



August, 1971



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AUGUST, 1971

Iowa conservationist

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Cover picture — Entering the riffles below Chimney rock (below Coldwater Creek). More pictures of the Upper Iowa River on page six. —Photo by Ken Formanek.

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Iowa Conservationist

Vol. 30 August, 1971 No. 8

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 \$2.00
four years at \$3.50

Second class postage paid at Des Moines, Iowa. (No Rights Reserved).

Commission Minutes

June 1, 1971

Adopted segment of the Policy and Procedures Manual as presented.

Accepted a flowage easement on five acres in the Badger Creek Watershed, Madison County. Authorized the director to submit a request to the Executive Council for permission to condemn two tracts in the Walters Creek Watershed, Adams County.

Authorized the director to sign an option to lease a drilling site for an entrance to Cold Water Cave, after recommended correction of the present lease form.

Discussed repair of the levee on the Winnebago-Snyder Complex with a delegation from the Omaha Corps of Engineers. Requested from the Corps of Engineers a new estimate, including specifically the cost of clean-up and clean-out of the lake and construction of the levee and what participation, if any, will be expected from the state with regard to the costs of these items.

Approved the following County Conservation Board land acquisition projects as submitted: Jasper County, Mariposa Recreation Area Addition, 40 acres; Muscatine County, Salisbury Bridge Addition by condemnation, five acres.

Approved the following County Conservation Board development plans as submitted: Mitchell County, Halvorson Park; and Otranto Park.

Granted Lubben and Crane a dock permit with no restrictions other than past policies, it could be a commercial entity as long as it is public and granted for one year, subject to reapplication and Rule 55.

Approved for submission to the B.O.R. the Hancock County Conservation Board development plan for Eldred Sherwood Park.

Awarded a contract for construction of standard timber park shelters at Elk Rock State Park.

Awarded a contract for the construction of a water supply system at the Fairport Recreation Area.

Authorized the State Highway Commission to close a section of the road located in Mini-Wakan State Park, Dickinson County, for asphaltic resurfacing.

Awarded a contract for delivery to Otter Creek and dumping at areas designated, 4,100 tons of stone rip-rap to be used for dike protection.

Forum

Dear Editor:

After again reading the 1971 Iowa Fishing Laws Synopsis, one question comes to mind which I would greatly appreciate having answered.

Is it illegal to use scent oils on bait — for example anise oil?

L. E. Calsyn
Davenport, Iowa

It is not illegal to use "scent oils" for fishing, providing the substance used does not poison or stupefy the fish. —Ed.

Dear Sir:

I would like to go on record in favor of the park user fee as outlined in a bill in the legislature in the immediate past session. I hope it will be acted upon favorably in the next session.

In addition to this, an action I would judge as even more important for the life of our campgrounds and for pleasant camping conditions, would be to define camper locations for each camping unit and assign these upon camper registration. This would limit the number of campers, I suspect, but it also insures adequate space and sanitary facilities for all inhabitants. We have used Michigan parks which have both the park user fees and the assigned space system and have found the idea most satisfactory.

I assume the assigned space program would be an administrative decision for the commission. I urge you to give it full consideration for use next season.

Since drafting this letter, I've read of the commission's concern with maintaining discipline in the parks. I believe, certainly, that the two steps discussed in this letter would serve to eliminate some of these problems.

J. G. Greenleaf
Shenandoah, Iowa

Editor's note: The staff of the Iowa Conservationist hopes that you enjoy this new column. Readers are invited to inquire about, or express their opinions on matters pertaining to conservation in Iowa. The success of this column will depend upon your letters.



New Chairman

WILLIAM NOBLE, Oelwein (left) is the new chairman of the Iowa Conservation Commission. He was elected at the Commission meeting in Des Moines July 7. He is shown presenting a plaque to Earl Jarvis of Wilton Junction, former Commission chairman.

SEP. 24 1971

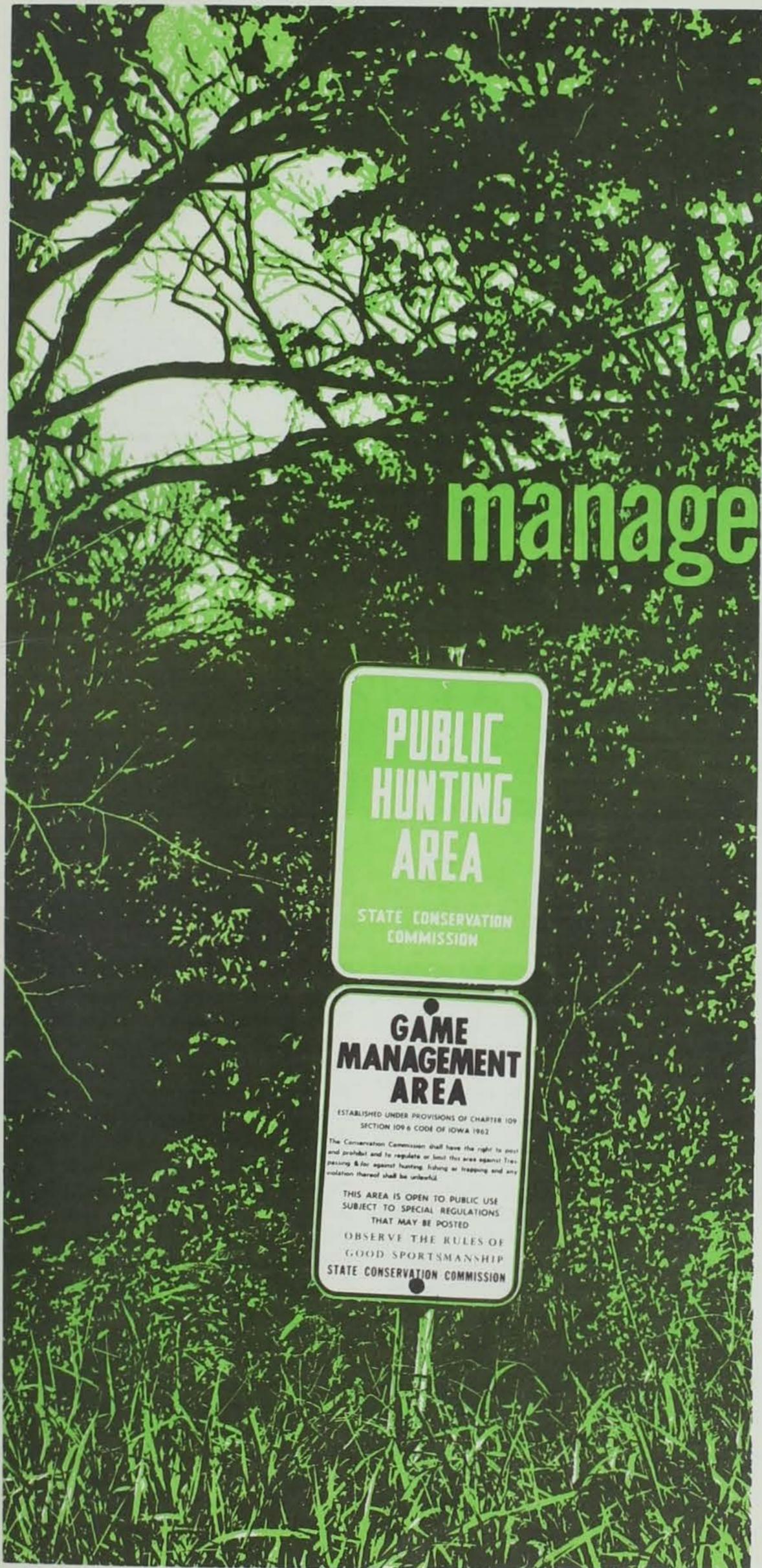
red rock game management unit

John Beamer

Management Biologist
Red Rock Fish & Game
Management Unit

A midnight land rush, an Indian treaty line, and steamboat landings are just part of the history of the Red Rock Game Management Unit. This land being developed by the Iowa State Conservation Commission is located at the headwaters of the Red Rock Reservoir. Its 16,235 acres make it the largest contiguous unit managed by the Commission. The scenic "River of Mounds" country offers many opportunities to people interested in developing a greater appreciation for the outdoors and of Iowa history.

