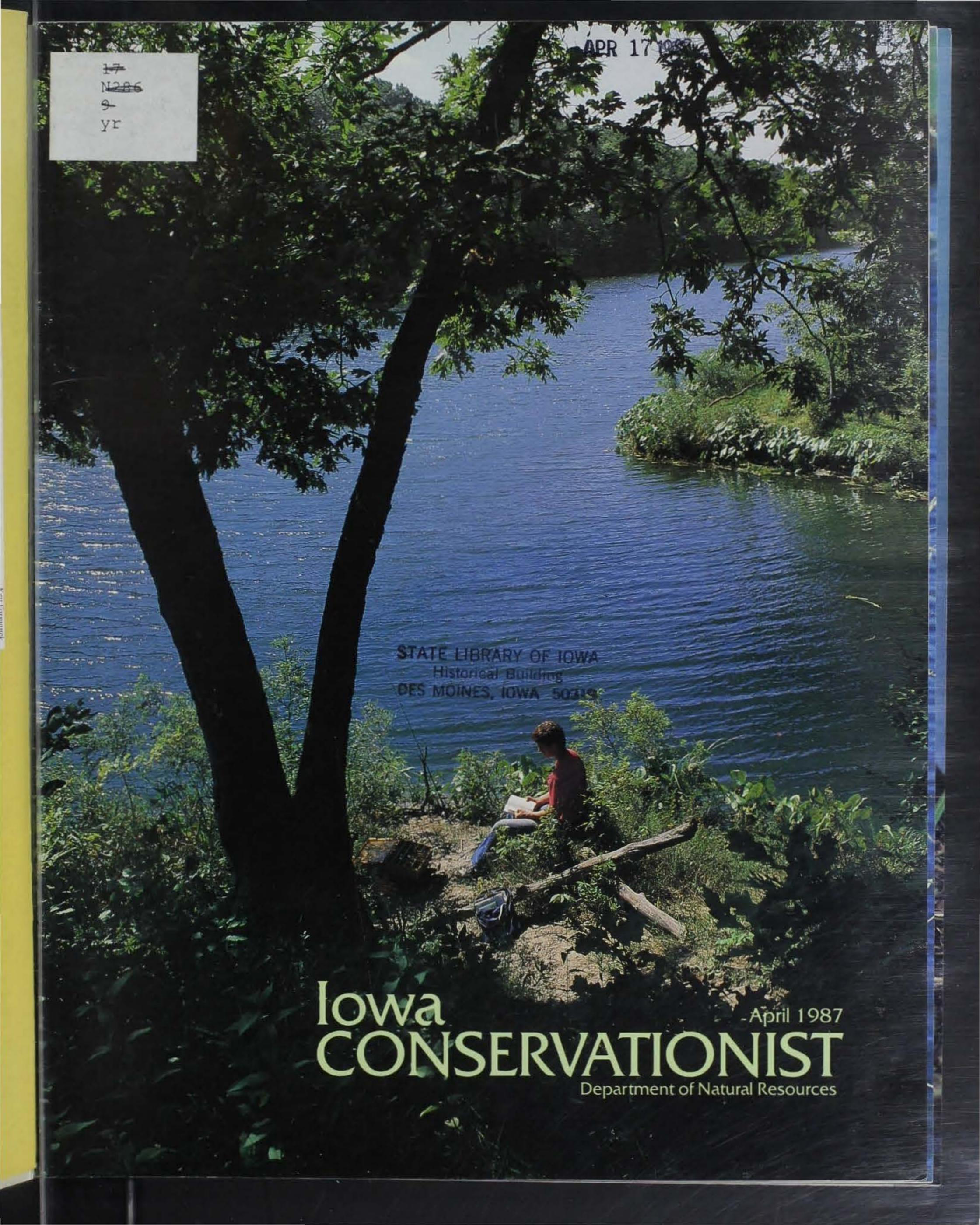


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Iowa
CONSERVATIONIST
Department of Natural Resources

- April 1987

VOLUME 46 NO. 4
APRIL 1987

Iowa CONSERVATIONIST

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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FRONT COVER: Fishing at Springbrook
State Park. Photo by Ron Johnson.

BACK COVER: Redbud tree. Photo by
Ken Formanek.

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Iowa CONSERVATIONIST (USPS 268-780), is
published monthly by the Iowa Department of Nat-
ural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, Des
Moines, Iowa 50319-0034. Second class postage
paid in Des Moines, Iowa, and additional mailing
offices. POSTMASTER: Send changes of address
to the Iowa CONSERVATIONIST, Department of
Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building,
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034.

Send subscriptions — one year; \$6.00, or three
years; \$12.00 — to the Iowa Conservationist,
Department of Natural Resources, Wallace
State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa
50319-0034.

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-1987-

Mild was the word for the winter
of '86-'87 and *wild* could be the
word for fishing this spring and
summer.

The notorious "fall" of '86 lasted
from September to April and as a
result no evidence of winter kill
was found in Iowa's lakes, ponds
and streams. On top of that, fish-
ing conditions were not good in the
spring of 1986 leading to a rela-
tively low harvest.

All of this could mean more fish
for you this year. To help you get
off to a good start, DNR fisheries
biologists have formulated the fol-
lowing forecast to give *Conser-
vationist* readers the edge in
fast-action fishing.

Southwest

By Joe Schwartz

Crappie

Crappie are one of the most
sought-after and popular fish in
southwest Iowa. Good fishing for
this panfish is expected on many of
our lakes, although Big Creek, Icaria
and Viking should be three of the
best. These popular lakes are always
dependable, and good quantities of
fat crappies should be taken there.
Fish close to shore in spring and early
summer, especially around sub-
merged sticks, rocks or tree stumps.
Move to deeper water as the season
progresses and the water warms. Try
protected coves, the face of the dam,
or marked fishing reefs. Weather and
runoff play an important role in
spring crappie fishing. Fishing is best
when water temperatures climb
steadily and passing cold fronts don't
send fish back to deeper water. Wet
springs often cause muddy water
and poor fishing. Best baits are small
leadhead jigs and live minnows.

Other good crappie lakes in south-
west Iowa include: Don Williams,
Hickory Grove, Twelve Mile, Nine
Eagles, Thayer and Meadow. These
lakes contain crappies that range in
size from 8 to 10 inches. Several lakes
including Meadow and Nine Eagles

Fishing Forecast

also have a few larger fish up to 13 inches. Small lakes like Meadow and Thayer tend to have earlier and shorter periods when crappie fishing is red hot. Anita had one of its better crappie catches in 1986 following several slow years because of a large 1984 year class. I look for this year to be as good or better because many 1984 fish are still in the lake and a good 1985 year class was produced. Anglers at Anita had excellent success on crappie last spring just as the ice was going off of the lake by fishing the edges of ice especially around boat docks.

The two big flood control reservoirs in the district could have good fishing for slab crappies if water conditions are right. Saylorville and Red Rock produce good catches when high, clear water is held in the reservoir and poor catches occur when they remain low and turbid. Fish stickups or the dam face for good results.

Bluegill

The outlook for bluegill fishing in the district looks better than usual this year because of the addition of three new lakes. Twelve Mile, Little River and West Lake Osceola have experienced very rapid growth in newly stocked bluegills. There are lots of 7- to 9-inch fish in these three lakes. In a year or two, pounders will be taken frequently. This year, however, the fish are typical of many of our older bluegill lakes. Other good lakes include Big Creek, Icaria, Anita, Walnut Creek Marsh, Viking, Greenfield, Meadow and Hickory Grove. All of these lakes have many 6- to 8-inch fish with occasional 9-inchers. This year, Hickory Grove should produce fish larger than normal. Surveys show a decline in bluegill numbers there has resulted in a larger sized fish than in past years.

Tactics for catching bluegill change as the season progresses. Immediately following ice-out, they can be caught with methods similar to ice fishing. Small lures tipped with live bait work well. Excellent fishing can

be had at that time in late May when bluegill are on spawning beds. Fish the plate-sized nests with a small piece of worm and bobber or small spinners, jigs or beetle spins. After bluegill leave the nests, you must follow to deeper water where drift fishing in a boat works best. Drift with the wind and suspend small artificial lures or live bait down 10 to 12 feet. Fishing the edges of weed beds in early morning or evening with small jigs or a fly rod and poppers works well also.

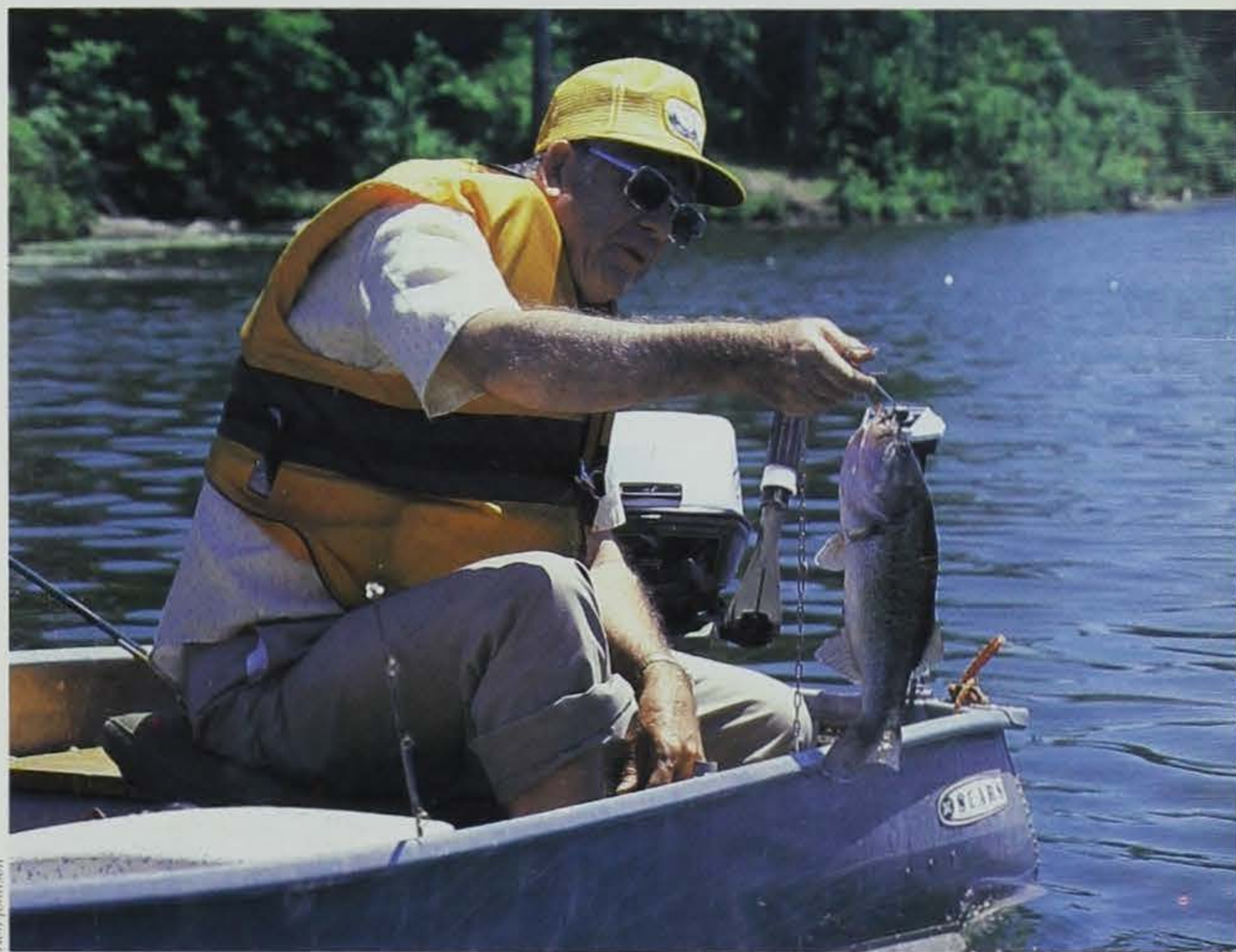
Bass

All of the lakes and ponds in the region have largemouth bass populations and any of the older lakes have the potential to produce a trophy bass for the patient angler. Anita, Nine Eagles, Hickory Grove, Viking, Icaria, Green Valley and Manawa all have good-sized bass up to eight pounds. Green Valley is unusual for Iowa in that it has an 18-inch length

limit on bass. Last summer's survey with the shocking boat showed half the bass sampled were greater than this length limit. If you want to fish the best catch and release, and probably one of the best bass lakes in the state, try Green Valley. We also have several lakes that are new or recently renovated that have good populations of smaller bass up to 16 inches. Twelve Mile, Little River, West Lake Osceola, Ahquabi, Rock Creek, Prairie Rose and Badger Creek are good lakes to fish if you prefer to catch a lot of bass rather than a few lunkers. Two final lakes produce good bass fishing at times, but tend to be too muddy for good fishing many years. Three Fires and Saylorville both have good bass productions, but frequently suffer from turbid water.

