bridge, the largest in the state, is drawing cheers from a variety of hunters.

The total management area includes a refuge of over 10,000 acres, and a 5,000 acre public hunting area! A full description of these areas, types of

(Continued on page 4)

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CIRCULATION70,000

COMMISSION MINUTES

January 6, 1970

Des Moines, Iowa

Iowa's Land and Water apportionments for the fiscal year July 1, 1969 to June 30, 1970 is \$1,002,098. Fifty percent of this amount, or \$496,049 will be reapportioned to political subdivisions on a county basis.

The following project requests were approved for submission to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation: City of Davenport, Duck Creek Parkway, development; Adair County Conservation Board, Greenfield Recreation Area, acquisition of approximately 97 acres; Town of Norwalk, Town Park, acquisition of approximately 4 acres and development.

The following amendment was approved for submission to the BOR: Woodbury County Conservation Board, Little Sioux Park, development.

Accepted an option for approximately 66 acres, Walters Creek Watershed, Adams County.

The following County Conservation Board land acquisition projects were approved: Dubuque County Conservation Board, Mud Lake River Access Addition; Howard County, Dieken Walk In Wildlife Area; Howard County, Stepan Walk In Wildlife Area.

Dubuque County Conservation Board Mud Lake River Access Development Plan Revision was approved.

Approved the Hancock County Conservation Board's request authorizing the preparation of a management agreement on state owned lands on the shores of Crystal Lake, subject to approval of the State Executive Council.

Approved the Fish and Wildlife draft report on the Corps of Engineers reservoir approach to the alternative of straightening the Big Sioux River from Akron to Sioux City. Five reservoirs would be constructed under the program—two in South Dakota, two in Iowa and one between South Dakota and Iowa.

National Wildlife Week . . . March 15-21

"See Any Wildlife Lately?" at first sounds like a simple-minded question, but in context with today's problems, it's loaded. If you live out in the country (which most Americans don't), chances are you can say, "Sure. Just this morning I saw . . ." and start naming animals. If you live in a model city or one of the better-planned suburbs, you may have seen a variety of birds, some squirrels, and maybe a raccoon or a hawk; or luckier yet, you may have unpolluted water nearby where you caught some fish last weekend.

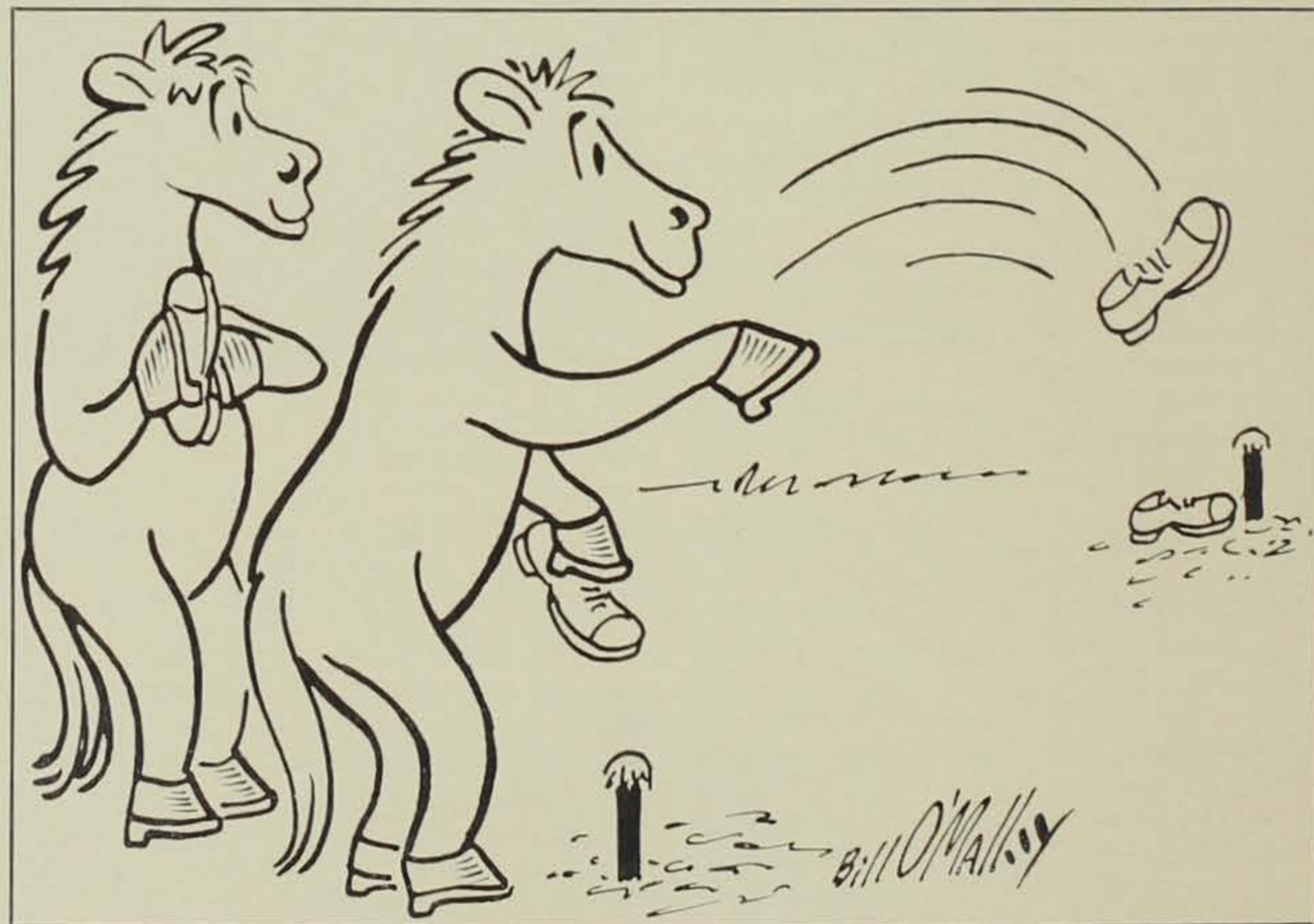
Unfortunately, if you are like the average American, the place where you live has had too much "Progress" for any of this to be possible. Pigeons, sparrows, and rats are wild, after a fashion, but they are about all that's left in the polluted air and in and around the filthy water and miles of concrete most Americans call home. "Seen Any Wildlife Lately?" It's a good question, because wildlife is a measure of the quality of man's environment.