The land located in the management unit came into the white man's hands on October 11, 1845. Prior to this date, a treaty with the Sac and Fox Indians prevented the crossing of the treaty line by the early pioneers. One of the landmarks of the old treaty line can still be seen from the





"Call flock" of Canada geese



mile long bridge on highway 14. This landmark is the red sandstone bluffs west of the bridge on the north side of the Des Moines river. These sandstone bluffs gave the name of Red Rock to the town located just east of them and later to the reservoir. In 1845, west of these bluffs was "Indian country." On the night of October 10, 1845 settlers gathered on the east side of this treaty line waiting for midnight to come. At the stroke of midnight, amid shooting and yelling, the land rush was on. Early pioneers with sharpened claim stakes charged through the darkness eager to claim their land.

Shortly after, in 1847, the town of Red Rock was founded. The land became settled and before long the rich bottom land had been cleared and crops were being grown.

In the early 1960's the Army Corps of Engineers began to buy this land in preparation for the construction of a flood control project. On May 18, 1967 the Iowa State Conservation Commission entered into an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers to develop for wildlife conservation and management purposes, 11,228 acres of this land. By April 1, 1971 this acreage under management had increased to the present 16,235 acres. The land is located pri-

marily on the flood plain of the Des Moines river but also included are several thousand acres of upland. The east boundary of the unit begins at highway 14 and ends approximately 11 miles west of the highway, near the town of Swan. Over 25 square miles of land are in this management unit. The bottom ground is subject to extreme water fluctuations. Fields where corn is growing this year were covered with 35 feet of water in 1969.

The primary goal of the Commission is to develop the land for the hunting of Canada geese. The land is well situated for such an objective. It is located on a primary flyway or migration route for Canadas. These birds nest along the western shores of Hudson Bay and back into the Canadian interior for over 100,000 square miles. The center of this area being near Island Lake, Manitoba. Band returns indicate that they migrate down the western border of Minnesota, follow approximately the Des Moines river southeast to Red Rock, turn south and continue on to Swan Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Missouri.

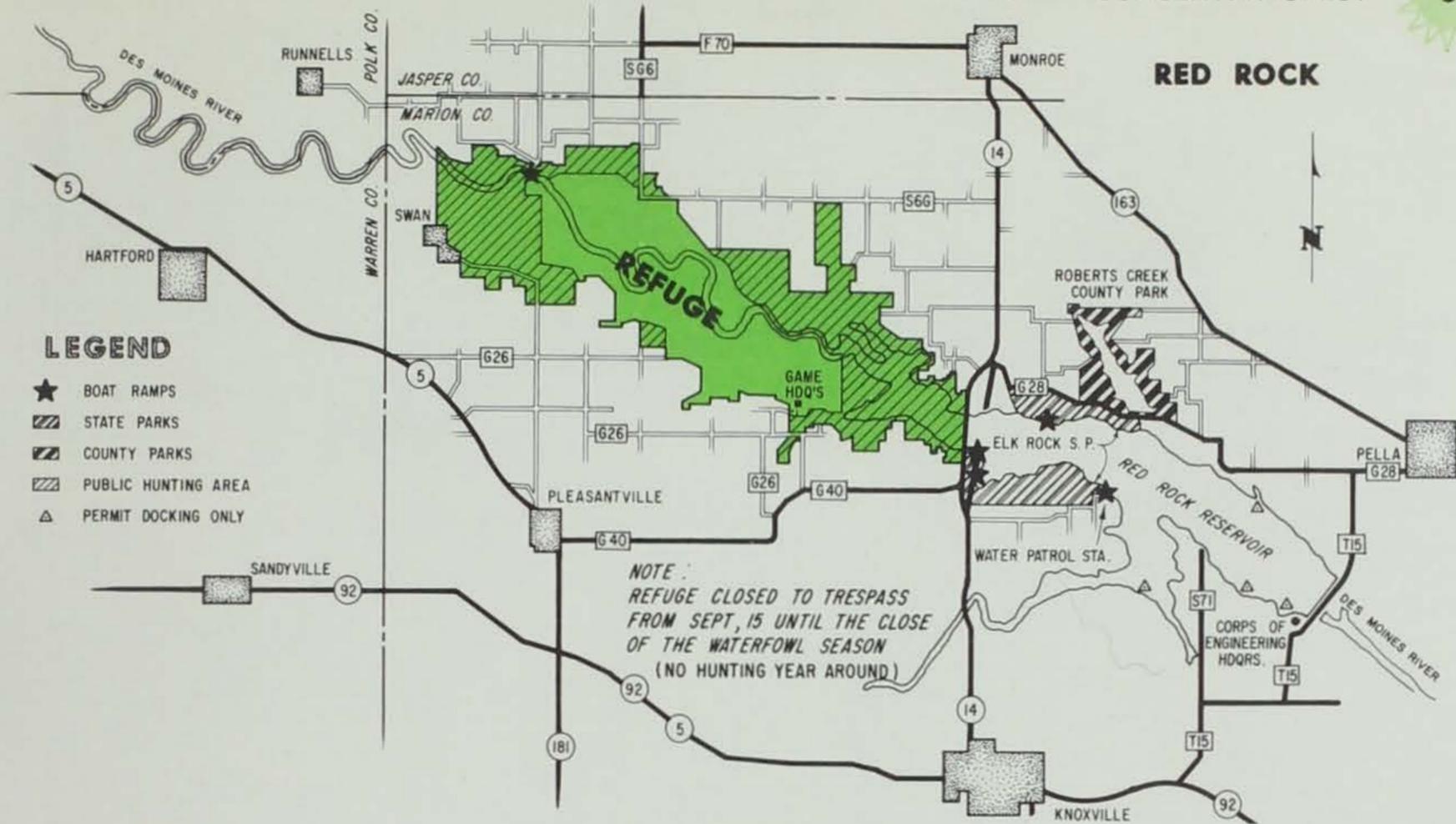
To attract these geese, hundreds of acres of winter wheat is sown. The lush green vegetation is waiting for the first arrival of the geese in late September. Also

included in the management plan is several thousand acres of corn and other crops to attract the geese.

The management is working. Last year a peak of 16,000 geese used the area for a total of over 800,000 use days. This is a giant step from the days previous to management when geese rarely stopped for long. To insure that these birds find the area attractive, a refuge of 8,047 acres has been established. This is strictly for the use of geese and ducks. No one is allowed to enter this zone for any reason during the period of September 15 through the waterfowl season. Only Commission personnel and cooperators harvesting crops may enter this inviolate refuge. A feeling of security must be afforded the geese if they are to stay for long periods.

In this area geese may stay for days without being annoyed by man. In addition to Canadas, blue geese, snow geese, and white fronted geese also utilize the refuge. Ducks by the thousands can be seen in the corn fields during the spring and fall migrations.

The hunter has not been forgotten in all of this. Approximately 8,200 acres of the unit have been set aside for public hunting. Both waterfowl and up-



land hunting are available. When a huntable population of geese has been established, controlled hunting of these birds will be allowed. The harvest of the geese will be managed so that an adequate resource base will always be maintained.

Fishing is also part of the activity on the unit. Approximately 18 miles of the Des Moines river meanders through the area. River fishermen hook flatheads, carp, and channel catfish. Farm ponds and old rock quarries provide bass fishing in water away from the river.