Walleye

Currently, we have two good walleye lakes within the district and two



Ron Johnson

more on the way. Big Creek and Icaria both have walleye up to nine pounds, but the most frequently caught fish are one to two pounds. Fish in both lakes are doing well, and I expect about the same numbers to be taken this year as last. Icaria has a good number of smaller fish present and fishing should be even better next year. Twelve Mile and Little River are two of our new lakes with walleye in them. For the most part, they are not keepers yet, but an occasional fish up to 16 inches will be taken.

River fishing for walleye in the district can be excellent at times. Best places are below Saylorville and Red Rock dams and in the Des Moines River above Saylorville to the Boone

County line. Last fall walleye fishing in the North Raccoon River was especially good in October and November. Best places were Jefferson to the Carroll County line. Several fishing riffles in county parks or about anywhere there was much rock on the bottom proved to be the best habitat. It should be good again this year with twisters being a preferred bait.

Channel Catfish

The southwest region of Iowa abounds with lakes and streams where channel catfish can be caught. The Des Moines River is one of the best, and summer fishing in any of the slack-water areas, pools and around snags will always product a nice stringer of one to one and one-half pound "cats." One of the best places in the district to fish for especially nice catfish is immediately below Saylorville dam in the fall. Other rivers are also good producers of catfish, and you might try the Raccoons, Nishnabotnas or the Grand for a river trip for catfish. Wading the smaller rivers from pool to pool is often productive, but floating in a small boat or canoe when water levels permit is highly effective and you can expect to take a nice stringer of "cats."

Most of the lakes in the region provide good to excellent catfishing because all are stocked heavily with hatchery fish annually. Several of the lakes with bigger fish are Green Valley, Icaria, Viking and Big Creek.

Favorite baits for catfish include sour shad (immediately after ice-out) and prepared stink bait, nightcrawlers, chicken liver and cut fish later in the season. Best fishing is after dark.

Bullheads

We have several lakes that have large populations of bullheads, but they tend to be on the small size. Most are 6 to 8 inches and if you are interested in catching a bucketful, you might try Prairie Rose, Twelve Mile, Rock Creek or Green Valley. Badger Creek has a few monster bullheads if you want big ones. Fishing tends to be slow, but the fish are big.

Other Species

Northern pike fishing can be exceptional below Red Rock and Saylorville early in the spring. Use twisters with a steel leader for best success.

Flathead catfishing is good on all of our larger rivers. On the Des Moines try below Saylorville, above Saylorville to the Boone County line, and in Red Rock Lake. In the past several years, the Missouri River has produced lots of flatheads along its full length. Best fishing is immediately off the end of wing dikes using green sunfish for bait.

Wipers, a hybrid between white bass and ocean striped bass, continue to provide good fishing from Saylorville upstream to Fort Dodge. Leadhead jigs and twister tails work well for this fish.

Tiger muskies have been stocked in all of our state and county public fishing lakes larger than 100 acres. Occasional large fish are hooked each year by surprised crappie, walleye or bass anglers. If you specifically want to catch a tiger musky, try Manawa or Nine Eagles because these two lakes seem to provide the most fish.

White bass fishing is truly spectacular at times on the Des Moines River. These fish run upstream from Red Rock in May and many fish are caught within the city limits of Des Moines. Best fishing is from Red Rock Reservoir to Scott Street Dam. Try fishing from sandy bars, and a good way to tell if the fish are running is to look for large numbers of fishermen. Minnows, jigs, spinners and small spoons work well as bait. White bass fishing can also be good at times in Red Rock. Try fishing the face of the dam or Robert's Creek Dam if water is flowing into Red Rock.

For additional fishing information contact: Fisheries Biologist, Iowa DNR, Cold Springs State Park, Lewis, Iowa 51544; 712/769-2587.

Joe Schwartz is the southwest district fisheries supervisor located at Lewis.



Ron Johnson

Southeast

By Steve Waters

Largemouth Bass

Mississippi River anglers reported that the 12-inch minimum size limit on bass has meant a greater number and larger sizes of bass caught. As with most angling on the Mississippi, water clarity and water levels will dictate angling success. Top bass areas in the southern reach of the river are Big Timber, Cleveland Slough, Hidden Acres and Bogus Island backwaters in Pool 17; Huron Island and lower Burnt Pocket backwaters in Pool 18; Burlington Island, riprap shores, and stream mouths in Pool 19. Recent DNR bass radio tagging studies show that river bass are seldom far from cover. Therefore, fishing *close* to structure and cover will produce the most action.

Coralville Reservoir (Johnson County) and Pleasant Creek (Linn County) are lakes of a "different color," but both will produce excellent fishing. Coralville's fishing success is directly related to water level and clarity. When water conditions are good, tons of action can be expected from the many 12- to 18-inch bass that live along the rock ledges, points and bays. Pleasant Creek bass run bigger (lots of 16- to 20-inch fish) in this crystal clear impoundment. After spring warm-up, fishing in the deeper water seems to produce best results.

Top bets for bigger size bass are Rathbun Reservoir (Appanoose County) and Lakes Darling (Washington County) and Hawthorn (Mahaska County). Additional top bass lakes include Miami (Monroe County), Odessa (Louisa County), Iowa (Iowa County) and Geode (Henry County).

Crappie

Coralville Reservoir, Rathbun Reservoir and Lake Odessa will be the top crappie impoundments in terms of numbers and size. Fisheries

surveys by DNR biologists have shown lots of 8- to 12-inch fish available to the angler. Otter Creek (Tama County) and Lake Macbride (Johnson County) will produce good catches of 8- to 11-inch fish and 7- to 8-inch fish will dominate the catch at Lakes Miami, Wapello (Davis County), Darling (some 11 to 14-inch fish remain) and Hawthorn. The Mississippi River's backwater and running sloughs are always top choices for quality size crappie.

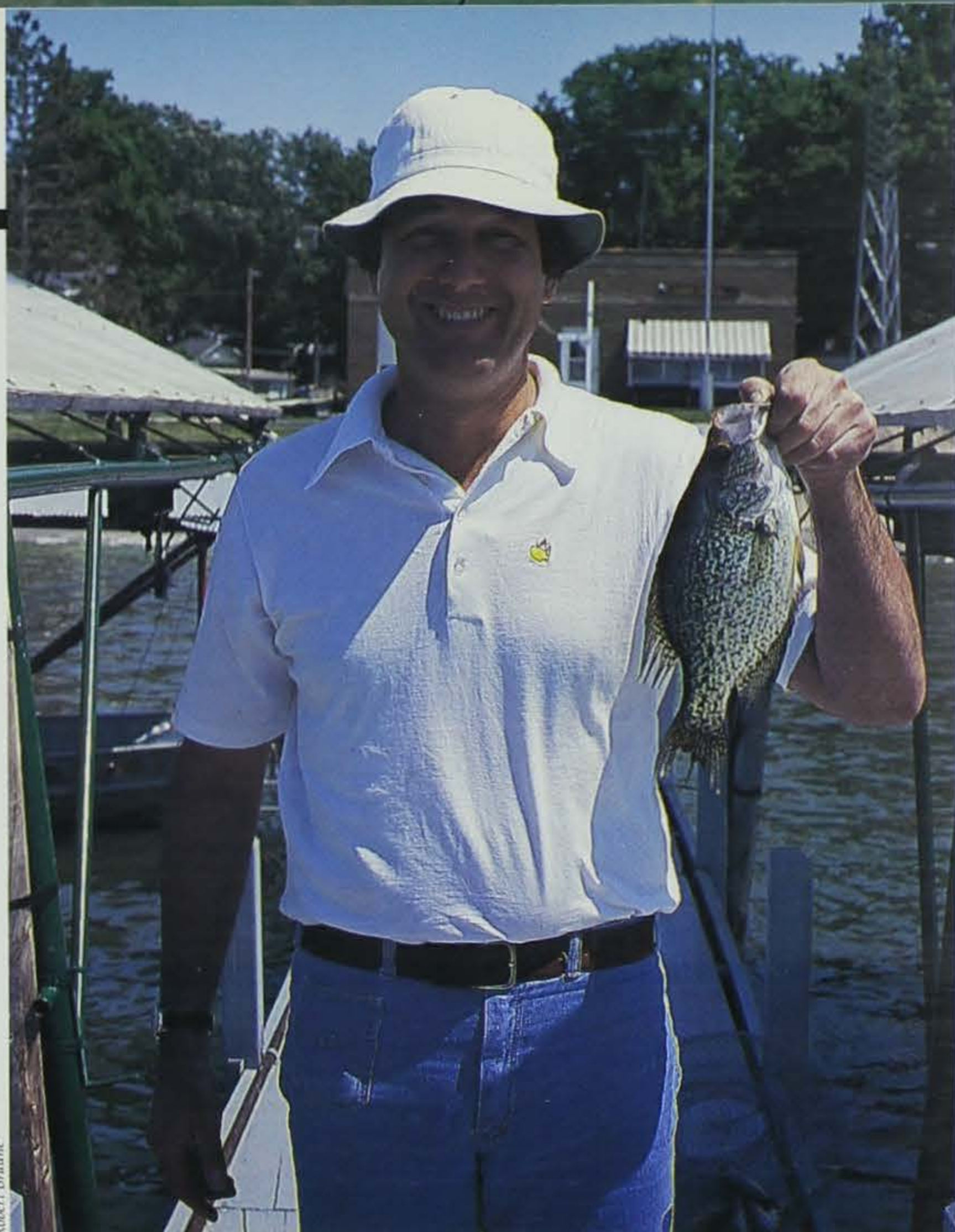
Late April through mid-May are peak times to catch crappie in Iowa. The fish usually favor warmer, shallower water at this time. Leadheads (1/64 to 1/16 ounce), leadhead and bobber combinations, and minnows are good baits near structure. As the season wears on, crappie will move away from the shore and can be caught at variable depths. Drift fishing or still fishing near underwater structures using minnows or jigs pro-

duces fine catches of excellent eating crappie.