Who needs wildlife? In the sense that many wild creatures are a step ahead of us in their sensitivity to polluted air and water, chemical pesticides, and the absence of naturalness—in essence an indicator of environmental quality—we all need wildlife for our survival. For when these other creatures are gone, what's left is a squalid environment for us.

Americans are belatedly awakening to the dangers of their self-induced blanket of poisonous gases and garbage heaps, pesticide-infested surroundings, sewage-choked waters and the sterility of paved-over landscapes. We could have recognized the dangers sooner had we paid attention to the warning signals—that fewer birds were around as the air got foul, fewer squirrels as the greenery was paved over, and no trout, bass or shrimp as waters became open sewers. "Seen Any Wildlife Lately?"

Many places are so crowded with people, vehicles, and concrete that it would be silly to think raccoons or squirrels or deer could ever survive there again. But if we act soon enough, it is possible that air and water pollution will eventually be controlled so that birds and fish are once again abundant even in and around the city. Future highways, cities, jetports, and shopping centers can be planned and built without pollution and with a diversity of trees and green spaces. We need all of these things and we need wildlife. The important thing is that we can have them, if we insist on it. Man's true progress will be measured by the ultimate good he has done for future generations. The presence of wildlife is certainly one way of measuring it.

National Wildlife Week, March 15-21, sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and its 49 state affiliates, asks, "Seen Any Wildlife Lately?" The answers are vitally important, because abundant wildlife is more than America's heritage; it's our key to survival.—National Wildlife Federation.



COMMISSION MINUTES . . . continued

Authorized the Fish and Game Division to designate certain Fish and Game areas or portions thereof, for snowmobile use.

Accepted an option for two acres, Cedar River Access, Muscatine County.

Accepted an option on one acre of land and a modern school building adjacent to the licensed area at Coralville Reservoir. It is proposed that the school building be remodeled to provide living quarters and office space for the Unit Foremen now living in Oxford.

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FUND for more FUN

By Roger Sparks

To most people the BOR probably sounds like a b-o-r-e. But what the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation means to Iowans is as exciting as outdoor fun itself.

This is the setup: Federal funds are available to the states for the acquisition, development, and expansion of outdoor recreation resources. These BOR-administered dollars are the result of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act effective January 1, 1965. All states must do to qualify for their allotment is submit a comprehensive state-wide outdoor recreation plan periodically to the BOR, and match the grant dollar for dollar. If the state can't match the allotment it reverts back to the Federal Government for reapportionment.

The fund is not, however, limitless. No money can be spent on maintenance; only on acquisition and development. Finances for the Land and Water Conservation Fund come from these four sources: admission and user fees on Federal recreation areas, sales of surplus Federal real property, Federal tax on marine fuel, and income from off-shore gas and oil leases. From this total each state gets its cut which varies according to population, amount of out-of-state tourism and existing Federal recreation facilities.

What does all this mean for Iowans?