Several hundred acres have been removed from access by motor vehicle. In this area hikers can escape civilization for awhile and enjoy nature at their leisure. Several miles of trail are available just for walking and looking at the great outdoors. Here deer may be seen feeding in the hay fields or perhaps a fox may cross the trail in the distance. The call of the bobwhite quail can be heard and the soaring of a redtail hawk enjoyed without pressure to hurry on. This is a place for people seeking a brief relief from the stress of everyday living.

Camping is not allowed on the unit. An effort is being made to keep it in as natural condition as possible. The pressure of camping

would destroy part of the habitat for use by the wildlife. Camping is however, available just a few minutes away. East of highway 14, county and federal areas are available to those who wish to use them.

In addition to the waterfowl program, upland game management is also emphasized. A visitor will notice acres of contour strip cropping on the uplands of the unit. These contour strips are important for several reasons. They provide a maximum of edge cover for different wildlife species and excellent soil erosion control. By using this type of practice, food, cover, and nesting habitat can be provided in areas lacking these wildlife requirements. Normal agricultural crops are planted in these strips but part of the crop is left for wildlife use. Hay mowing in the strips is delayed until July 1 to allow young pheasants to hatch and move out of the way of the mower.

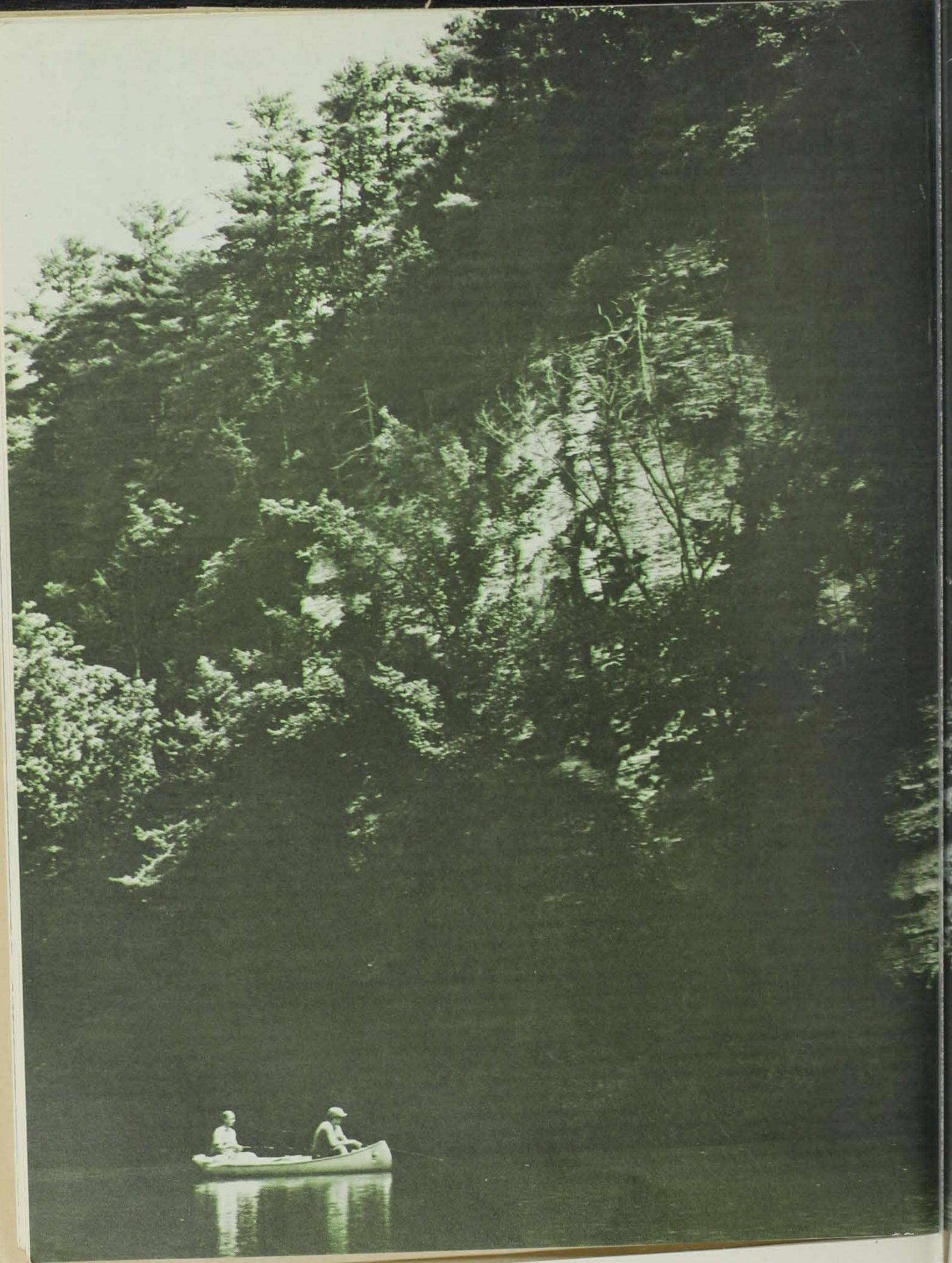
These upland game management practices also benefit other wildlife. People interested in bird watching will find plenty of activity on the unit — where ornithologists have counted over 220 different species of birds during the course of a year. This year is the first for a successful great blue heron rookery. By the first

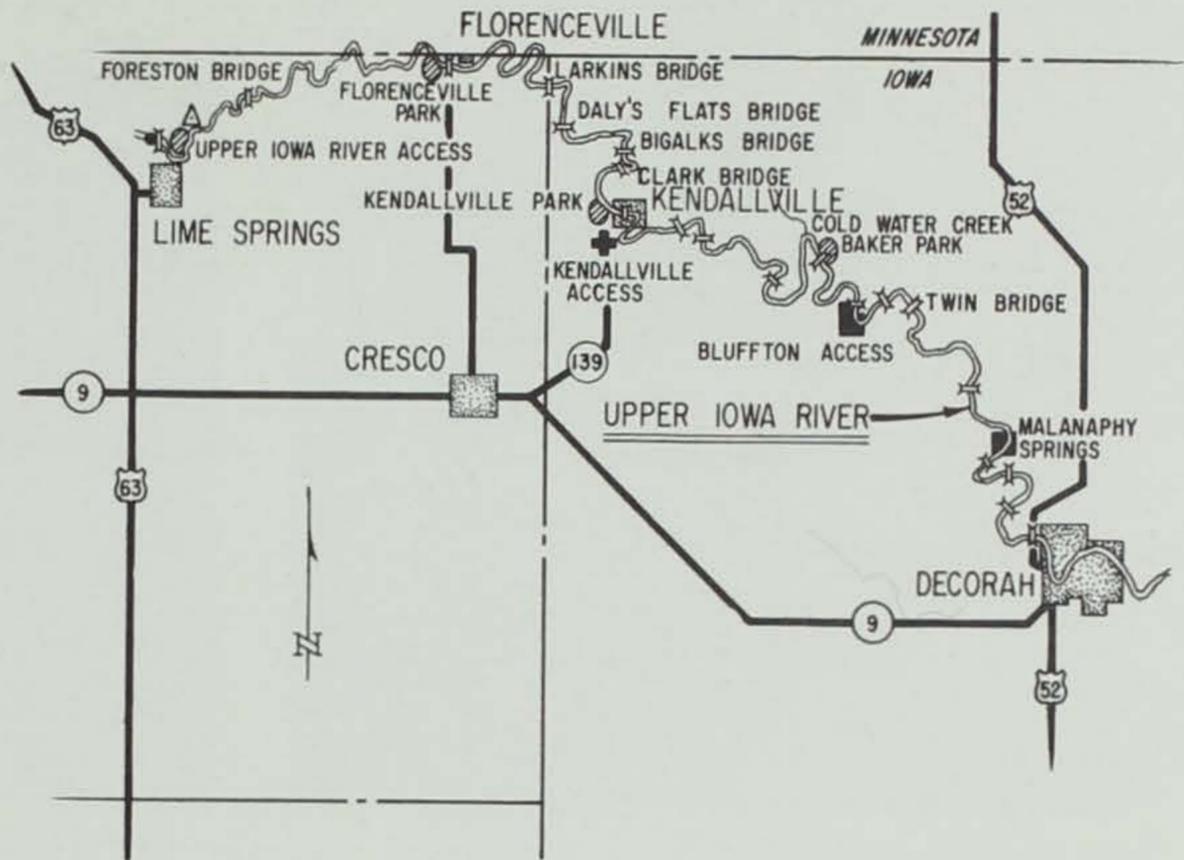
of July, young herons could be seen moving about in their nests. A turkey vulture roost can also be found on the unit. Bald eagles, osprey, and many kinds of hawks are seen from time to time.