Bluegill

Survey netting reveals that Lake Odessa will have another banner year for bluegill up to 8 inches. Fish at stump fields or fallen trees throughout Sand Run, Yankee Chute and the main lake area. Red Haw Lake (Lucas County) will again produce excellent catches of 7- to 9-inch fish and 10-inch trophies are available to seal a memorable trip. The Mississippi River is always a great bluegill area. Look to the same areas in which good bass and crappie angling exists.

Additional lakes in which 6-inch plus bluegill can be readily taken are: Miami; Shimek Forest Ponds 1, 2 and 3 (Van Buren and Lee Counties); Lake of the Hills, Lambach, Bluegrass, Railroad (Scott County); and Lake Wapello.



Robert Braune

Channel Catfish

Southeast Iowa is a paradise for channel catfish anglers. The cage catfish and maintenance stocking programs have established excellent catfish populations in almost all Iowa lakes. The following lakes are guaranteed catfish havens: Rathbun (all sizes including many lunkers), Miami, Wapello, Morris (Lucas County), Darling, Odessa, Geode, Pollmiller (Lee County), Belva Deere (Keokuk County), Iowa, Coralville Reservoir and Rodgers (Benton County).

A 1984 increase in the minimum commercial harvest size for channel catfish on the Mississippi River is working. A monitoring program run by DNR biologists has shown a healthy number of eight to 11-inch fish in several pools, produced by the protected spawners. This will mean more fish on the stringer for sport anglers.

The fastest fishing for one to three pound size fish will occur during the hot weather of August and September. Fish stinkbaits and nightcrawlers above wing dams and riprapped islands for best results. The biggest fish are caught during the June

spawning period in shallow rock areas and stump fields. Also, don't overlook the interior rivers. The Wapsi, Skunk, Cedar, Des Moines and Iowa are excellent rivers to find a secluded spot in which to fill a stringer and enjoy nature. Remember, harvest limits in inland streams have been raised to allow increased harvest of these abundant fish.

Walleye

The Mississippi River has to be one of the best walleye and sauger fisheries anywhere. Peak fishing times for tailwater angling are the March-April and December-February periods. Wing dams usually produce good catches from late spring through early fall. Although one to three-pound fish dominate the catch, trophy size fish are readily available. Top impoundments for walleye are Rathbun and Macbride (Johnson County). Many anglers feel that several state record fish are haunting Rathbun Reservoir and a trophy catch is often the rule. Macbride's walleye average two to three pounds and are most often taken on crankbaits and jig and minnow combinations.

Carp

A growing fishery in southeast Iowa, this species is popular because it will take a variety of baits, attains a large size, is a powerful fighter, and has a palatable flesh. Worms or doughball are the standard baits, but kernels of sweet corn (canned or fresh) will often take care when other baits are not working. Use cornmeal to make basic doughball baits, then add artificial flavorings of your choice (cinnamon, strawberry and licorice). Construct a teardrop-shaped ball on No. 8 spring treble hook and then kick-back and wait for the fun to begin.

All rivers have carp populations, which can provide good angling. Fish the lower end of sandbars and slack water habitat. The best choices for lake angling are Darling, Odessa, Rathbun and Coralville.

Other Species

Although several of southeast Iowa lakes have received *tiger musky* stockings, Hawthorn and Rathbun have the best populations. Creel clerks at Hawthorn and walleye brood netting crews at Rathbun both



Wayne Lanning

report good numbers of trophy size fish.

Bullhead enthusiasts will want to include trips to Darling (6- to 9-inch), Odessa (8- to 12-inch) and river backwater areas to catch this cooperative fish. The fish are most cooperative in the early spring.

The Skunk (Keokuk, Washington, Jefferson, Henry and Des Moines Counties), Iowa (Louisa County), Cedar (Louisa County) and Wapsipinicon (Clinton and Scott Counties) Rivers are favorites for *flathead catfish* anglers. Large dead chubs (6- to 8-inch) or a gob of worms work well. Fish deep holes in summer and fall and around bridge pilings for trophy fish.

White bass angling should be great at Rathbun, Coralville and the Mississippi River. Most fish will range from 10 to 15 inches, and this spirited fish is often found in arm-tiring numbers.

Paddlefish snagging is most productive in the Mississippi River tailwaters and below dams at Oakland Mills (Skunk River) and Ottumwa (Des Moines River).

Farm Ponds

Farm pond fishing for largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish is so productive that it warrants special attention. These mini-lakes produce more trophy size fish than any other water area. Because of their small size, they are the first areas to warm up; thus, they are great places to begin the new fishing season. Keep in mind you will be fishing on private property, which requires owner's permission and the utmost respect is due the landowner and his property.

Please remember that the Iowa Department of Natural Resources is here to assist you. If you would like additional fishing information, contact: Fisheries Biologist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Rural Route #1, Brighton, Iowa 52540; telephone 319/694-2430.

Steve Waters is the southeast district fisheries supervisor located at Brighton.

Northeast

By David Moeller

Channel Catfish

One of the most abundant and desirable species of fish in northeast Iowa is the channel catfish. Catfish are particularly abundant and actually underharvested in most of the larger streams. Some of the best catfishing rivers in northeast Iowa are: Cedar River in Black Hawk, Bremer, Chickasaw and Floyd Counties;

populations. Some fine catfishing is available at Casey Lake, George Wyth Lake, Greenbelt Lake, Lake Meyer, Lake Hendricks, Meyers Lake and Volga Lake. Anglers are reminded that the catch limits for lake catfish remain the same as in past years: 8 daily and 16 in possession.

Walleye and Sauger

The fish species most highly prized and preferred by northeast Iowa anglers is the walleye. Walleyes hold this prestigious status for good reasons — they grow to trophy sizes,



Ken Farnham

Maquoketa River below Manchester in Delaware, Jones and Jackson Counties; the entire Mississippi River; Shell Rock River in Butler County; Turkey River in Clayton County; Upper Iowa River below the Lower Dam in Winneshiek and Allamakee Counties; and the Wapsipinicon River in Buchanan County. Catches of river catfish typically consist of $\frac{3}{4}$ to 2- $\frac{1}{2}$ pound fish — however, there are lots of them. Larger fish up to and over six pounds are also frequently caught.

Catfish anglers should not overlook some of the fine catfishing available in our northeast Iowa lakes. Catfish rarely reproduce in lakes; thus, stockings of large fingerlings are made annually to maintain high

frequently are challenging to locate and catch, and they are unexcelled in quality on the dinner table. Undoubtedly, the largest population of walleyes in Iowa is found in the Mississippi River in northeast Iowa. Mississippi River walleyes are rarely found very far from flowing water and spend the vast majority of their time in the tailwaters immediately below the navigation dams, along the main channel borders, and flowing side channels.

Mississippi River walleyes grow to large sizes. A typical limit of walleyes will contain fish from 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ to 4- $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds; however, a good number of fish in the six to eleven-pound category are creelied each year. Many anglers expect that a new state record

walleye could come out of the Mississippi River at any time. Your best bet for catching a trophy-sized walleye comes in the early spring just after ice-out. Adult walleyes congregate in large numbers in the tailwaters below the locks and dams just prior to spawning. These large fish seem eager to fill their bellies before getting into spawning activities, and limits containing some real lunkers are fairly common. Fishing your bait or lure right on the bottom is important as river walleyes rarely suspend mid-water. Jig-and-minnow, minnows on a three-way rig, sonars, and leadheads with twister tails worked slowly on the bottom work well. From early summer to fall, the walleye frequently hang out in flowing side-channels, on the rock wing dams along the main channel, and along riprapped areas. Crank baits, imitation minnow plugs, nightcrawlers and jigs with or without a minnow are favorite producers. When fishing wing dams and riprapped areas, make sure to bounce your offering right on the rocks. The late fall and winter months frequently find the walleye again in the tailwater areas. These tailwaters rarely freeze over in the winter due to the turbulence caused by the navigation dams and hardy boat anglers who brave the cold are often rewarded with some fine walleye fishing.

Several of northeast Iowa's inland rivers also produce some fine walleye catches. Some of these better rivers include the Cedar River in Black Hawk, Bremer, Chickasaw and Floyd Counties; the Shell Rock River in Butler, Bremer and Floyd Counties; the Wapsipinicon River in Buchanan County; and the West Fork Cedar River in Butler County. While these river walleye populations are much smaller in comparison to the Mississippi and limits of walleyes are uncommon, each of these smaller rivers product some real trophy walleyes in excess of ten pounds annually.

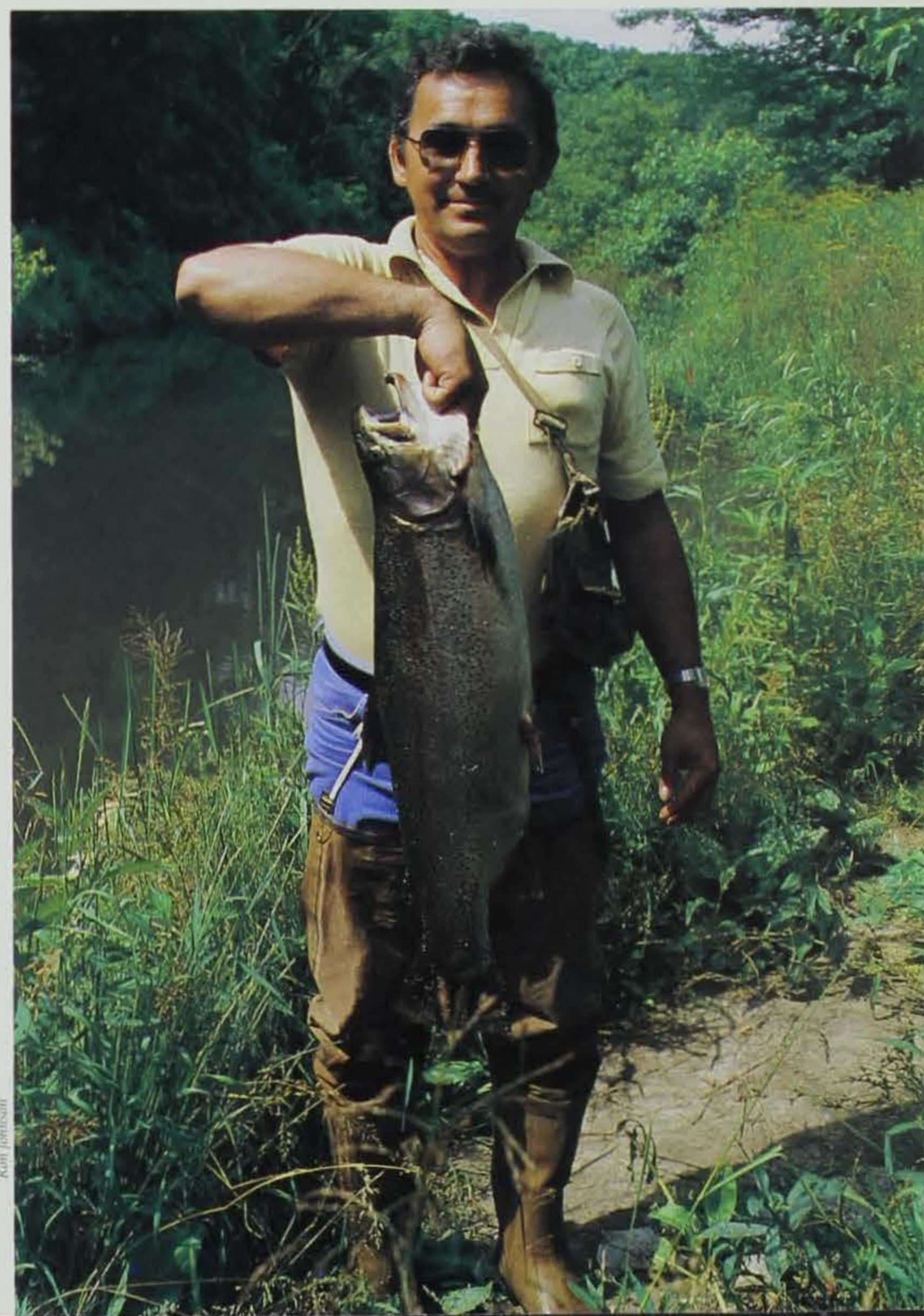
The Mississippi River also contains an excellent sauger population. Sauger are a close cousin of the walleye and resemble them except for the

absence of the white area on the lower tail fin and the presence of dark blotches on the body. Mississippi River sauger normally range from $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ pounds. Sauger over four pounds are very rare, but fish between 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ and four pounds are occasionally caught. Sauger exhibit the same fine eating qualities as walleye. The major harvest of saugers occurs from late fall through early spring in the tailwater areas. The same baits, lures and methods used to catch walleye work well for sauger also; thus, most anglers' strings contain both walleye and sauger. Daily bag and possession limits for walleye

and sauger combined on the Mississippi River are liberal at 10 and 20, respectively, and this is an excellent time to lay in a good supply of these fine eating fish.