Since 1965 the Iowa Conservation Commission (which administers the fund in Iowa) has been granted in the neighborhood of \$6 million and that's a pretty fair neighborhood. This money has been used for the acquisition and development of lands and waters in Iowa for outdoor recreational purposes. Parks, forests, lakes, camping areas and facilities, public hunting and fishing areas, swimming and bathhouse facilities, and more have been acquired and at least partially developed with the help of the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

The State of Iowa splits its share of the Fund equally with local governments (cities and counties). County Conserva-

tion Board parks and other outdoor recreation areas are the result, and although these local government projects usually are not large, they do provide Iowans with a growing number of near-by recreation spots.

Like the state, local governments are eligible for money only after submitting to the ICC a comprehensive outdoor recreation plan. Some of these local agencies aren't taking full advantage of their allotments. (It's a good idea for people to ask local government officials what's being done and what projects are "in the mill".) For the most part however local agencies are cooperating and have used about \$2,300,000 of the Land and Water Conservation Fund since the program began.

On the state level, the ICC is presently working on a \$1 million grant-in-aid from the fund and Iowa's acquisition and development program is in high gear. The big Honey Creek recreation area project on Rathbun reservoir will eventually cost over \$3 million and must be completed in stages. Over \$600,000 will be spent in the first stage, half of which comes from the Fund. Other areas across the state will benefit and more acquisitions are planned.

The demand for outdoor recreation is rapidly increasing—more spare time means more play time. And although transportation becomes swifter and more efficient most people can't travel far for a weekend. More acquisition and development of recreation resources is needed. Through the BOR, money is available and the key to administering these funds to benefit the most people lies in a plan for a state-wide, even distribution of funds. To this end the ICC has divided the state into seven regions, each working under individual budgets. Thus, one big "cat" doesn't get all the "cream".

Some states have trouble matching the Federal funds and can't utilize their potential portions, but not Iowa. In fact, state projects could utilize more capital right now. The BOR program doesn't eliminate all headaches. After the ac-



by Dick Ranney
Exhibit Assistant

I have for many years heard the old story of cooking fish or game on a board, and after it's done, you eat the board and throw the meat away. This brings a smile and comments both pro and con.

A few people simply do not like wild fish or game. Many of those who do, dislike cleaning and preparing it for the table. Still others are afraid to try it.

It's strange that a very basic staple of yesteryear can be so disliked today. Imagine a cave man bringing home a frozen, ready prepared meal to cook on the open fire! Think what would have happened to the West without the deer, buffalo and fish! Iowa's game meat, venison, rabbit, pheasant, quail, fish, etc., is not "exotic"; but rather over the years more common and basic than beef.

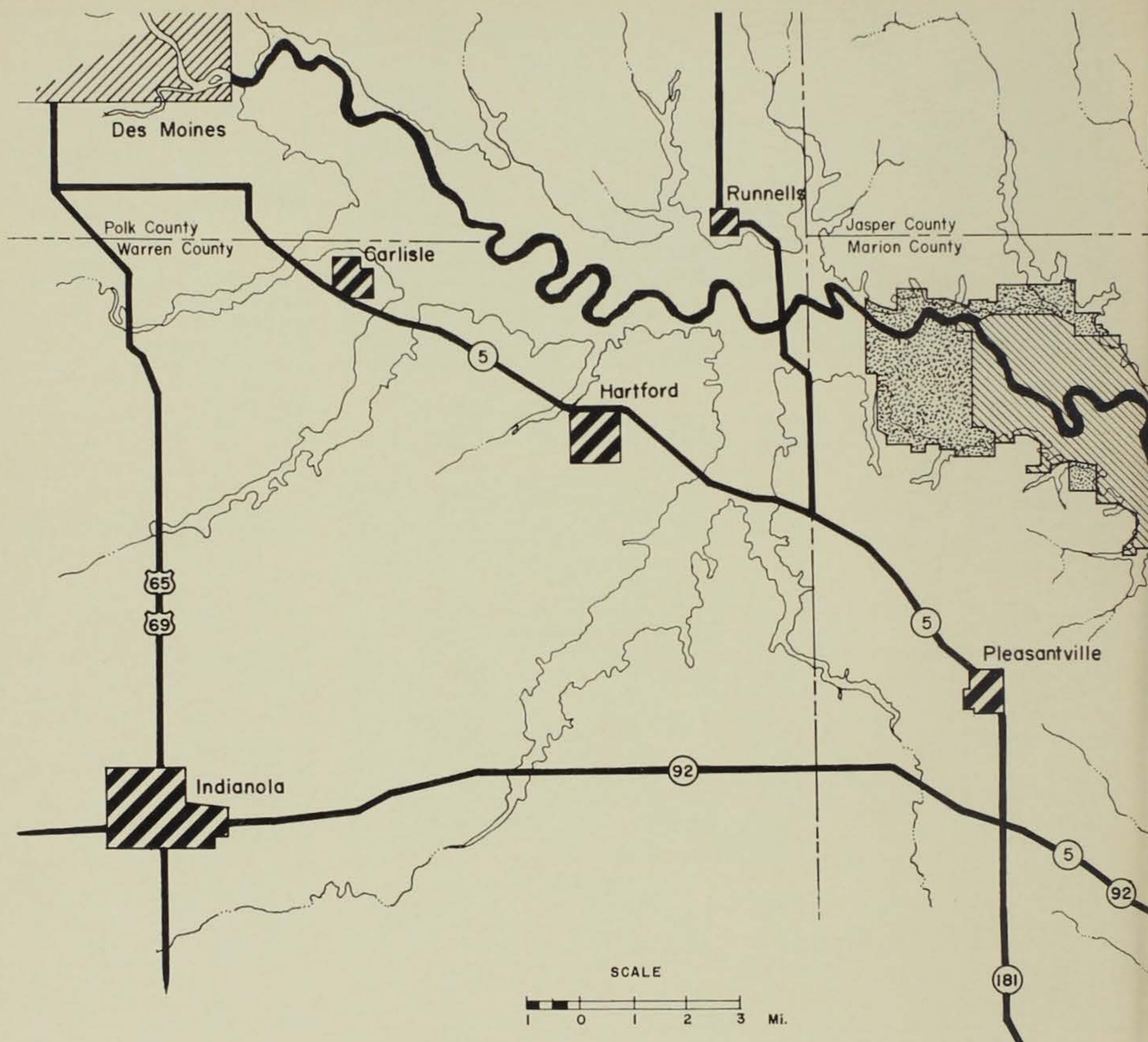
I'm sure that in most cases we have gotten away from the simple way to cook wild game. We have a tendency to "spice up", "grind up", and "mess up" the fine gourmet food mother nature supplies.