For amateur naturalists visiting the area at least 54 species of trees, 62 families of wildflowers, 43 species of fish, and 35 species of mammals can be found to test their taxonomic abilities. A unique sand prairie is also found in the unit. It is at present under study by personnel from Drake University. Students from Iowa State University are studying the plant succession on the flood plain that had been flooded in 1969.

The history buff will enjoy locating old steamboat landings, former town sites, and old flour mill locations. It gives these people a chance to see the actual sites where events written about in history books occurred.

All of this is cheerfully and generously provided to the non-hunting public at no cost to them. Their benefactor is one of the first and quite possibly the most important conservationists of all. He has been buying land and managing it to provide wildlife for years. Who is he? THE HUNTER.

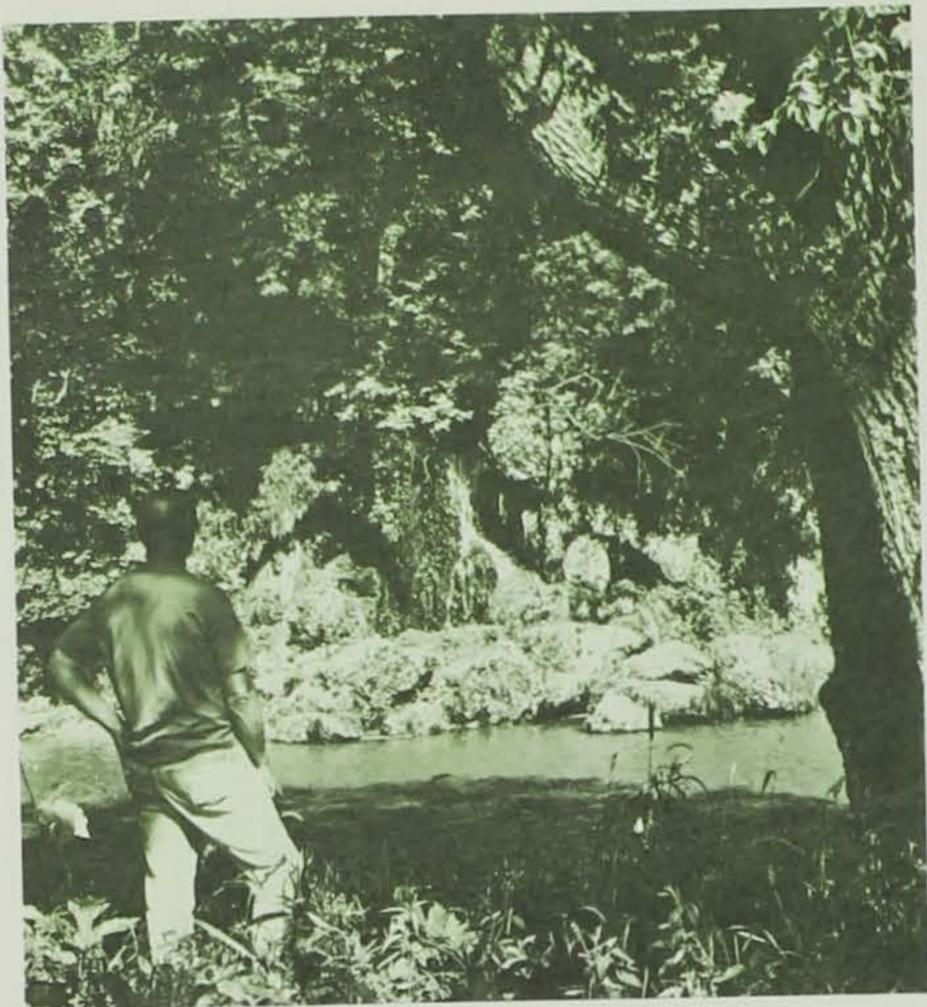




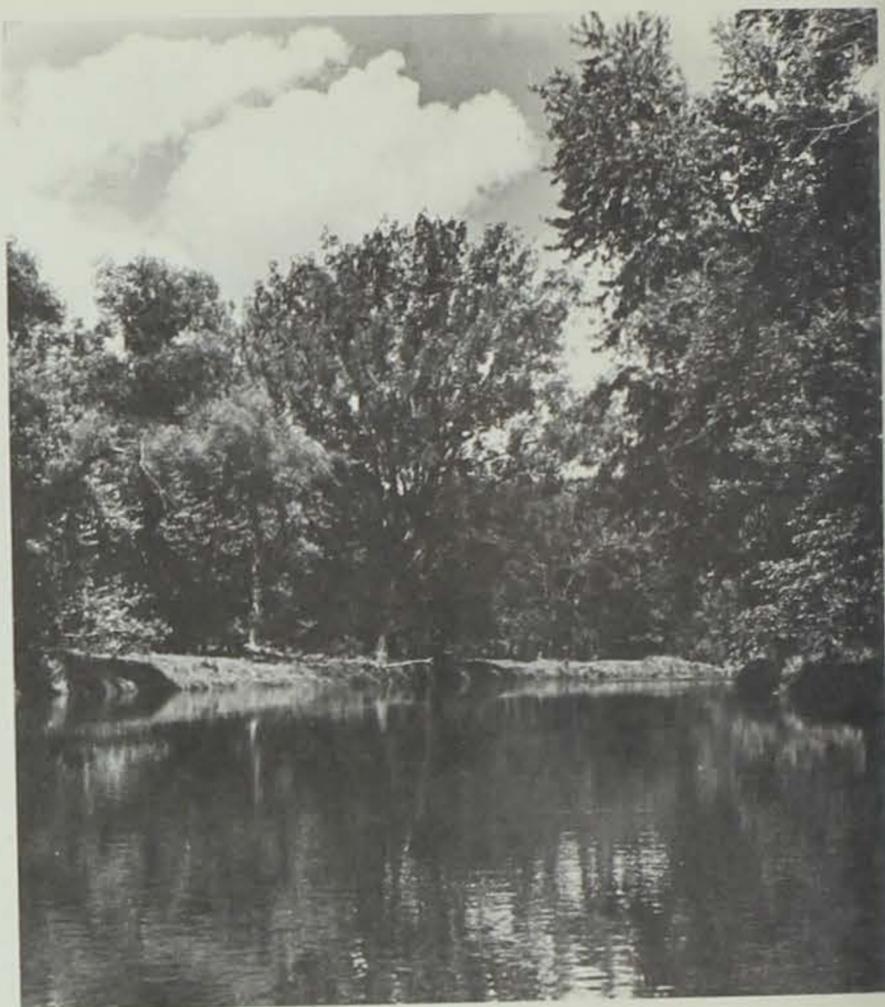
scenic stretch of the upper iowa river

The following photos indicate in part why the Upper Iowa river is the most popular float stream in the state. The scenes appear between Kendallville and Malanaphy Springs.