Smallmouth Bass

Truly the king of northeastern Iowa's larger streams and rivers is the smallmouth bass. The "smallie" is also king in the minds of many anglers because they truly love to smash lures, and they put up a fight greater than any other freshwater fish of comparable size. This aggressive nature of the smallmouth bass and an increasing pressure on this



Ron Johnson

prestigious character by anglers led to declining populations made up mostly of small fish. The establishment of a 12-inch minimum size limit on all streams (except the Mississippi River bordering Wisconsin) several years ago has led to a return of strong smallmouth populations. The majority of legal-size fish are between 1 and 2-1/2 pounds; however, smallmouths up to 4-1/2 pounds are caught annually by a lucky few. Locating smallmouths is relatively easy. Look for stream sections containing a good variety of gravel, rocks and boulders. They just don't utilize silt-laden stream bottoms, so don't waste your time there. A canoe is a real asset in fishing for smallmouths. It allows you to cover a lot of water in a day's time as well as get you away from the more heavily fished areas with easy access. Paddle right on through those stretches with poor habitat. When you get to a section with good bass habitat, either drop an anchor or beach the canoe and wade that section to fish it more effectively. Smallmouths feed actively anytime the water temperature exceeds 50 degrees Fahrenheit; however, late summer and early fall are particularly good as the streams are normally stable and clear and the bass are feeding heavily in preparation for winter and next spring's spawn.

Some of the best stream sections include the Cedar River from Otranto to St. Ansgar and from Mitchell to Floyd, the Upper Iowa River from Lime Springs to Kendallville and from Decorah to Highway 76, the Yellow River below Volney, the Volga River below Fayette, and the Maquoketa River below Delhi.

Smallmouths will attack almost any type of lure or live bait; however, my favorites include twister tails, jigs, beetle-spins, injured-minnow plugs, and small crank baits.

Trout

The first signs of spring create a stirring in the hearts of many northeast Iowa anglers with visions of crystal-clear streams flowing over gravel bottoms, fish dimpling the

surface of a secluded pool as they feed on insects, and the feel of a strike and ensuing leaps by the hooked fish to gain freedom. This is Iowa trout fishing. 1987 promises to be an excellent year for trout enthusiasts. The springs that create the cold-water streams were amply charged with the substantial rains of last summer and fall. This, coupled with a light winter snow cover, promises excellent stream flows and clear water conditions this spring. The action gets into full swing the first of April when stockings of half-pound rainbow and brown trout begin in the 48 catchable trout streams in northeast Iowa. Nearly 327,000 trout will be stocked in these streams during 1987. Anglers have many choices in choosing the type of trout fishing they prefer. Some streams are stocked solely with rainbow trout, others receive brown trout only, and others are stocked with both. Some streams are stocked several times a week while others only once a month. Some streams have accesses quite close to the stream while others are "walk-in" areas where anglers can enjoy relative seclusion. A few lucky anglers will also hook into one of 300 lunker-size browns and rainbows ranging from three to over fifteen pounds that will be scattered in these streams from May through September.

Some of the better streams you will want to try include French, Little Paint and Waterloo in Allamakee County; Bloody Run, Joy Springs, North Cedar, Sny-Magill and Turkey River in Clayton County; Bailey's Ford, Fountain Springs, Little Turkey and Richmond Springs in Delaware County; Swiss Valley in Dubuque County; Grannis in Fayette County; Big Mill in Jackson County; and Coldwater, North and South Bear, Trout River, and Trout Run in Winneshiek County. All of the catchable streams are stocked through October. Late fall stockings have proved popular with anglers, and 13 streams will again be stocked through November. Don't limit your trout fishing only to the months of stocking. The past mild winter permitted significant trout

fishing activity with very good success.

Beginning trout anglers, as well as veterans, find the "Iowa Trout Fishing Guide" a valuable aid. This free brochure available from DNR offices, county recorder offices and outlets where trout stamps are sold describes the various trout fishing opportunities, shows the locations of the streams on maps and contains other valuable trout fishing information.

Largemouth Bass

Largemouth bass are not known as river fish, however, the Mississippi River offers some of the best largemouth fishing in the state. The reason for this abundance of largemouths in the "ol' Miss" is due to the presence of vast numbers of diverse backwater lakes and sloughs. Mississippi River bass provide a lot of rod-bending action from a majority of fish that are between one and 2-1/2 pounds. Largemouths above the four-pound mark, however, are rare. Some favorite bass haunts you will want to fish include the New Albin and Lansing Bottoms in Pool 9; Harpers Slough, Sny-Magill Bottoms, and the Bagley Bottoms in Pool 10; and the Bertom and McCartney Lakes in Pool 11. Although there is no minimum bass size limit on the above Iowa-Wisconsin boundary waters, there is a 12-inch size limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass on the Iowa-Illinois boundary waters. Some of these better bass backwaters include Tippy's, Sunfish and Frentress Lakes in Pool 12; Densmore and Blake's Lake in the Green Island area, Brown's Lake, Lainsville Slough, and the Sabula Bottoms in Pool 13; and Joyce's Slough, Rock Creek area, and the LeClaire Canal in Pool 14.

Several inland lakes will also produce some fine largemouth catches. Meyer Lake in Black Hawk County, Lake Hendricks in Howard County, Sweet Marsh (Segment B) in Bremer County, and Lake Meyer in Winneshiek County are the best bets for 1987. Both Meyer Lake and Lake

Meyer are relatively new fisheries with bass approaching 15 inches this year. Lake Hendricks has an excellent population of bass in the 16-inch range and a fair number of fish over the four-pound mark. George Wyth Lake in Black Hawk County annually yields a few lunkers up to eight pounds. Two small lakes you should also try are Airport Lake in Chickasaw County and Wilson Grove in Bremer County.

The best bass fishing occurs in May and early June when the water temperature is between 55 and 62 degrees Fahrenheit. This is the pre-spawn period when the bass are working the shallow areas and shorelines and are very actively feeding. Another time period is in September and October when the water cools down below 68 degrees Fahrenheit and the bass again are using shallow water habitats. Bass nearly always associate with structure, and this is where you should concentrate your efforts. Riprap banks, deadfall trees, edges of vegetation, rocky points, bottom drop-offs, submerged brush, and tree stumps are typical structures that bass frequently use. Cast your bait or lure as close to the structures as possible. You're not fishing close enough to the structure if you don't occasionally get snagged. Largemouths take a wide variety of baits and lures including nightcrawlers, crayfish, large shiners, crank baits, spinner baits, plastic worms, pig-and-jigs and spoons tipped with plastic or pork rind strip.

Northern Pike

Greater numbers of northeast lowans are now pursuing the exciting northern pike. Northerns for many years were scorned, particularly by many Mississippi River anglers, as a trash fish and one that should be eliminated. Many anglers now appreciate many of the northern's fine qualities — voracious strike, excellent fighting abilities, willingness to take a variety of baits and lures, and delicious taste. Anglers after these toothy predators head primarily for the Cedar, Wap-

sinicon and Mississippi Rivers. The Cedar River in Black Hawk and Bremer Counties contain a moderate population of northerns, but the size of fish harvested is frequently in the six to twelve-pound range. This river annually produces a few fish up to eighteen pounds. The Wapsipinicon River in Buchanan, Black Hawk and Bremer Counties harbors a very large population of northerns; however, the average size is fairly small with few individuals topping the six-pound mark. This is an excellent stream to introduce a youngster to the fun of fishing northerns as success is almost guaranteed. The Mississippi River Pools 9, 10 and 11 contain excellent populations of pike in the five to eight-pound range. Fish up to twelve pounds are not uncommon.

Still fishing with large chubs in river backwaters during the heat of summer is particularly effective. Areas where coldwater streams enter the Mississippi are also frequently northern hotspots as pike also utilize typical bass habitats. More and more ice anglers are finding that tip-ups work well in taking large northerns through the ice on the backwaters.

Bluegill

Northeast lowans catch more bluegill than any other species of fish. These scrappy panfish are fun and easy to catch, abound in many waters, and are also excellent on the table. All of the Mississippi River backwaters contain good numbers of eating-size bluegills. Some northeast Iowa lakes you will want to fish "gills" this year include Sweet Marsh in Bremer County and George Wyth Lake and Meyer Lake in Black Hawk County. Some of the fastest bluegill action occurs during the spawning season in late May and June. A small chunk of garden worm or nightcrawler on a small hook and split-shot below a small bobber is the favorite method. Fish for these spawners in shallow bays in the lakes and the shallow backwaters in the Mississippi River, especially near developing beds of vegetation.

Drifting a chunk of worm or a small jig is an excellent way of locating "gills" on the inland lakes during summer. Summer bluegills on the Mississippi are often found along beds of vegetation in the backwaters, around submerged snags and trees along side channels, and on the wing dams when river flows are really slow.

Bluegills are fun and easy to catch, but both are diminished greatly when you use equipment that is too heavy. Light line (four-pound test), minimal weights and small bobbers will increase the numbers you catch and the fun of catching them. Bluegills also provide lots of fun and piles of fillets during the ice-fishing season. With a small amount of inexpensive ice fishing equipment, you can extend your bluegill fishing and eating throughout the entire year.

Crappie

Northeast lowans head primarily to the Mississippi River for their crappie fishing. The big river abounds with black crappie in the 9- to 11-inch range. Schools of crappie located by anglers will fill many an angler's basket with these tasty panfish. May marks the beginning of the first major open-water angling period for crappie. Fishing small minnows or working a small jig in fallen trees and brush piles provides crappie anglers the majority of action. Late fall is another prime time to cash in on the bounty of schooled crappie. Now fish the deeper, quiet water snags, submerged trees and slack water below the wing dams near shore. Don't spend too much time in one spot if you are not catching fish. Keep moving until you locate an actively feeding school. The last major crappie fishing period on the Mississippi occurs on the ice. Like its cousin the bluegill, crappie provide a lot of ice fishing activity on the river's backwaters.

Other Fish

Freshwater drum, also known as sheepshead, provide a lot of angling enjoyment on the Mississippi River. Most drum run in size between one



and 2-1/2 pounds; however, you will be quite surprised by the tenacious fight these relatively small fish put up. An added bonus is their schooling activity; therefore, once you start catching them, you are probably in for several hours of action. Look for drum along the main channel border, dam spillways, wing dams and the tailwater areas. Nightcrawlers, crayfish tails and small jigs work well. Drum fillets are boneless, firm and delicious eating.