I submit the following for your consideration. Start with a couple of cottontail rabbits (pheasant or quail will do), clean and wash, cut into pieces, roll in flour and brown in a large skillet. Most any kind of shortening can be used. After all pieces are browned, salt and pepper lightly, add 1 cup of water and 1½ cups of milk (canned, fresh or powdered). Boil some potatoes and serve with a dash of apple salad, hot baking powder biscuits, butter, jelly and coffee. As the meat cooks it will make its own gravy.

Incidentally, after you have cleaned and washed the rabbit you might find a few hairs. Do not be concerned. It will not hurt you to pick them off the meat. If after a few years you have found enough, you can knit yourself a sweater. I'm working on a size 50 and that takes a lot of hare!

quisition and initial development of an area, the ICC is confronted with the high costs of maintenance and upkeep, and the BOR administered fund cannot be used for this purpose. However, the fact remains that outdoor recreation projects at all levels of government have received a tremendous boost from the Fund. Fred A. Prievert, director of the Iowa Conservation Commission, says: "Without the Land and Water Conservation Fund outdoor recreation facilities in Iowa would be more overcrowded today and totally inadequate tomorrow."

The BOR means more fun for Iowans now and in the future.



RED ROCK (continued from page 1) game, and the ICC's plans for development of each would be pretty exhausting, but if I stick to my generalities and you to your bifocals, we'll struggle through together.

Generally, the area is managed for Canada geese. The refuge has been developed as a stop over for Canada's during migration. The refuge is closed at all times to hunting and it is closed to trespass during the waterfowl seasons (middle of September to the middle of December, check current regulations). During the rest of the year the refuge is open for fishing, hiking, boating, and sightseeing.

The ultimate goal of the refuge is to attract a fall goose flock which would improve the distribution and hunting opportunities for this species. A large, undisturbed refuge area, large fields of goose browse and a "call flock" of 150

clipped-winged Canadas provide the attraction for these birds. This stop over tendency will probably take several years, after which goose hunting may be allowed on a controlled basis. Some 2,000 acres of river basin and pothole country, mostly west and immediately up-river from the refuge, is considered excellent for waterfowl hunting, and is a designated public hunting area.

Ducks and geese aren't the only considerations on the Red Rock game management area, however. Excellent upland habitat for deer, quail, pheasants, rabbits, and squirrels is now being developed to the tune of some 3,000 acres of public hunting areas surrounding the refuge. Beautiful hardwood timber interspersed with well-planned crop fields and grassland provide attractive habitat for our deer and small upland game. Further development is currently in progress.