*Photos by Kenneth Formanek
Information Specialist*



A view of Malanaphy Springs (between Bluffton and Decorah)



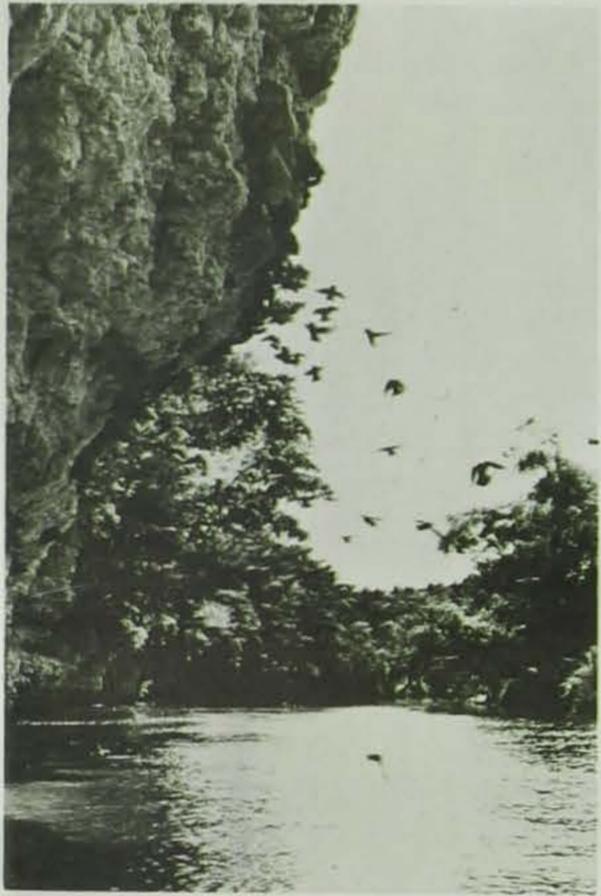
In places the river valley opens into wooded pasture and cropland. Here, the river slows to a lazy drift.



Bass fishing along massive bluffs (near Bluffton)



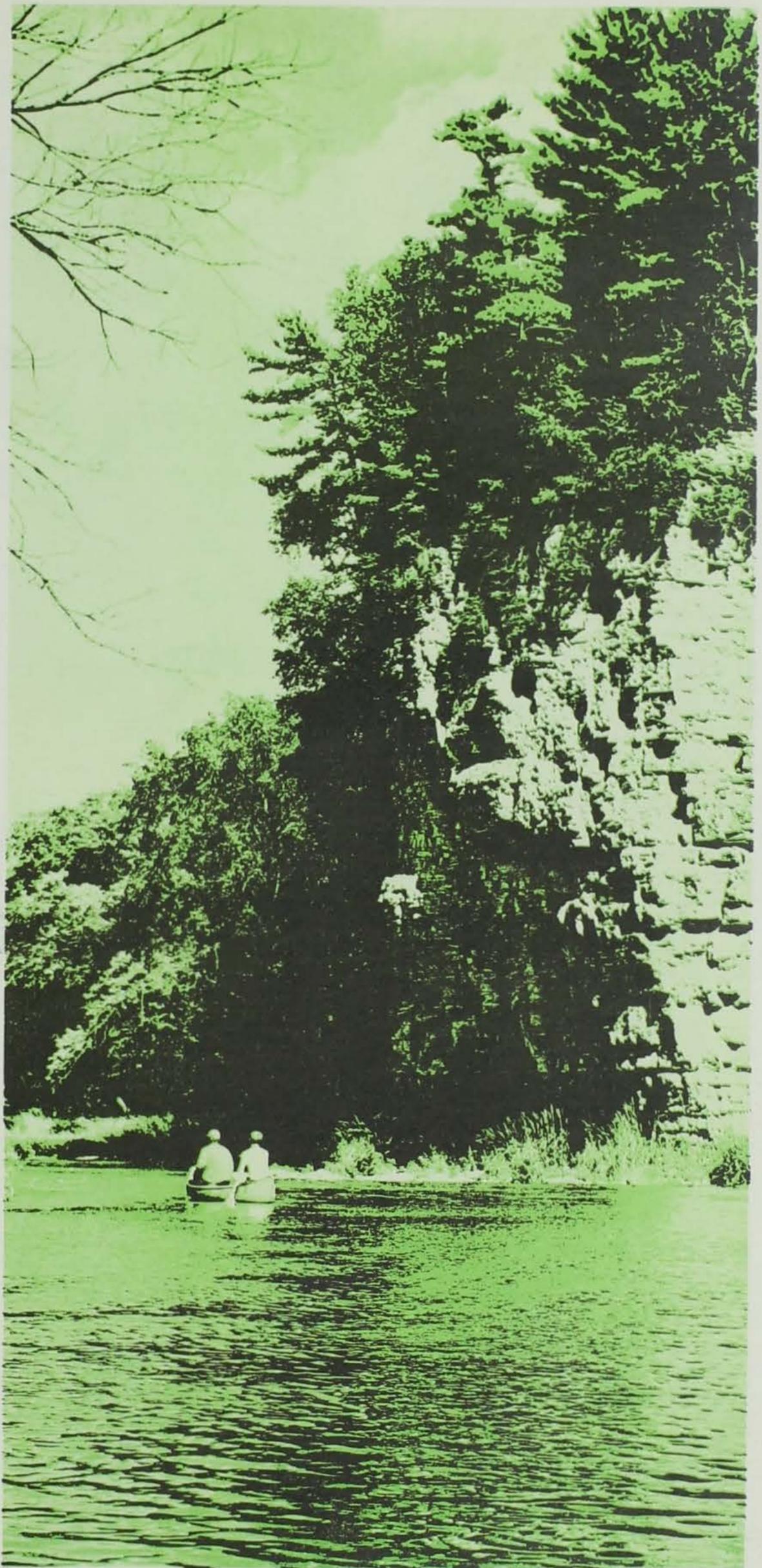
Groundhog peers out at canoeists from unusual cavernous home.



Several overhanging rock walls along stream appeal to colonies of cliff swallows.



Upper Iowa is an excellent smallmouth stream, also holds trout



Some stretches require much paddling, even wading during low water seasons.

Would you believe — In 1875, lake trout were stocked in the Des Moines River.

When Joliet and Marquette recorded the first written description of present day Iowa as a "high range of mountains," fishing was considered a trip to the store. But long before this first venture into the upper Mississippi watershed, the methods for taking fish had been established. In fact, fishing goes back to prehistoric times when it was a necessity for gathering food.

The first fishing gear was probably the hands, with the more convenient spear coming later. Millions of years ago, in another area of the world, early man's observation revealed that the aquatic creatures that served as food, fed raveningly upon each other. These early observations caused the idea of capturing fish by means of its own greedy appetite. This created the development of the first "fish-hook." It is believed that the first hook was not a hook, but a straight piece of flint, stone or bone with sharpened ends. The "fish-hook" would turn cross-wise in the mouth or gullet region of the fish and provide a means for pulling it out of the water. It is not known for sure if the first hook was baited or if it even needed baiting. The exact evolution of the present fishing hook is still a matter of doubt. Archaeological findings suggest that the later descendants of early man, who lived in the area of present day Iowa, used mostly curved bone-hooks.

Early Iowa is difficult to imagine. It was a prairie area of impassable thickets of brush and grasses that grew taller than most men. The area was cut into by many river systems that served as the main means of early travel. To the north, marshes and lakes formed oases from the jungle-like prairie.

It was in the northern lake region that the majority of the early Indians made their homes. These people relied upon the waters for their food. The main diet consisted of aquatic vegetation and fish. Fish were collected by



Modern hook is size number 1

Photo by Wayne Lonning

history of fish andis

Jim Layton
Information Specialist

means of the hands, spears, traps and bone-hooks. There were undoubtedly many different methods for capturing fish, but that which produced the largest numbers as well as being the easiest was used the most. Fishing lines and ropes were made from nettle fibers, basswood bark and rawhide. In Iowa, the most interesting archaeological find was a funnel-shaped fish trap that was formed from rocks in the Iowa River near Amana.

During the Black Hawk era in the early 1800's Indians and pioneers were known to have used fish as a large part of their diet. There are no exact records of the fish abundance during this period but many stories have been passed down from father to son.