Another sporty Mississippi River fish that you will want to try this year is the *white bass*. Stripers, as they are commonly called, are hard hitters and really scrappy fighters. Look for them in areas where current and good structure are available — on wing dams, spillway areas and along riprapped banks. If you are lucky enough to spot a school of stripers splashing on the surface as they feed on shad, you are in for some fast and furious action. When actively feeding, stripers will attack nearly any lure ranging from small jigs to large crank baits.

Whether you work hard at fishing or hold a fishing pole as a good excuse to relax in the great outdoors, the beauty and grandeur of northeast Iowa will surely captivate you during the short time between bites. Tight lines to you in 1987!

For further fishing information contact: Fisheries Biologist, Iowa DNR, Manchester Fish Hatchery, RR 2 Box 269A, Manchester, Iowa 52057; 319/927-3276.

David Moeller is the northeast district fisheries supervisor located at Manchester.

Northwest

By Tom Gengerke

Walleye

The best fishing will be found on Big Spirit, East Okoboji and Silver Lake (Dickinson County) where 12 to 16-inch fish are common and the opportunity to catch larger fish, especially on Big Spirit and East Okoboji, is always present. The key to spring fishing on Big Spirit is a late ice-out followed by steadily increasing water temperatures. According to survey information, there was excellent survival of the 1983-year class. Many of these fish will be 12 inches or larger. This exceptional year class will be readily apparent during 1987 and will contribute substantially to the creel for the next two to three years. A jig (either haired or plastic bodied) and a minnow, or just a plain minnow are traditional favorites for spring walleye fishermen. If water is flowing out of Big Spirit and into the north end of East Okoboji, anglers would be well advised to try that area. Silver Lake (Dickinson County) has a nice population of harvestable walleyes due to maintenance stocking and an increased over-winter survival during the past five winters. Springtime hotspots will include the Island Area and Trapper's Bay inlet.

There will also be good walleye fishing on Lost Island Lake (Clay and Palo Alto Counties). Most of these fish will range from three-fourths to a pound and a quarter. The inlet and

"bridge" area will be good producers — especially early in the season. Recent creel surveys conducted at Clear Lake (Cerro Gordo County) indicate that the average size walleye taken was 15 inches and weighed 1-1/2 pound. Early spring fishing will provide plenty of "bucks" along rocky shorelines and in shallow water, while trolling minnow imitating plugs will be most productive during the summer months.

River fishing for walleyes has been excellent during the past four to five years, and from all indications 1987 will also be a producer. The Raccoon River below Sac City, the Little Sioux River in Buena Vista, Cherokee and Clay Counties, the Des Moines River in Emmet County and the West Fork of the Des Moines River from Rutland to the Cornbelt Dam should be especially good.

Yellow Perch

Last year, as predicted, the yellow perch fishing dropped off a bit on Spirit Lake, as compared to the above average, even phenomenal, fishing which all of us enjoyed during 1984 and 1985. The strong year classes which developed during the early 1980s due to a return of more normal water levels and which were manifested in the creel during 1984 and 1985 continued to decline through 1986. Harvest during 1987 should continue at about the level experienced during 1986 and a more "average" harvest of about 50,000 fish may be expected.

The best fishing will be found on Big Spirit and West Okoboji. Activity will start during June or July around weed beds, and will proceed into the fall. While large numbers of 9 to 11-inch perch were harvested from Big Spirit during the fall of 1984 and 1985, slightly smaller fish can be expected during 1987. Good fishing may also be expected at Ingham Lake in Emmet County. Small jigs tipped with silver wigglers or waxworms are especially effective.

Bullhead

Black Hawk Lake (Sac County) and Silver Lake (Dickinson County) will

provide excellent bullhead fishing in northwest Iowa during 1987. Both of these lakes are loaded with fish and should produce both quality and quantity for young and old alike. Crawford Creek in Ida County is another lake with a super population of 8- and 9-inch bullheads that are largely underfished; however, the best bullhead fishing will be found at Clear Lake (Cerro Gordo County) and in Yellow Smoke Lake, Crawford County. Recent surveys of Yellow Smoke Lake revealed large numbers of 10- to 12-inch "slicks" in this lake.

Channel Catfish

Rivers and catfish go hand-in-hand and excellent fishing will be available in virtually all Iowa rivers during 1987. The Little Sioux (Buena Vista, Cherokee and Clay Counties), Big Sioux, West Fork of the Des Moines (Emmet and Humboldt Counties) and the Iowa River in Hardin County

will be premier areas for Iowa "river rats." The best fishing occurs from June through September. Most catfish are taken from deep holes or from around snags which are providing cover and escape from the sun. The bulk of these fish range from 10 to 20 inches, however, the chance for a real pole bender is always present. Preferred baits include dead minnows, commercial stink baits, crayfish and — for the real catfishermen — leopard frogs and sour clams! The riverine channel catfish is probably the most underutilized fishery resource in Iowa. Many of our rivers hold nearly 400 pounds of channel catfish per acre, and with that in mind — let's go catch some channels! Excellent channel catfishing is also available in many of our area lakes. Lake Pahoja (Lyon County), Cornelia (Wright County), Little Wall (Hamilton County) and Black Hawk Lake in Sac County will offer some of the best fishing for these prairie trout. My

personal choice for a real quality "cat" would be East Okoboji (Dickinson County) and Storm Lake in Buena Vista County. These populations have really matured over the years and are generally underutilized. There were a number of twenty pounders taken last year — so bring your heavy rod!

Muskellunge

It is the fish of a thousand casts — or maybe just one! Activity usually peaks in late June, early July and again in late summer — with some hard-core fishermen experiencing good success again in late fall. Spirit Lake (Dickinson County) has been the most consistent producer during the past four years, and 1987 should be no exception. A number of trophy class (30-pound plus) fish will be caught this year — but not by the faint of heart! The sporadic success on West Okoboji (Dickinson County) is probably a function of somewhat inconsistent effort on this lake. Remember — this is the oldest population in Iowa, and a state record is out there waiting. No doubt the International Muskellunge Tournament, which will be held at the Iowa Great Lakes this year, will provide just that kind of effort! The increase in natural vegetation and the addition of artificial substrate in the form of Berkley Fish Hab™, through a cooperative project with the Upper Great Plains Chapter of Muskies, Inc. and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources helped to turn East Okoboji "on" during 1985 and 1986, and this should continue during 1987. When fish hold in these areas they become vulnerable to the angler wishing to escape areas more intensively fished. Clear Lake is coming back. Fish commonly range from 30 to 36 inches, however fish in excess of 40 inches are not uncommon. Muskies in Clear Lake are taken from major rock reefs or points where fish can feed in relatively shallow water and which are adjacent to deep water. Large fish are caught every year by both novice and seasoned anglers alike, using all types of gear



Ron Johnson



Ken Fortman

and a variety of presentations, but if you are really after a wall hanger, bring the big plugs and lots of stamina!

Northern Pike

Good to excellent fishing can be expected at Big Spirit, Tuttle Lake and West Okoboji. Recruitment has been excellent during the past three to four years, and many fish in the two to six-pound class are available. Concentrate your effort around the rushes in Anglers Bay and the weed line or isolated pockets of vegetation in the rest of Big Spirit. Center Lake (Dickinson County) produced some nice northers in 1986 and should continue to offer excitement during 1987. Flashy spoons are particularly effective, however Mepps spinners, spinner baits with hammered blades, rapalas and live chubs also work well. The Winnebago River from the state line to Mason City will also provide river anglers with plenty of excitement. River anglers should watch for tributary streams or adja-

cent marshy areas since both of these habitat types hold northern pike.

Smallmouth Bass

Plenty of "bronze-backed brawlers" will be taken this year. Lake fishermen would be advised to start early, concentrate on rock piles or rocky points, use a minnow, preferably a shiner, and fish it slowly. West Okoboji and Spirit Lake both produce quality fish, however, more consistent fishing can be expected on West Okoboji. When water temperatures rise, switch to crank baits. River fishing, once the rivers begin to stabilize, usually produce more fish per trip, although they are seldom as large as those taken in lakes. The Iowa River from Alden to Eldora, the Boone River in Hamilton County and the Winnebago River from Fertile to its confluence with the Shell Rock offer some of Iowa's finest river smallmouth bass fishing. Knowledgeable anglers concentrate their effort downstream from riffle areas, near submerged timber and in deep

holes. One of the best approaches is to float a river by canoe since it allows you to fish more remote, less heavily fished areas.

Largemouth Bass

One of the hottest largemouth bass fisheries in Iowa is Brown's Lake near Salix. Surveys conducted during 1985 showed a large population of 12- to 18-inch bass, as well as some lunkers in the five to seven-pound range. Blue Lake, an oxbow lake near Onawa, has also been producing some great bass fishing although extensive vegetation does dictate the use of weedless spoons and shallow running lures. The bass population in Beeds Lake (Franklin County) has developed nicely since the 1982 renovation. Briggs Wood and Little Wall Lake, both in Hamilton County, also support desirable bass populations as does Lake Pahoja in Lyon County and Center Lake in Dickinson County. Surveys conducted during 1985 indicated 18 percent of the bass population in Lake Pahoja was larger than 14 inches. Fishermen should concentrate on the fish attractors installed in Little Wall Lake, the weed line in Briggs Wood, the riprap near the causeway at Beeds Lake and the west shoreline of Center Lake. In all cases, spinner baits and minnow imitating lures are proven producers.

Bluegill

Indian Lake in Hancock County provided excellent fishing for 6 to 8-inch bluegills during 1986, and this fishery should continue through 1987. Fishing the outside edge of the weed line is a sure bet where bluegill feed heavily on aquatic invertebrates. Anglers will also find these fish during late May and early June when they are spawning near the emergent vegetation. A small, 1/64-ounce black or brown leadhead will be virtually unbeatable for big gills at this time of year. Nineteen eighty-six survey results also indicated good bluegill populations exist in the Pine Lakes (Hardin County), Briggs Wood (Hamilton County) and Snyder Bend in Woodbury County. One of the up-and-coming hotspots in northwest

Iowa will be Yellow Smoke Lake near Denison (Crawford County) where large numbers of 6- to 8-inch bluegills are readily available. Crawford Creek in Ida County still ranks as one of the most consistent bluegill producing lakes in northwest Iowa. From springtime until late fall, plenty of plate-sized gills are available to anglers at this 60-acre lake. Vacationers to the Iowa Great Lakes Region should keep in mind that the waters of West Okoboji take a little longer to warm up; therefore, good bluegill fishing occurs a little later at this lake than it does in many Iowa lakes — providing a mid-summer bonus for the ardent "gill" fisherman.

Crappie

The best crappie fishing will occur at Yellow Smoke Lake in Crawford County, Briggs Wood in Hamilton County and Storm Lake in Buena Vista County. Briggs Wood supports excellent numbers of 8- to 10-inch crappie which were produced in 1983. Yellow Smoke has been a real hotspot for these "papermouths" during the past year, and plenty of fish will be available this spring. Anglers should concentrate their effort near partially submerged or standing trees. Clear Lake in Cerro Gordo County is another lake which should not be overlooked during 1987. Fish for these crappie during the spring when fish are in shallow and spawning. Slab-sized crappie are available at Storm Lake. Anglers should watch the marina on the southwest corner of the lake as soon as the ice goes out.