FISHING

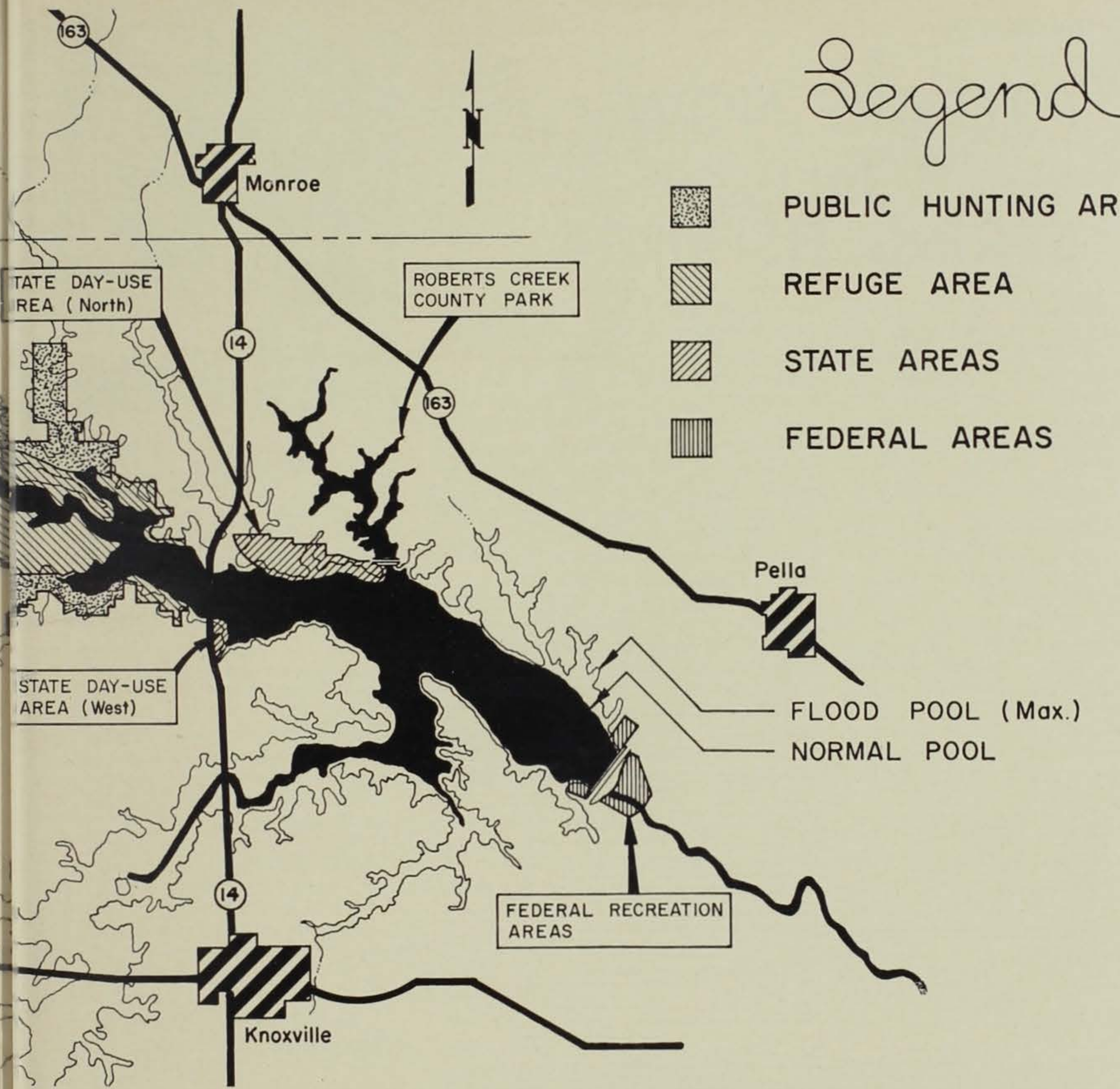
The Red Rock project has already improved fishing in the Des Moines river below the dam for many miles by stabilizing the stream level and improving water quality.

Bullhead and channel catfishing downstream from the dam have shown marked improvement and schools of resident (previous inhabitants of the river) crappies began congregating in the tail waters immediately below.





Three million walleye fry were stocked at various intervals downstream as far as Ottumwa last spring ('69), and grew to eight inches by fall. In addition smallmouth bass fingerlings were stocked experimentally in a relatively small number, hoping that the clearer, improved river habitat below the dam would support them.



Above the dam, Lake Red Rock may also turn into quite a sport fishery. The Des Moines River has always provided

fishing to... and the... in the lak... gularly the... g good fish... and catf... cause ther... ons of par... and carp... and becau... on tendenc... rock them... very popu... grow to... iding fine... the feel of... sident wh... the pool an... a strong... ming runs... low the c... sensational... Red Rock