When Iowa became a state in 1846, the need for conservation was only visionary as fish were

plentiful. Eventually it became evident that Iowa's wildlife needed protection and assistance from man. At this time, 28 years after Iowa's statehood, Governor Cyrus C. Carpenter appointed three state Fish Commissioners to handle the fishing resource. The Commission was appropriated \$3,000 for its first two years.

The three Commissioners met for the first time on May 8, 1874. In that Des Moines meeting, S. B. Evans became the first president; B. F. Shaw, secretary and superintendent; and C. A. Haines, treasurer. Also during that meeting, the superintendent was given the authority to build a state "hatching-house" and attend to all practical work of the Commission. The state was divided into fish districts with railroad lines forming the boundaries. It was decided that the rules from the

New York State Fish Commission would be used for distributing fish.

After the meeting, B. F. Shaw set out to "restore what had been lost and to enrich the waters of Iowa with new species." His first accomplishment was the building of a 20 by 40 foot, two story fish "hatching-house" near Anamosa. This first State Fish Hatchery served as a distribution center for the first fish introduced into Iowa — the salmon. During 1874 and 1875 with the help of the U.S. Fish Commission, Iowa waters were stocked with 600,000 California salmon, 80,000 Atlantic salmon and 5,000 land locked salmon. A letter from the Iowa Falls Sentinel in 1875 stated the current feeling about the first introduction: "Last winter the State Fish Commissioner sent several installments of California salmon

about 30 feet long and 20 feet wide at its widest part and 14 inches deep. With a minnow seine we made two hauls and took over 1,000 young bass, yellow bass, striped bass, crappies, sunfish, catfish and other valuable varieties."

The Governor responded to the superintendent's letter with an appropriation of \$1,000 for "facilitating the increase of the fish that are native to this state." With his money, Shaw chartered a small steamer and purchased a freight-car that was converted into an "aquarium car" for the distribution of small fish. Bass, crappies, sunfish, perch, drum fish, wall-eyed pike and others were shipped to 55 different counties by means of the railroad car during the first biennium. In two months during 1875, 319,000 fish were reported to have been

While the larger yellow wall-eye has been caught weighing 20 pounds."

As the pages of history turn, trial and error fish management served as a teacher. Iowans really thought they had something special when the highly prized carp was introduced into Iowa waters in the 1880's. The carp lived up to its expectancy of introduction success but later it was found that it interfered with native fish species.

Around the turn of the century a game warden was added to the Fish Commission to further strengthen the quality of Iowa's wildlife. As more conservation laws went into effect, the State Conservation Commission slowly developed. In 1917 the Board of Conservation was created to establish state parks and preserves. The Fish and Game Commission and the Board of Conservation merged in 1935 to become the present State Conservation Commission. From this, a Fisheries Section was appointed the responsibility of creating and maintaining quality angling through research, information and management.

Several years before the 1935 merging, a 25 year conservation plan was developed with the help of Aldo Leopold, J. N. Darling and many others to improve the quality of Iowa's natural resources. Included in this plan was a program for building artificial lakes. The original plan was to build artificial lakes about forty miles apart in all directions across the southern half of Iowa. Today Iowa has 5,600 acres of artificial lakes that provide some of the state's best fishing.

The present day fish management programs are based upon ecological studies that differ drastically from the early placement of fish wherever there was water. Exotic introductions such as the striped sea bass, redear sunfish, Kentucky bass and the re-introduction of the muskellunge are now taking place in Iowa waters. Could it be possible that there is now better fish and fishing in Iowa waters? The Iowa Conservation Commission thinks so!

fishing in iowa

for colonization in the Iowa River. Ad Wells put a lot of them into the large spring which flows into the river from his stone quarry. On Monday he brought a bucket containing several handsome specimens of the scaly foreigners. They have grown finely, and are apparently at home in Iowa waters."

The second State Fish Commission report tells of the first fish management program in Iowa. "The work that it is thought promises the best results, is that of taking fish from the Mississippi river sloughs, where they die in great numbers every season, and planting them in good living water in different parts of the state." In a letter to Governor Carpenter about this "matter of so grave importance," Shaw describes the findings from one slough; "The one selected was

redistributed. The fish were stocked mostly in streams but Clear Lake in Cerro Gordo County received 7,000 fish, Twin Lakes in Calhoun County 3,000, and Storm Lake in Buena Vista County 7,000.

During the early years of the Commission many different types of fish were released into Iowa waters. In one year Arctic graylings, eels, smelt, shad, lake trout, whitefish and many other species were being stocked with varying success. One interesting section of the first Commission report describes the native "wall-eyed pike," now known as the walleye. "There are two distinct varieties of wall-eyed pike, one called Jack Salmon is the most common and very abundant, especially in Spirit Lake and other north western lakes. It is never caught of more than four or five pounds.

The time has arrived when the outdoorsman begins to think about the crisp fall weather, the smell of gun powder or the "twang" of a bowstring, and the 1971 deer season. The heritage of deer hunting has deep roots in the lives of early pioneer families. Deer were important as food and clothing for the Iowa pioneer and the Indians before him. Today, deer hunting provides recreation and excitement by taking man back to memories of days when the country was wild and boys grew to manhood by providing venison for the table. Modern day hunting provides an escape from the hectic pace of living and a return through the smoke of yesteryear.

Deer hunting was closed in the late 1800's to protect a rapidly declining deer herd. During the early 1900's the deer herd began to increase with help from the introduction of new deer stocked by the Conservation Commission and concerned citizens. In 1953 the first modern deer hunting season was opened in 45 counties. Since that time there have been some dramatic changes in deer distribution and population size. Between 1953 and 1966 the deer herd continued to increase while providing many hours of recreation for thousands of hunters. In 1966 it appears that the herd stabilized its population but in years since has begun to decline slightly. To counter this decline the Iowa Conservation Commission decreased license quotas for shotgun hunters from 22,000 in 1967 to 18,000 in 1970. The slow decline in the deer herd has continued and further restrictions in deer hunting will be necessary now and in future years, if we are to allow the herd to build up to the numbers we know the habitat can support.

1970 SEASON

The 1970 deer season was the best on record in modern times. A total of 13,780 deer were harvested which tops the old mark set in 1968. One reason for this high harvest is that weather during the 3-day shotgun season was very good. The first day was

windy in most parts of the state but the 2nd and 3rd days were cool and sunny. Deer hunters in Iowa are very efficient as indicated by the high success ratio. The paid shotgun hunters enjoyed a big 48.6% success rate, or about one out of every two hunters bagging a deer. The landowner-tenants recorded a 25.9% rate with the bow hunters experiencing 18.3% success. Success in all three categories of hunters was above the average success rate for the 18 years of deer hunting since 1953. Of the 13,780 deer harvested in 1970, paid shotgun hunters accounted for 8,398 with landowners bagging 4,345 and bow hunters 1,037. Hunters reported crippling 3,142 deer but many of these were probably harvested by other hunters at a later time since very few crippled or dead deer are seen after the season.

The state was divided into five hunting zones for the 1970 season. Hunters in Zone 5 (north-central) were the most successful with 63.7% of them bagging deer. The largest number of deer were bagged in Zone 2 (south-central) which is the portion of the state producing the lion's share of the deer population. Counties with the highest harvest were Allamakee with 480 deer, followed by Lucas 422, Clayton 414, and Van Buren 405. A total of 39,933 hunters took to the field in pursuit of an estimated deer herd of over 30,000. The big factor in the harvest of 1970 is that hunters

deer harvest in 1970 IS TOPS

By Lee Gladfelter
Game Biologist

harvested 46% of the herd. This is the highest in deer hunting history and indicates that an over-harvest probably occurred. Evidence from the age data collected during the season lends further weight to this conclusion. This leads to a need for some additional restriction of hunters in 1971.