Unique Opportunities

Excellent *yellow bass* fishing is available at Clear Lake in Cerro Gordo County. These scrappy fighters are very abundant in this lake and readily take nightcrawlers or small yellow or white leadheads fished near the bottom on a windswept shore or over rock substrate. Fish run from 7 to 10 inches and are excellent table fare.

White bass enthusiasts should look to Storm Lake (Buena Vista County) and East Okoboji (Dickinson County). Fish will range from 10 to

16 inches and will be most active during the spring and fall periods. A jig and minnow or a Mepps spinner fished over a sandy bottom will provide plenty of action.

Tiger muskie (hybrid cross between northern pike and muskellunge) are available in Storm Lake, Black Hawk and North Twin. These lakes contain fish from 32 to 38 inches in length and should provide some angling excitement for the big fish enthusiast. When it comes to fishing, the glacial lakes and rich prairie streams of northwest Iowa offer variety, quality

and quantity. Lots of friendly people are rightly proud of the resources and resource management in this part of Iowa, and they invite you to experience angling at its best and share with them in a quality outdoor experience.

For more information on fishing in Northwest Iowa contact: Fisheries Biologist, Iowa DNR, Spirit Lake Hatchery, Box 7722, Spirit Lake, Iowa 51360; 712/336-1840.

Tom Gengerke is the northwest district fisheries supervisor located at Spirit Lake.

FISHING REGULATION CHANGES FOR 1987

Black Bass (largemouth, smallmouth, spotted)

The daily catch limit and possession limit in all interior waters has been decreased to three and six respectively. A 15-inch minimum length limit shall apply on black bass in all public lakes except the following: Swan Lake (Carroll County) 16-inch, Lake Wapello (Davis County) 18-inch, Green Valley Lake (Union County) 18-inch, Casey Lake (Tama County) 18-inch, Hawthorn Lake (Mahaska County) 12- to 16-inch slot, and Iowa Lake (Iowa County) 12- to 16-inch slot.

The rapid evolution and use of very sophisticated fishing tackle and accessory equipment over the past few years has led to progressively more restrictive regulations on black bass to protect populations from overharvest. The 15-inch minimum length limit and reduction in the daily bag limit will substantially increase the catch of bass in public lakes, but it will reduce the number of fish kept by anglers by 35 to 60 percent — depending on the lake.

Catfish

The daily catch limit and possession limit for catfish in all interior streams has been increased to 15 and 30 respectively.

Fishery research studies and population surveys clearly show very high

densities of channel catfish in interior rivers — in some reaches as high as 5,000 pounds per mile. Anglers harvest only a small proportion of the available stock. Liberalizing the catch and possession limits will provide the opportunity for increased catches of the surplus of channel catfish found in our interior streams.

Walleye

A 14-inch minimum length limit shall apply on walleye in lakes West Okoboji, East Okoboji, Spirit Lake, Upper Gar, Minnewashta and Lower Gar in Dickinson County. No more than one walleye above 20 inches in length may be taken per day from these six lakes. The daily catch limit for walleye in these six lakes shall be three with a possession limit of six.

Continuing assessments of walleye populations in the Iowa Great Lakes demonstrate some fairly strong evidence that there is chronic overexploitation of small (ten- to 14-inch) walleye to the extent that the numerical abundance of large-sized groups is declining despite attempts to increase the population by expanded stocking programs. Public demand for walleye fishing continues to grow until the point has been reached where some further protection must be afforded to prevent further overexploitation. An intensive evaluation of the length limit and reduced bag limit has been initiated.

1986 BIG FISH AWARDS

*New State Record

Weight Where Caught Date Name and Address

BASS, LARGEMOUTH (Minimum — 7 lbs.)

9 lb. 7 oz.	Clarke County	4-10	Darrell Packer Des Moines
9 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Mahaska County	4-23	Cornie Hol Oskaloosa
8 lb. 12 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	8-18	Jeff Duncan West Des Moines
8 lb. 10 oz.	Farm Pond Lee County	10-19	Patrick Ryan Argyle
8 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Fremont County	4-22	Rod Burge Hamburg
8 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Cass County	4-3	James Hohenberger Atlantic
8 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Mahaska County	4-4	P. Michael Lewis Rose Hill
8 lb.	Pitts' Gravel Pit Franklin County	5-11	Duane Kreitlow Sheffield
7 lb. 11 oz.	Farm Pond Cass County	5-31	Kevin VonDielingen Atlantic
7 lb. 8 oz.	Dunlap Dam Harrison County	4-22	Mark Keesler Denison
7 lb. 8 oz.	Skelly Mines Webster County	8-21	John Sittig Vincent
7 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond Union County	5-11	Jay Sweet Creston
7 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	6-16	Jeff Duncan West Des Moines
7 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	9-20	Gene Fischer Guttenberg
7 lb. 5 oz.	Cool Pit Marion County	3-25	Darrell Dickman New Sharon
7 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Cass County	5-1	James R. Erickson Atlantic
7 lb. 4 oz.	Melrose Pond Johnson County	4-19	Jerry Keeser Iowa City
7 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Woodbury County	—	Steve Petersen Sloan
7 lb. 2 oz.	Lake Anita Cass County	5-31	Joseph G. Brown Council Bluffs
7 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Lacota County	4-6	James Deeds Des Moines
7 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Mills County	3-29	Kevin A. McCoy Omaha, NE
7 lb. 2 oz.	Wilcox City Park Marion County	5-16	Mike Schermer Charles City
7 lb.	Des Moines River Polk County	3-30	Floyd Gusti Des Moines
7 lb.	Lake Arrowhead Wapello County	7-21	Donald Pross Ottumwa
7 lb.	Farm Pond Taylor County	4-30	Randy W. Sanders Bedford

BASS, OCEAN STRIPED (Minimum — 5 lbs.)

—no entries

BASS, ROCK (Minimum — 1 lb.)

—no entries

BASS, SMALLMOUTH (Minimum — 4 lbs. or 20")

5 lb. 6 oz.	Big Creek Linn County	5-13	David L. Spurgin Marion
5 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	8-4	Gas Glaser Fort Dodge
5 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	9-6	Vance Gordon Toledo
5 lb. 3 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	8-16	Willis Kooistra Inwood
4 lb. 12 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-20	Harold L. Brodahl Council Bluffs
4 lb. 9 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	9-12	Neil R. Beers Spirit Lake
4 lb. 8 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	4-30	Kim R. Brown Ankeny
4 lb. 8 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-13	Clair Evelyn Lambert Worthington, MN
4 lb. 8 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-21	Duane Runia Sibley
4 lb. 8 oz.	Cedar River Bremer County	4-9	Harry Wilson Denver
4 lb. 7 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	4-16	Joyce Taylor Sioux City
4 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Cerro Gordo County	5-6	Jan Murphy Mason City
4 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	5-2	Dean Taylor Sioux City
4 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	9-12	James D. Dunn Omaha, NE
4 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	10-8	Lou Hottendorf Denison
4 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	7-2	Jerry Ashmore Sheldon
4 lb. 1 oz.	Wapsipicon River Jones County	5-1	Jason Miller Cedar Rapids
4 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	6-2	Donna J. Winslow Milford
4 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-16	Richard A. Milner Council Bluffs
4 lb.	Des Moines River Polk County	9-13	Dennis W. Polen Des Moines

BASS, WHITE (Minimum — 2 1/2 lbs.)

2 lb. 13 oz.	East Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	11-24	Delmer Gonder Spirit Lake
2 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Muscatine County	11-6	Gene Paxton Muscatine
2 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	10-10	Dean Taylor Sioux City

Weight Where Caught Date Name and Address

BASS, WIPER (Minimum — 4 lbs.)

8 lb. 7 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	2-3	*Mark Davis Des Moines
8 lb. 4 oz.	Des Moines River Webster County	4-24	James Shaker Ft. Dodge
4 lb.	Des Moines River Webster County	4-17	Randy Hofbauer Moorland
7 lb. 2 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	6-1	Bill Larson Des Moines
5 lb. 8 oz.	Saylorville Reservoir Polk County	8-21	Steven C. Huff Des Moines

BASS, YELLOW (Minimum — 3/4 lb.)



Tim Dolan, record yellow bass, 1 lb. 8 oz.

1 lb. 8 oz.	Cedar River Black Hawk County	9-11	*Timothy Dolan Waterloo
14 oz.	Nutgrass Slough Lee County	2-16	Steve Wixom Keokuk

BLUEGILL (Minimum — 1 lb.)

3 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Madison County	7-27	*Phil Algreen Earlham
2 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Mahaska County	4-9	Kurt Montgomery Oskaloosa
2 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Cherokee County	5-	Dennis Sitzmann Kingsley
2 lb.	Farm Pond Madison County	7-1	Lou J. Martens Martensdale
1 lb. 15 oz.	Farm Pond Davis County	6-1	Michelle Luse Marion
1 lb. 10 oz.	Gravel Pit Kossuth County	7-26	Dave Hedlund Algona
1 lb. 9 oz.	Farm Pond Mottac County	5-30	Denny W. Hosnerin Albia
1 lb. 9 oz.	Farm Pond Wayne County	6-15	Mark Ruble Des Moines
1 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Boone County	4-13	Mike Buchmiller Ogden



Phil Algreen, record bluegill, 3 lbs. 2 oz.

Weight Where Caught Date Name and Address

1 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond Clayton County	5-24	Nathan Mueller Omaha, NE
1 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Madison County	5-27	Brian Allen Waterset
1 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Guthrie County	5-8	Dave Hogue Omaha, NE
1 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Jasper County	4-5	Rusty Van Wyk Lynnville
1 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Calhoun County	6-9	Joe Schettler Lake City
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Shelby County	3-3	Michael F. Miller Defiance
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Chad Nichol Evansdale
1 lb. 4 oz.	Farm Pond Mahaska County	3-30	Curt Waddell Oskaloosa
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Jason Albright Waterloo
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Scott Albright Waterloo
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Marion County	8-7	Carmen Light Pleasantville
1 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond Taylor County	5-19	Roger Viskmar Bedford
1 lb. 2 oz.	French Town Clayton County	3-20	Jim Akers Guttenberg
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Jason Albright Waterloo
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Scott Albright Waterloo
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Linn County	6-13	Karen Darrow Clear Rapids
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Adair County	2-16	Gary Heinbach Fontanelle
1 lb. 2 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	6-9	Mark S. Lawson Spencer
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Chad Nichol Evansdale
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	5-4	Malinda Pauley Mystic
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	5-4	Breana Pauley Mystic
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Cherokee County	5-	Dave Sitzmann Kingsley
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Marion County	9-30	Brian Steele Knosville
1 lb. 2 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Joy Steimel Evansdale
1 lb. 1 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-13	Tracy Bills Jefferson
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Linn County	6-13	Karen Darrow Clear Rapids
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Madison County	3-1	Christopher McGill Des Moines
1 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	5-19	Clyde Oberbroeckling Holy Cross
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	5-4	Malinda Pauley Mystic
1 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Mahaska County	9-22	Norman Van Wyk Pella
1 lb. 1 oz.	Lois Island Lake Palo Alto County	7-13	Deb Yager Storm Lake
1 lb.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Scott Albright Waterloo
1 lb.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Jason Albright Waterloo
1 lb.	Farm Pond Pocahontas County	12-27	Michael Amerson Gilmore
1 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-11	Darrell Kruger Spirit Lake

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
1 lb.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	8-11	Chad Nichol Evansdale
1 lb.	Farm Pond Appanoose County	5-4	Richard Pauley Mystic
1 lb.	Hansen Lake Benton County	5-29	Louis Pieper Vadkorne
1 lb.	—	1-14	George White Mt. Pleasant

BOWFIN (Minimum — 5 lbs.)