Legend

-  PUBLIC HUNTING AREA
-  REFUGE AREA
-  STATE AREAS
-  FEDERAL AREAS

-  FLOOD POOL (Max.)
-  NORMAL POOL

...ishing for channel catfish and bull-
 and they should do exceptionally
 the lake. In fact, certain areas,
 ularly the upper reaches, were pro-
 good fishing for eating-sized bull-
 and catfish last summer.
 ause there were some resident pop-
 as of panfish (crappies and blue-
 and carp in the river before flood-
 and because of their explosive pop-
 tendencies, there will be no need
 k them. Carp, although generally
 very popular as a game species,
 grow to larger sizes in the lake,
 ing fine sport for the man who
 he feel of a big fish on his line.
 dent white bass will hopefully
 e pool and feeder streams suitable
 a strong population build-up.
 ing runs up these streams, as well
 ow the dam, could possibly pro-
 nsational fishing.
 Red Rock stocking program actu-

ally began in the fall of 1967 when
 largemouth bass were placed in Roberts
 Creek Lake (connected with Lake Red
 Rock) and are now 14 inches or more
 in length. Last spring ('69), 700,000
 one-inch largemouths of Arkansas origin
 were stocked in Red Rock and grew
 rapidly to nine inches by early fall.
 This summer ('70), though not large,
 they will provide some fishing, and
 along with panfish, bullheads, catfish,
 and carp, should be the mainstays of the
 future.
 Although walleyes and northern pike
 have inhabited the Des Moines, they
 were never abundant and stocking was
 necessary.
 The walleye is an open water fish and
 requires plenty of room. That much
 he'll find in Lake Red Rock and optimism
 from biologists was high enough to merit
 the stocking of 28 million fry in the
 spring of '69. Some of these walleyes

are now 10 inches long and hopefully
 will reach a good eating size by 1971.
 Small northern also were added and
 at least for a few years these strong,
 fast-growing battlers should also pro-
 vide some excitement.
 Although the near-future fishing pros-
 pects look fairly good, Ken Madden,
 fisheries superintendent, cautions us
 that things may not be so rosey: "The
 fact that the lake may fluctuate greatly,
 plus watershed and water quality un-
 certainties, may ultimately limit this
 sport fishery."
 So at least from a fisherman's angle
 (no pun intended), Lake Red Rock is an
 immediate bonus, and a long-range, 8,950
 acre question mark.
 A map complete with all the bi-roads
 of the Red Rock Area is available upon
 request from the Iowa Conservation Com-
 mission, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa
 50319.

March is the Month —

PREPARE NOW for SPRING FISHING

Most Iowa sportsmen would like to see the month of March torn off the calendar. Oh sure, there is no closed season on foxes, coyotes, and crows, but for the most part guns are in the cabinet. Thoughts of early season camping and boating are often buried under a late season snow. Outdoor recreation is at low ebb, and summer seems like something next year.

During this interim most of us are forced to hang around indoors on weekends (ugh) and impatiently await the fishing season. Fidgeting and wife harassing are popular along with watching the not-so-instant replay of the highlights of last years divisional play-off consolation games on television. Generally its a pretty boring time of year.

In late March however, the weather usually warms up enough to melt the last layers of ice on the lakes, and by

early April fishing picks up, particularly in the southern counties. Unfortunately, most people aren't prepared.

Good equipment is a must for successful fishing. That isn't to say tackle must be new or expensive, merely in good working condition. Although this seems logical, few people bother to clean and oil their reels, exchange frayed line for new, sharpen or replace hooks, check rod guides for loose wrappings, polish lures, reorganize tackle boxes, replace terminal tackle, and so on.

Sound a bit unnecessary? True, the knowledgeable old man with his chewed up flies and lures and vintage rod and reel will probably fish circles around the young novice with his gold plated reel and 80 lb. "treasure chest" tackle box. But the point is if you take a closer look at the old man's equipment you'll see a reel that has survived many years of

hard use only because its been cleaned and oiled regularly. Likewise his few obviously successful lures will have sharp hooks. His line will be relatively new and full strength. This combined with his accurate casting ability and knowledge of the area and fish he seeks make it necessary to carry only a few carefully selected lures or baits. In short, the guy who is prepared catches the fish, and now is the time to make ready.

CLEAN THAT REEL

Whenever cleaning or fixing a fishing reel get out these few items which store easily in a shoe box. First, unfold a 2' x 2' sheet of black felt which makes even the tiniest screw or washer easy to find. A discarded toothbrush works great for cleaning stuff out of cogs and other tight areas. Also needed are a fine screwdriver, light oil and grease (petroleum jelly works fine).

Don't just squirt a shot of oil into the reel and consider it clean; cogs need grease. Some reels such as the new free-spool casting models are pretty complicated, so its wise to follow the parts diagram included with the purchase.

The time spent cleaning and preparing equipment pays off in dollars as well as more fish. Remember, dreaming won't bring spring any sooner, but a couple hours of work will help you enjoy it when it does arrive.

THE STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S OFFICIAL BIG FISH RECORD

The Conservation Commission is anxious to establish the record for fish caught in the state and boundary waters. All species commonly caught by hook and line fishing are eligible.

If you have a fish suitable for submission as a record fish, please fill out the back of this entry blank. Two witnesses MUST attest to the weight of the fish to the nearest ounce on scales legal for trade.