1971 SEASON

The 1971 season has thus been reduced to two days in all five hunting zones. The shotgun season will be open on December 4 and 5 this year. Shortening the season by one day in the major hunting zones should produce an estimated 10-15% reduction in the kill. The five hunting zones will be the same as in the previous two years, with the license quota for paid shotgun hunters also being the same — 18,000.

The bow and arrow season will also be different in 1971. It will open on October 16 and close on November 28. This will allow hunting during the Thanksgiving holiday. Then the season will reopen following the shotgun season and run from December 6 to December 12. This split season is shorter than in previous years but dates will correspond to more favorable hunting conditions and weather.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Shotgun

Applications for shotgun deer licenses will be accepted in the



State Conservation Commission office from September 1, 1971 through September 15, 1971 (applications received before September 1, and after September 15 will be returned as invalid license applications). Applications may be obtained from local Conservation Officers, license vendors, county recorders, or by writing to the Iowa Conservation Commission, 300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. The cost of the deer license will be \$10 and in addition all deer hunters must possess a valid Iowa small game hunting license (except landowners or tenants). A random drawing will be conducted to determine the 18,000 applications to receive a license. Those individuals who submit a valid application and do not receive a deer license will have their money refunded and will be given a certificate which guarantees them a license the following year (there are 4,788 such certificates that can be validated this year). Only one application may be submitted per person, and no party applications (more than one name per application) will be accepted.

Bow and Arrow

There is no restriction on the number of bow and arrow licenses to be issued. Applications will be accepted at any time before November 28, 1971 after which no bow licenses will be issued. The cost is \$10. Zones do

not apply to bow hunters — bow licenses are statewide.

Landowner-Tenant

These special licenses are issued without cost to landowners and tenants who qualify. These licenses will be issued by the State Conservation Commission, 300 Fourth Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. Therefore, if application is submitted by mail, allow two weeks for delivery. Applications for landowner-tenant deer licenses must reach the State Commission office by November 19, 1971 to assure applications of a license before opening day of the shotgun season. These licenses restrict the individual to hunting only on his property.

New legislation this year requires that only one license be issued to a landowner or tenant family and to receive this license the landowner or tenant must live on the land he owns or rents and plans to hunt.

QUALITY HUNTING

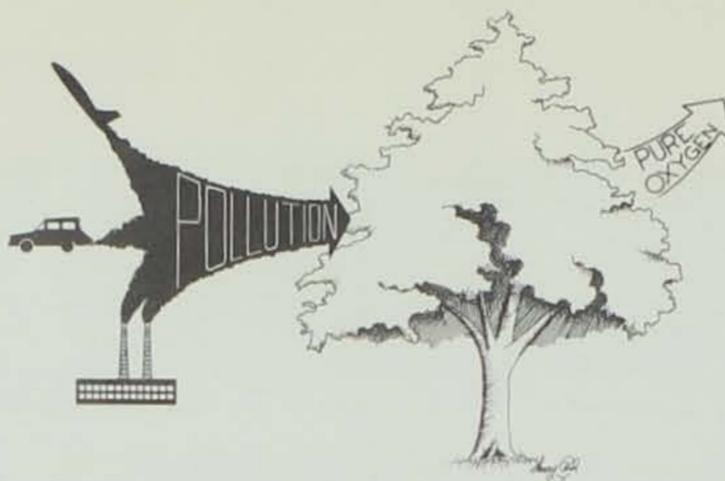
Iowa is certainly not famous for its quality deer hunting because of the necessity for such short seasons. To improve hunting quality by increasing season length and license quota, deer numbers must increase over present levels. This means that more restrictions may be necessary in future years to build up the deer herd. Consideration is being given to a diversified permit system that would allow the issue of a

certain number of antlered deer licenses in proportion to a number of any-sex licenses. This would shift some hunting pressure from the does and fawns which would allow the herd to increase at a faster rate. This method of hunting is used in many neighboring states and is considered a good management tool for building up a deer herd.

A suggestion for those hunters who are concerned about the future of deer in Iowa would be to encourage selective hunting this season. Look for and harvest antlered deer only. This could be encouraged by sportsmen clubs or traditional hunting parties by giving awards to the person bagging the largest buck deer. This would instill sportsmanship, pride and most important, add quality to deer hunting in Iowa while providing for an increase in the deer herd. The Conservation Commission issues award certificates to trophy size antlers taken during the open hunting season. Racks must be measured by certified official scorers for the Boone and Crockett or Pope and Young clubs and entered in Iowa's Big Game Record competition.

Deer are Iowa's only big game animal and it must be remembered that deer hunting is a privilege and not a right. We must have complete cooperation from the public to ensure protection and continuation of this valuable natural resource.

The Perfect Ecological Tool



What was the environment of your city this morning, of your home, of your office, of your backyard and of your farm?

People everywhere have become vitally concerned with the words environment and ecology as well as the total environment. Trees mean many different things to people, and as the population increases these differences become more pronounced, and take on a new importance.

Trees, to the homeowner, are aesthetics, beauty, home for birds, noise abatement, nature's air conditioner, water purifier, the play area, and the landscape of the community.

Trees, to the hunter, are the habitat for game, providing cover and food.

Trees, for the fish, provide a basis for food in the streams and lakes, filter the water temperature in summer and help maintain stream flow.

Trees, to the recreationist, are a place to hike on scenic trails; to study plant life, bird life, and animal life; a restful place to relax; shelter from the elements of wind and temperature; and a place to camp.

Trees, to the city, a watershed insuring a continuous supply of good water, and the basic requirement for a park or playground area.

Trees, to landowners and the public, are vital in preventing soil erosion, providing flood control

and an income from an investment.

Trees, to the woodland owner, are a raw material to grow and sell to industry, hopefully for a profit.

Trees, to industry, are a raw material for processing into items for trade.

Trees, to the wage earner, means a job to support himself or a family.

The tree and the forest are big enough in Iowa to meet all of these needs if we use the knowledge we possess toward meeting these needs.

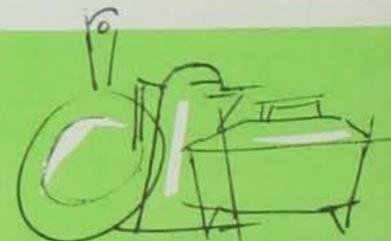
A great discovery has been made. It takes carbon dioxide gas and converts it into oxygen. It filters out of the atmosphere dust, dirt, pollen, smoke, odors and other air-borne particles. In addition it acts as an air conditioner. But, that's not all; it takes in polluted water and purifies it and recirculates the water back into the atmosphere.

The discovery, the perfect ecological system, a tree.

—Adapted from Georgia Forestry



Campfire Cookery *By Dick Ranney*



If you want to be the hit of the campground, fishing camp or back yard bar-b-que, invest in an old fashion hand crank ice cream freezer. Freezers are available at hardware, department, and some grocery stores. You can get them with trading stamps or better yet let some one buy you one as a gift. Ice cream freezers are light, rugged and quite inexpensive when you consider they will last a life time. They are a welcome addition to your camper, boating equipment or back yard patio. Ice is readily available and the rest of the ingredients you can buy at any grocery store. Homemade ice cream is simple to make and this cold delight will make you number one on the current people pleaser list.

Beat six eggs until they are fluffy, add 2½ cups of sugar and

continue to beat until the sugar has dissolved. Mix in ¼ cup of imitation vanilla, a dash of salt and one pint of thick country cream (whipping cream will do if your own private cow has gone dry). Add enough milk to fill the freezer can, leaving about two inches of space at the top for the ice cream to expand as it is whipped and frozen. Place the can into the freezer and attach the crank assembly. Fill the freezer with ice and salt as you turn away. There is a hole on the side of the freezer which must be kept open so the salt water will run out. If the hole plugs up you will have salt in the ice cream. Let everyone have a turn at the crank, you will be surprised how quickly the ice cream will freeze. When it reaches the point someone has to sit on the freezer so

you can turn the crank with both hands the ice cream is ready to eat. Remove the top assembly and gently raise the can up and down in the freezer. The ice will get under the bottom of the can and it will set up out of the salt water so you can serve. Wipe the top of the can with a damp cloth before you lift the lid. Be ready with a spoon, the first bite is the one that counts. It's darn near as good as licking the paddle which some say is even better than the first bite.