9 lb. 12 oz.	Green Island Lake Jackson County	7-11	*Kristin Sybakken Dubuque
7 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	6-12	Arthur E. Kannelis Cedar Rapids

BUFFALO (Minimum — 20 lbs.)



Jeff Duis, record buffalo, 51 lbs.

51 lb.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	4-29	*Jeff Duis Sibley
35 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	5-6	Mike Mason Ohio
32 lb. 6 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-11	Merl Meyer Guttenberg

BULLHEAD (Minimum — 2½ lbs.)

5 lb. 8 oz.	Gravel Pit Hamilton County	10-14	*Michael Hurd Ellsworth
5 lb. 7 oz.	Viking Lake Montgomery County	9-12	David A. Grogg Red Oak
2 lb. 14 oz.	Farm Pond Adams County	4-22	Peter L. Willardson Council Bluffs
2 lb. 12 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	6-1	Michael Holmworth Des Moines
2 lb. 9 oz.	Farm Pond Jasper County	4-26	Mike Brooks Newton
2 lb. 9 oz.	Cherry Lake Tama County	5-29	Ben Don Carlson Tama
2 lb. 9 oz.	Farm Pond Wapello County	6-27	Danny Palmer Ottumwa

Michael Hurd, record bullhead,
5 lbs. 8 oz.



Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
CARP (Minimum — 25 lbs.)			
26 lb. 8 oz.	Little Sioux Dickinson County	5-18	Rocky R. Thompson Milford

CATFISH, BLUE (Minimum — 20 lbs.)



Steve Proper, record blue catfish,
30 lbs. 11 oz.

30 lb. 11 oz.	Des Moines River Lee County	7-26	*Steve Proper Farmington
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CATFISH, CHANNEL (Minimum — 15 lbs.)

31 lb.	Gravel Pit Cedar County	6-9	*Kyle Gottschalk Lowden
22 lb.	Pleasant Creek Lake Linn County	5-13	Allan Ottengrue Hiawatha
20 lb.	Farm Pond Marion County	9-1	Thomas A. Hardie Knoxville
18 lb. 12 oz.	Pleasant Creek Lake Linn County	8-8	Jerry Radtschack Cedar Rapids
18 lb.	Lake Anita Cass County	9-3	Thomas Shinkle Anita
17 lb. 10 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	10-5	John Holm Spirit Lake
17 lb. 7 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	6-21	Eric Berg Spirit Lake
17 lb.	Lake Ellis Lucas County	8-16	Mike Smith Chariton
16 lb. 10 oz.	Viking Lake Montgomery County	6-14	Albert Newlon Red Oak
16 lb. 10 oz.	Farm Pond Lee County	8-3	Eli Roth Farmington
16 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Warren County	5-28	Sean Hale Des Moines
15 lb. 6 oz.	Red Rock Lake Marion County	8-24	Roger DeMoss Knoxville
15 lb. 4 oz.	Saylorville Spillway Polk County	5-28	Dick Kyra Perry

CATFISH, FLATHEAD (Minimum — 20 lbs.)

50 lb. 4 oz.	Missouri River Mills County	9-1	Bob Weistrad Glenwood
49 lb. 8 oz.	Greys Lake Polk County	7-1	Pat Brady Des Moines
40 lb.	Cedar River Linn County	5-19	Russ Garm Cedar Rapids
36 lb. 8 oz.	Wapipinicon River Clinton County	7-17	Larry Gottschalk Lowden

34 lb. 11 oz.	Wapsi River Clinton County	6-5	Ian Bartels Toronto
34 lb. 2 oz.	Wapipinicon River Clinton County	6-12	Dean Schneider Toronto
34 lb.	Des Moines River Lee County	5-10	Ken Martin Farmington
32 lb.	Wapsi River Clinton County	6-19	Norman Schnoor McCausland
31 lb.	Des Moines River Van Buren County	6-7	Ron Heminger Farmington
30 lb. 9 oz.	Wapipinicon River Clinton County	7-9	Michael D. Mueller Toronto
30 lb. 2 oz.	Des Moines River Webster County	9-11	Duane Heun Dayton
30 lb.	Mississippi River Scott County	6-18	Gary Falcy Davenport
30 lb.	Iowa River Iowa County	6-29	Kevin McDonald Amana
29 lb. 7 oz.	Iowa River Marshall County	8-23	Jeno C. Gragg State Center
28 lb. 10 oz.	Missouri River Mills County	8-10	Clifford Curtis Pacific Junction
28 lb.	Cedar River Linn County	5-3	Duane T. Fleming Cedar Rapids
28 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	6-11	Kevin Wells Guttenberg
27 lb. 12 oz.	Cedar River Benton County	6-16	Dwayne Robison Branden
27 lb.	Missouri River Woodbury County	5-6	David Brontz Sears City
25 lb. 8 oz.	Des Moines River Lee County	8-24	Ken Martin Farmington
25 lb. 6 oz.	Cedar River Benton County	7-5	Dwayne Robison Branden
23 lb. 8 oz.	Des Moines River Lee County	8-8	Ken Martin Farmington
23 lb.	Des Moines River Lee County	5-30	Ken Martin Farmington
22 lb. 10 oz.	Wapipinicon River Clinton County	8-2	Dan Harrison, Chad Christensen Calamus
22 lb. 4 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	8-31	Gene L. Garrison Osceola
22 lb.	Des Moines River Polk County	8-30	Jack Rogoff, Sr. Des Moines
21 lb.	Des Moines River Lee County	6-8	Ken Martin Farmington
20 lb. 8 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	2-26	Randy Harter Jefferson
20 lb.	George Wyth State Park Black Hawk County	7-23	John Ackerman Waterloo
20 lb.	Des Moines River Van Buren County	5-9	Sam Philip Farmington

CRAPPIE (Minimum — 2 lbs.)

3 lb. 8 oz.	Twin Anchors Story County	6-6	Sherry Simmons Marshalltown
3 lb. 2 oz.	Pond Appanoose County	5-28	William F. Callen Moulton
3 lb.	Farm Pond Guthrie County	6-6	Jonathan C. Hoek Stuart
2 lb. 15 oz.	Farm Pond Dubuque County	5-27	Maec Obens Dubuque
2 lb. 12 oz.	Farm Pond Poweshock County	4-6	Kevin Kudari Montezuma
2 lb. 12 oz.	Lower Pine Lake Hardin County	2-9	Brian Newson Grundy Center
2 lb. 8 oz.	—	—	Paul Butler Indianola

Kyle Gottschalk, record channel
catfish, 31 lbs.



Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
2 lb. 6 oz.	Farm Pond Montgomery County	5-10	David Gavig Red Oak
2 lb. 4 oz.	Gravel Pit Boone County	5-4	Billy J. Wirth Ames
2 lb. 3 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-14	Paul Holzworth Des Moines
2 lb. 3 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	5-5	Jim Beyer Ames
2 lb. 3 oz.	Farm Pond	3-1	Bennie R. Shinn Orient
2 lb. 2 oz.	Iowa Lake Iowa County	5-4	Thomas Pounds Cedar Falls
2 lb. 2 oz.	Rathbun Spillway Appanoose County	5-9	Phillip F. Widmar Centerville
2 lb. 1 oz.	Sand Pit Franklin County	4-9	Robert Bradley Sheffield
2 lb. 1 oz.	Saylorville Spillway Polk County	4-15	Dick Kyras Perry
2 lb. 1 oz.	Farm Pond Johnson County	3-31	Erik Wood Swisher
2 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	4-6	Brad Braddock Spencer
2 lb.	Farm Pond Jasper County	4-26	Mike Brooks Newton
2 lb.	Farm Pond Adams County	4-6	Tina Knowles Corning
2 lb.	Farm Pond Lee County	7-20	Jeff Martinez Fort Madison
2 lb.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	5-28	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
2 lb.	Farm Pond Pottawattamie County	5-4	Adam Reed Macedonia
2 lb.	Private Pit Sac County	6-3	Jeff Roetman Breda

DRUM, FRESHWATER (Minimum — 15 lbs.)

23 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	6-15	Lois Baumbler Waucoma
19 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	8-30	Patricia Sargent Dubuque

GAR (Minimum — 10 lbs.) — No entries

MUSKIE (Minimum — 15 lbs. or 40")

38 lb. 5 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	12-20	*Dan Dickinson Spirit Lake
33 lb. 6 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-22	Ted Takasaki Hoffman Est., IL
33 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-24	John Small Alliance, NE
33 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Roger Walline Sioux Falls, SD
30 lb. 5 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-22	Mike Walline Sioux Falls, SD
29 lb. 5 oz.	Big Creek Lake Polk County	8-7	Jeremy Sickerson Madrid

28 lb. 12 oz.	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	4-24	Carroll Norcross Mason City
27 lb. 7 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-29	Rick Petersen Spencer
27 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-18	Dale D. Cooklin Spirit Lake
25 lb. 4 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	5-3	Dave Pentico Bode
24 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	11-28	Rober Hough Algona
23 lb. 5 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-19	Vughin Paragman Manchester
22 lb. 9 oz.	East Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	6-11	Raymond Hill Arnolds Park
22 lb.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Roger Walline Sioux Falls, SD
18 lb. 6 oz.	Little Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-3	Darrell W. Carpenter Sioux City
15 lb. 3 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	10-14	Lowell Fullmer Spirit Lake
15 lb.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	6-7	Layne Hasenbank Storm Lake
Released	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	7-27	Dick Crail Algona
Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-31	Jeff Fintuen Pine Island, MN
Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-30	Jeff Fintuen Pine Island, MN
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-12	Richard Gray Dickens
Released	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-19	Virgil K. Harrison Cherokee
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-23	James Hunt Sidney
Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-3	Leo Kolfoot Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-27	Leo Kolfoot Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-26	Leo Kolfoot Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-28	Leo Kolfoot Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-26	Leo Kolfoot Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-18	Darrell Krueger Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-18	Maury Muhn Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	6-12	Maury Muhn Spirit Lake
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-26	Maury Muhn Spirit Lake
Released	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	8-31	Dick Pautvein Indianola
Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	8-24	Don Sander Holstein
Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-27	Don Sander Holstein
Released	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-20	Judy Sander Holstein
Released	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-27	Bryan Steven Spencer

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
MUSKIE, TIGER (Minimum — 15 lbs. or 40")			
19 lb. 4 oz.	Rathbun Lake Appanoose County	7-13	Jeron Blanchard Oskaloosa
17 lb. 14 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	5-9	Roger E. Adkins Prescott
16 lb. 8 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	3-21	Steve Hobbs Indianola
16 lb. 4 oz.	Lake Icaria Adams County	4-16	J. Mark Driscoll Clarinda
Released	Hawthorne Lake Mahaska County	5-24	Leo W. Matties Cedar Rapids
Released	Hawthorne Mahaska County	5-3	Leo Matties Cedar Rapids

NORTHERN PIKE (Minimum — 10 lbs. or 34")