Length is measured from tip of snout to tip of tail (total length).

The entry blank should be filled out (please print), then mailed with a GLOSSY PHOTO OF THE ANGLER AND HIS FISH to:

Fish Records, State Cons. Commission
State Office Building, 300-4th St.
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Records will be recognized for each year as well as standing records over a period of years. Record fish will be listed in the February issue of the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST magazine each year.

ENTRY BLANK FOR IOWA RECORD FISH (Please print)

Name _____
Address _____
Species _____
Date _____ County _____
Where Caught _____
Total Length _____ Weight _____
Method of catch _____

WITNESSES

Name _____
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Name _____
Address _____

(Entries of fish caught during the year must be in the Des Moines Office of the Conservation Commission before December 31).

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A Day in Heaven

By Bill Freiberg
 Manager of Public Relations
 Kent Feeds, Inc.
 1963 journalism graduate of
 Iowa State University

Often, between the time the guns are hung up in late winter and the dust is shaken loose from the fishing rods in the spring, many a sportsman will find himself and his faithful dog enjoying the great Iowa outdoors by taking long, satisfying hikes through the countryside.

These invigorating walks can be extremely pleasant for both man and dog, affording the opportunity to observe wildlife in surprising numbers, particularly after the hunting season has passed.

Frequently, it is difficult to find a hiking area where one can get the peace and solitude that's necessary for complete enjoyment of the outdoors. Often overlooked, the State Conservation Commission has provided hundreds of hiking areas throughout the state where everything necessary for a good hike is readily available . . . the Public Hunting Areas.

Although primarily designed to bolster wildlife populations through habitat management, these areas also furnish an almost perfect setting for a fruitful and very enjoyable outdoor walk. The Commission maintains more than 200 of these public lands, each ranging in size from less than 25 acres to more than 1,000.

It's difficult to imagine a better place to find wildlife in large numbers, for these areas are professionally managed by experts with the precise goal of attracting and maintaining birds and animals in large numbers.

Rows of evergreens, thick patches of richly multiflora rose hedge, fields of grain, large expanses of prairie, and a host of ground cover plants provide ideal surroundings for every species of wildlife common to Iowa.

And the lands are conspicuously free of man-made obstacles such as fences, highways and buildings. There is nothing unnatural to spoil the beauty and quietude of the Iowa outdoors in its natural state.

Armed with only a camera and binoculars, one can stride across prairies, marshes and woodlands, feeling almost as if he'd suddenly been thrust into Iowa as it was 100 years ago.

Rabbits frequently dart ahead of the excited dog and are sent running helter-

skelter from their prairie homes.

A few steps into an old cornfield may bring a flock of pheasants shooting into the sky, only to land a short distance away in a thick, impenetrable hedge. A few hundred yards further, a grassy slough may yield an explosion of tiny quail, angrily chirping at having been disturbed in their isolated quarters.

Soon, the hiker may come to a natural woods that is literally teeming with birds and squirrels. The squirrels will come down their trees tantalizingly close to the jumping dog, seeming to know that they're safe 'til next fall.

Relatively undisturbed by man, birds of a dozen species chirp and warble among the branches, and the hiker will often get an extra thrill from spotting a bright red cardinal flitting among bittersweet vines entwined in the bushes.

A glance at the ground may reveal a host of prints familiar to the experienced tracker. Raccoon, possum, muskrats, fox and deer frequently abound in these lands.

A skillful tracker may even be able

to tree a surprised daytime-hunting possum and often will have the satisfaction of following a tough, cold, coon trail to the tree where the big fellow thinks he's hiding from the world.

If the area is in a marshy place, the hiker may also be treated to a first hand inspection of muskrat activities. Several dome-shaped hutches will be seen dotting the landscape, and he'll be able to follow the animals' branch-strewn paths to where they're snipping off wild willows for wintertime food.

A short turn by a small lake may reveal the fleeting orange glimpse of a fox making a rapid retreat up the far bank, and perhaps a lone mallard will be sent away on whistling wings.

As the hiker slowly and regretfully walks toward his waiting car, he may realize that perhaps the greatest joy he's gained from his hike in one of the public hunting lands is the opportunity to simply sit quietly on an old log and contemplate the living Iowa wilderness as it thrives and multiplies, unmarred by encroaching civilization.



Pair of does are "surprised" after hunting season

Letters From Little Folk

The Iowa Conservation Commission receives dozens of letters daily, mostly seeking information about hunting, fishing, camping, boating, etc. Others pertain to technical or controversial subjects such as pollution, pesticides, and biological research studies. Most of this mail is answered quickly but occasionally a real "stumper" comes along:

Dear Sirs:

My name is Eric Crouch. I have some questions to ask about conservation. Please answer them.