A word of caution if you should be called to the phone, or someone tries to send you to the store — don't go — when you get back you may find yourself turning the crank on the second batch. Would someone please get a bowl and spoon, this handle is sure getting hard to turn.

two small green gems

By Roger Sparks

Photos by Ken Formanek

When reading the list of Iowa's state parks it's easy to overlook the less developed areas. Because these parks, usually relatively small, offer fewer activities and facilities than the large ones, they seldom attract crowds.

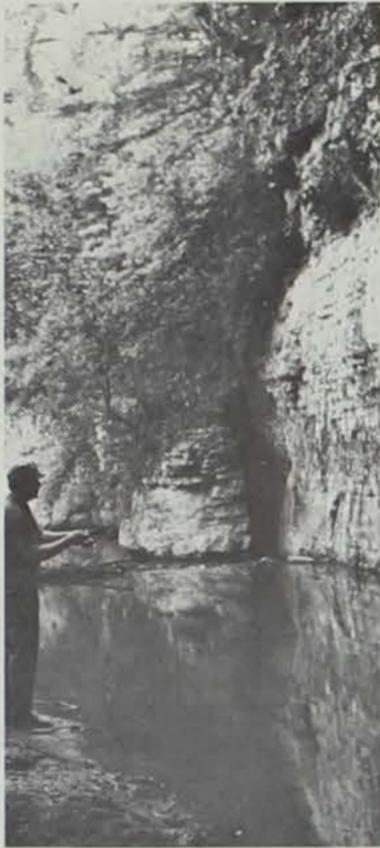
The modern idea of acquiring large park areas over 1,000 acres and implementing multiple use development plans is a good one. It provides space enough for many types of recreation. But it is impossible to provide everything everywhere, and total multiple use in small parks would result in over use ruining the scenic or historical interest qualities for which they were procured. These areas are intended to occupy a little different niche in Iowa's state parks system with a quiet appeal all their own.

Fayette county in northeast Iowa has two such parks, Echo Valley and Brush Creek Canyon. Both are typically small, quiet, out-of-the-way places offering a serenity often lost in the large, heavily used parks.

The road leading into 100 acre Echo Valley drops sharply into a wooded stream bottom where a 20 foot rock wall capped by a steep timbered hillside shades Otter Creek and the adjoining picnic area. This refreshing spot receives the most use, mainly from picnickers and fishermen. The stream is regularly stocked with rainbows and browns, and like Glovers Creek which also flows through the park, it is designated trout water (an Iowa Trout Stamp is required). Glovers Creek can be reached by hiking or by a public fishing access road entering the park just west of the park entrance.

The park road fords Otter Creek and splits — the right climbs to a hilltop picnic area, the left descends again to a third picnic area along another stretch of Otter Creek.

Like nearly all state parks, hiking trails are available for those who really wish to escape. The



Echo Valley



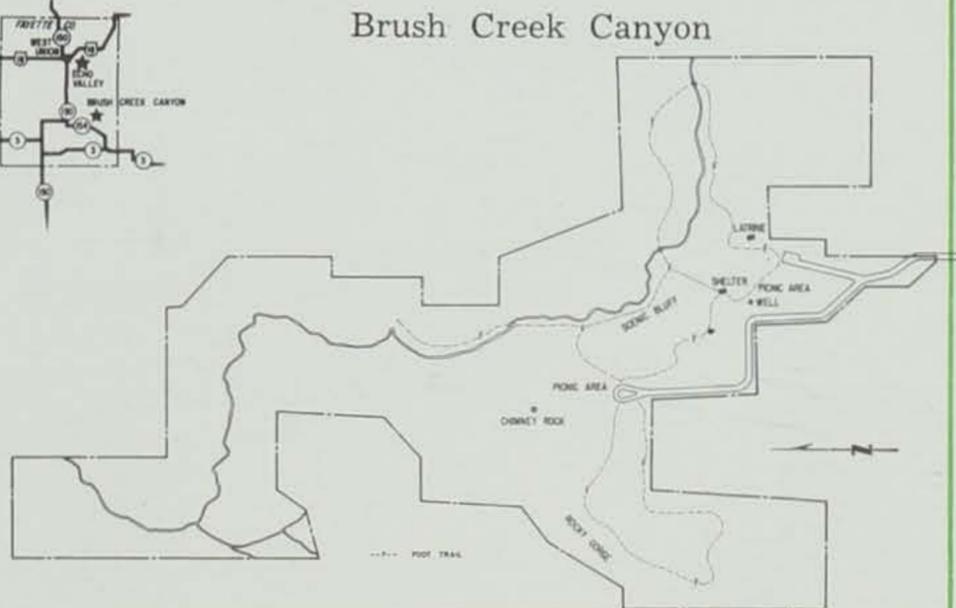
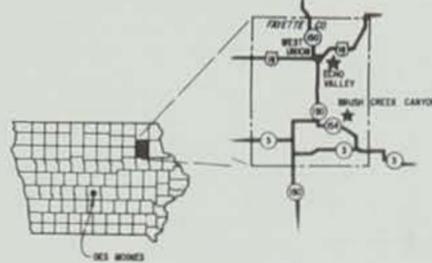
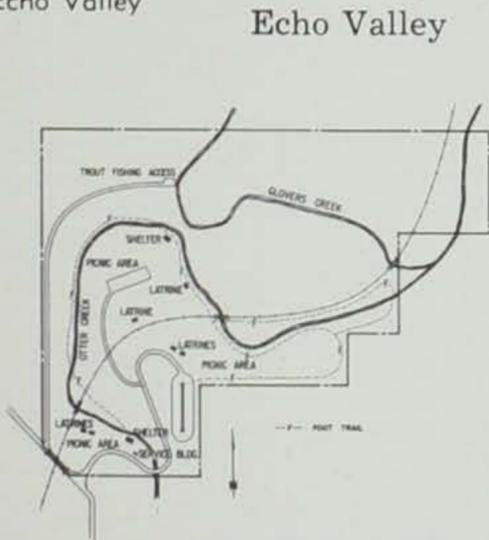
Brush Creek Canyon



Echo Valley

Echo Valley

Brush Creek Canyon



main trail in Echo Valley hops back and forth along the creek and except after heavy rains this small stream is clear and rocky as it twists around the valley. Echo valley is located three miles southeast of West Union off highway 56.

Brush Creek Canyon located about two miles north of Arlington has very limited facilities but is a hiker's delight. Exploring the trails of this 216 acre state park calls for some huffing and puffing. From the small hilltop parking area a 50 yard walk leads to a stone shelter overlooking the deep ravine. Several trails lead down to and along the small brush lined creek. Climbing over snags and rocks at the bottom of this timbered canyon is not difficult, but is rougher than a typical state park nature trail.

Catchable sized trout are occasionally stocked in Brush Creek, a designated trout stream, when conditions permit. Birds, animals and a wide variety of plant life are abundant in this area.

Neither park in Fayette county accommodates camping, nor do they have a place to boat or swim. But for those who want to enjoy a few hours of picnicking, hiking, bird watching and exploring these and the other preserve-like parks are just right. Sometimes it's pleasant to escape from the rapid pace of life and enjoy a little peace and quiet so often talked about and seldom found. These less developed recreation spots offer a pretty view, a little uncrowded shade, and a peaceful afternoon hike along a scenic trail. Don't overlook the little parks . . . they're a big breath of fresh air.

Early morning trout fisherman in Brush Creek Canyon —