First, I will ask about fish. What is the largest fish in Iowa? What is the smallest? Were there any world records caught in Iowa? Are you allowed to use marshmallows for trout and other fish bait in Iowa?

Next about lizards, snakes, and turtles. What is the most important reptile in Iowa? What is the most poisonous rattlesnake in the state? What is the largest lizard in the state? What is the largest turtle in the state?

Next, birds and amphibians. What is the largest bird in the state? What is the smallest? What is the largest amphibian in the state? What is the smallest? What is the largest frog, toad, or salamander?

I must close now.

Yours truly,
Eric Crouch

P.S. I am doing this for school.

Information and Education personnel conferred with other sections of the ICC to determine the correct answers. Several questions had debatable answers. For instance, size can be measured by length, weight, height, or even wingspan.

Mr. Crouch's letter was finally answered, hopefully, with some degree of accuracy.

Please kids, just stick to simple questions regarding pollution or biological research studies, huh kids?

Dear Smokey the Bear,

I would like to be one of your Junior Forest Rangers. I burn our garbage but I am careful.

We live by a timber and kids play with fire down there, but I do not. If you want me to I can stop them from playing with fire. I also can watch the timber for you. The kids also smoke cigarettes sometimes. Please send me a Smokey Junior Forest Ranger Kit.

Yours truly
Donnie

Dear Smokey,

I would like to be a junior Forest Ranger. Please send me a picture of you. I would like you to hang in my room so I could see you without going to Washington where you are.

Thank you,
Robin

Dear Smokey Bear,

Dear Smokey I like you. Why are you in a zoo? Oh, I know, you get into so

much trouble. What is your master's name? How big of a cage do you live in? I would like to meet you in person if I could.

I watch you every Saturday on the Smokey the Bear show. I like the littlest bear on the show. His name is Little Smokey Bear. He is so cute. I always laugh at him. He is very funny, and very sweet.

Steven

1970 FISHING SEASONS & LIMITS

There are a few changes in Iowa's fishing regulations which are effective March 1, 1970, through February 28, 1971. The most notable changes were the new trout and muskellunge regulations.

The daily catch and possession limits on trout were lowered from 6 and 12 to 5 and 10 respectively. These new limits are necessary because of reduced stock at state trout hatcheries.

Iowa will have its first full muskellunge season this year from May 15, 1970, to November 30, 1970. There is a daily catch and possession limit of one muskie. The muskie must be at least 30 inches long. Muskies have been stocked in Clear Lake, East and West Okoboji.

The minimum weight limit on paddlefish has been removed. Any size paddlefish is legal to keep.

The opening and closing date for the walleye, sauger and northern pike seasons in the natural lakes will be May 2, 1970, through February 15, 1971. There is a continuous open season on these species in all streams, all Missouri and Mississippi oxbow lakes and all artificial lakes. There is a combined walleye and sauger daily catch limit of five and a combined possession limit of ten. The daily catch limit of northern pike is three with a possession limit of six.

Kind of Fish	INLAND WATERS OF THE STATE				BOUNDARY WATERS
	Open Season	Daily Catch Limit	Possession Limit	Min. 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	None	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	5	10	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	Continuous open season. Aggregate daily catch limit 10; aggregate possession limit 20.
Walleye and Sauger	May 2 to Feb. 15*	Combined Walleye and Sauger 5	Combined Walleye and Sauger 10	None	Continuous open season. Aggregate daily catch limit 10; aggregate possession limit 20.
Northern Pike	May 2 to Feb. 15*	3	6	None	Continuous open season. Daily catch limit 5; possession limit 10.
Muskellunge	May 15 to Nov. 30	1	1	30 inches	Same as inland waters.
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.

*In all streams, Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, oxbow lakes and artificial lakes, a continuous open season for Walleyes, Saugers and Northern Pike shall apply. Where waters are located within the confines of State, County, City Parks or State Fish & Game Management areas, fishing will be permitted only when such areas are open to the public.

EXCEPTIONS: On all state-owned natural lakes, all angling through ice is prohibited between the hours of 8:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. In Little Spirit Lake, Dickinson County; Iowa and Tuttle (Okamanpedan) Lakes, Emmet County; Burt (Swag) Lake, Kossuth County; and Iowa Lake, Osceola County, the following shall apply: (1) Walleye—daily catch limit 6, possession limit 6; (2) Northern Pike—daily catch limit 3, possession limit 3; Open season on above fish shall be May 2 through February 15. (3) Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass—daily catch limit 4, possession limit 4. Open season May 2, 1970 through February 15, 1971. (4) Spears, and bow and arrow may be used to take carp, buffalo, dogfish, gar, sheepshead, and quillback from sunrise to sunset during the period May 1, 1970 to February 15, 1971, inclusive.

The possession limit shall not exceed 50 fish of all kinds in the aggregate except that the aggregate possession limit shall not apply to fish named on which there is no daily catch limit.

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