16 lb. 14 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-16	Jim Mathern Malvern
16 lb. 13 oz.	Maquoketa River Delaware County	12-25	James L. Flanagan, Jr. Ryan
15 lb. 7 oz.	Trumbull Clay County	2-8	Kevin Nielsen Armstrong
15 lb. 6 oz.	Gravel Pit Franklin County	9-6	Scott W. Wikert Hampton
15 lb.	Shell Rock River Butler County	3-30	Marlin R. Peters Reinbeck
13 lb. 13 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-25	Randy Benz Melvin
13 lb. 4 oz.	Sand Pit Sac County	6-15	Marvin W. Miller Sac
13 lb. 3 oz.	Bacon Creek Woodbury County	8-5	William Engle Sioux City
13 lb. 3 oz.	Cedar River Black Hawk County	10-11	Marvin L. Lindaman Cedar Falls
13 lb. 3 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	10-21	Roger Lopau Sibley
13 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-2	Joseph J. Petrick Dubuque
12 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-31	Warren Rademacher Terrell
12 lb. 11 oz.	Saylorville Polk County	3-4	Joe Davis Boone
12 lb. 9 oz.	Gravel Pit Franklin County	9-6	Daniel L. Craghton Hampton
12 lb. 8 oz.	Lost Island Lake Clay County	6-5	Howard M. Johnson II Ruthven
12 lb. 8 oz.	Five Island Lake Palo Alto County	6-1	Larry E. Porath Emmetsburg
12 lb. 6 oz.	Stollers Clay County	10-5	Hugh Hoyer Spencer
12 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	2-22	Todd Lammers Guttenberg
12 lb. 3 oz.	Shell Rock River Butler County	11-11	Marvin L. Lindaman Cedar Falls
12 lb. 3 oz.	Five Island Lake Palo Alto County	6-8	Larry E. Porath Emmetsburg
12 lb. 2 oz.	Trumbull Dickinson County	2-19	Ray Allen Spencer
12 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	1-18	Bruce E. Carner Guttenberg
12 lb.	Trumbull Lake Clay County	2-16	Dave Yager Fenton
11 lb. 8 oz.	Farm Pond Pottawattamie County	9-14	Tom Dibbasi Council Bluffs
11 lb. 8 oz.	Shell Rock River Bremer County	3-25	Greg Stough Charles City
11 lb. 4 oz.	Frenchtown-Guttenberg Clayton County	2-1	Mark Baughman Zwingle
11 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	9-1	Marlyn Parrett Walcott
11 lb. 3 oz.	Big Mill Creek Jackson County	8-30	Rick Keil Bellevue
11 lb.	Shell Rock River Bremer County	3-2	Bill Behrens Cedar Falls
11 lb.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-21	John Small Alliance, NE
10 lb. 15 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	12-30	Leo W. Matties Cedar Rapids
10 lb. 14 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-26	Mike Benz Melvin
10 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	6-24	Brian Schuster Decorah
10 lb. 12 oz.	Cedar River Black Hawk County	7-20	Jerry L. Watt Waterloo
10 lb. 9 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-16	Mark Langholz Spencer
10 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-15	Randy Benz Melvin
10 lb. 8 oz.	Little Sioux River Linn County	3-27	Mitch Lorenzen Buena Vista
10 lb. 7 oz.	Five Island Lake Palo Alto County	4-16	Archie Banwart Rodman
10 lb. 6 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-19	Jim Mathern Malvern
10 lb. 6 oz.	North Twin Lake Calhoun County	8-18	Denman E. Morton Rockwell City
10 lb. 5 oz.	Little Sioux Dickinson County	4-1	Dan Meadman Milford
10 lb. 4 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	8-31	Jim Lane Sioux City
10 lb. 4 oz.	Ingham Lake Emmet County	2-17	Mike Lukowski Estherville
10 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Clinton County	8-16	Leroy L. McMinister II Camanche
10 lb. 4 oz.	Brown Lake Woodbury County	7-29	Millic Mulvihill Salix
10 lb. 3 oz.	Shell Rock River Butler County	6-29	Kevin Reims Clarksville
10 lb. 3 oz.	Private Pit Sac County	5-12	Jeff Roetman Breda



Dan Dickinson, record muskie, 38 lbs. 5 oz.

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
10 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi Allamakee County	4-20	Chad Wagner Calmar
10 lb.	Lock & Dam 14 Scott County	3-18	Jeff Little Le Claire
10 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	2-2	Eugene Logan Rock Rapids
10 lb.	Cedar River Black Hawk County	7-25	Jerry L. Watt Waterloo

PADDLEFISH (Minimum—25 lbs.)

37 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-1	Chuck McGuire Marshalltown
35 lb.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-16	Richard Curtis Warrenville, IL
33 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	1-17	Tom Buman Anthon
30 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	1-11	Maurice Anderson Bellevue

PERCH (Minimum—1 lb.)

1 lb. 15 oz.	Farm Pond Cass County	2-1	David A. Goring Rid Oak
1 lb. 10 oz.	Gravel Pit Scott County	2-17	Marty Laughlin Le Mars
1 lb. 10 oz.	7 County	5-16	W. E. Mitchell Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 8 oz.	Lost Island Palo Alto County	3-2	Randy Vanden Heuvel Spencer
1 lb. 7 oz.	Brush Lake Clay County	2-28	Raymond E. DeWall Pocahontas
1 lb. 6 oz.	Lost Island Clay County	4-1	Donald E. Coulson Spencer
1 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River	3-16	Truman Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-15	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 5 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-15	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-18	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-18	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-19	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-15	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	11-28	Kelly J. Noel Dubuque
1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-16	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-16	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-15	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 2 oz.	Bea Creek Dallas County	2-2	Randy J. Hoy Redfield
1 lb. 2 oz.	Big Spirit Dickinson County	3-16	Rod Hughes Pringhar
1 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Clinton County	12-21	John R. Kelley Davenport
1 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River 7 County	3-16	Truman Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	2-25	Steve Goltz Monona
1 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	9-18	Joe Krausz Salem, Center
1 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	10-22	Dale Nelson Pringhar
1 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River	3-16	Truman Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 1 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-18	George A. Paulson Harpers Ferry
1 lb. 1 oz.	Silver Lake Palo Alto County	9-16	Verne P. Rodemann Paulina
1 lb. 1 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	12-20	Mary Zornig Rock Rapids
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	3-26	Dwaine Krogman Linmore
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	3-24	Daryl Krogman Worthington
1 lb.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	7-11	Dwaine Krogman Linmore
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-7	Alma Landegent Rock Valley
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-17	Alma Landegent Rock Valley
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	3-22	Scott Landegent Rock Valley
1 lb.	High Lake Emmet County	6-10	Melanie Phillips Esterville
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	2-7	Cork Rozeboom Sanborn
1 lb.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	1-31	Kay Van Otterloo Lakewood

SAUGER (Minimum—2 1/2 lbs. or 18")

5 lb. 2 oz.	West Des Moines River Emmet County	4-15	Mike Lukowski Esterville
4 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-15	Eric Palosari Crystal, MN
4 lb. 8 oz.	Missouri River Woodbury County	3-9	David Brantz Sioux City
3 lb. 13 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-19	John Frazier Princeton
3 lb. 13 oz.	Missouri River Woodbury County	11-5	Randy Smith Sioux City
3 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County		Daniel J. Devlin Pleasant Valley

3 lb. 10 oz.	Missouri River Woodbury County		Dan Rowe Sioux City
3 lb. 8 oz.	Cedar River Muscatine County	11-22	Roger Berge Liberty
3 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-30	Evelyn Van Lennep Garber
3 lb. 7 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	4-7	Tom Fadale Maquoketa
3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-10	Bill Demkoer Dubuque
3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	11-4	Terry Lubbers Elkader
3 lb. 3 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-9	John Vacek Oxford Junction
3 lb. 2 oz.	Mississippi River Muscatine County	3-14	John R. Kelly Davenport
3 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	8-10	Gene Fischer Guttenberg
3 lb.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-30	James J. Novy Cedar Rapids
2 lb. 15 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-30	Everett Kochler Clinton
2 lb. 13 oz.	Mississippi River Muscatine County	3-1	Sherril Faley Davenport
2 lb. 13 oz.	Missouri River Woodbury County	10-22	Gary Smith Sioux City
2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Scott County	4-10	Mike Alexander Muscatine
2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-15	Darcy L. Keil DeWitt
2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-30	James A. Kolker Guttenberg
2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-2	Merlin Lucan Guttenberg
2 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-27	Matt Walsh Maquoketa
2 lb. 10 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	6-14	Mike Hansen Waterloo
2 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	3-30	Mike Burns Dubuque
2 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	4-2	Merlin Lucan Guttenberg
2 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River	9-14	Viola M. Starmann Joliet, IL
2 lb. 9 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-28	Rick Wedewer New Vienna
2 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Dubuque County	1-1	Joseph L. Barker Dyersville
2 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	1-11	Larry D. Davis Maquoketa
2 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-31	James A. Kolker Guttenberg
2 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-28	James A. Kolker Guttenberg

STURGEON, SHOVELNOSE (Minimum—3 lbs.)

—No entries.

SUCKER (Minimum—4 lbs.)

5 lb. 8 oz.	West Des Moines River Humboldt County	9-5	Vincent Ealinget Hampden
4 lb. 6 oz.	Shell Rock River	4-20	Ted Hoodje Clarksville

SUNFISH, MISC. (Minimum—1 lb.)

1 lb. 7 oz.	Farm Pond Polk County	6-24	Joe Thomas Des Moines
1 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Lucas County	5-10	Murrah Randall Lucas
1 lb. 5 oz.	Farm Pond Lucas County	5-18	Tommy Randall Lucas

TROUT, BROOK (Minimum—1 lb. or 13")

1 lb. 11 oz.	Canoe Creek Winnebago County		Dennis Myhre Decorah
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TROUT, BROWN (Minimum—3 lbs. or 18")

13 lb.	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	6-19	Bob Schultz LaCrosse, WI
12 lb. 3 oz.	Richmonds Spring Delaware County	8-16	Mark A. Wilcox Cedar Rapids
12 lb. 2 oz.	Joy Spring Clayton County	9-24	Jeremy Houge Aurora
10 lb. 10 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	6-29	Mike Mull Garwin
10 lb. 6 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	5-1	Jean Mills Independence
10 lb. 4 oz.	Turkey River Clayton County	7-27	Gary Corwin Waterloo
9 lb. 10 oz.	Brush Creek Jackson County	8-29	Fred E. Powers Bennett
9 lb. 7 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	7-22	Jason Moon Decorah
9 lb.	South Bear Winnebago County	6-17	Fred Dungs Monona
9 lb.	Trout Run Winnebago County	4-19	Paul Timmerman Waterloo
8 lb. 12 oz.	Ensign Hollow Clayton County	7-3	Dennis Milligan Fort Dodge
8 lb. 8 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	7-15	Scott Galeazzi Boone
8 lb. 5 oz.	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	4-16	Fred Dungs Monona
8 lb. 5 oz.	South Bear Winnebago County	5-30	Scott Schumacher Monona

8 lb. 4 oz.	Waterloo Creek Winnebago County	4-24	Fred Dungs Monona
8 lb. 4 oz.	Fountain Spring Delaware County	7-24	Margaret Lind Manchester
7 lb. 10 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	8-17	Christian Karam Cedar Rapids
7 lb. 5 oz.	Livingood Allamakee County	1-9	Tom Benson Pottsville
7 lb. 4 oz.	Maquoketa River Delaware County	6-7	Ed Hill Waverly
7 lb. 4 oz.	Cherry Creek Fayette County	6-14	Tony Wygle New Hampton
6 lb. 13 oz.	Bailey's Ford Delaware County	8-9	Paul Schmidt Manchester
6 lb. 9 oz.	Big Mill Jackson County	4-26	John E. Molyneux Davenport
6 lb. 8 oz.	Swiss Valley Creek Dubuque County	8-28	Joseph F. Bowden II Dubuque
6 lb. 8 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	6-17	Mike Schiel Dubuque
6 lb. 6 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	6-11	Phillip D. Turner Clinton
6 lb. 5 oz.	Little Mill Jackson County	9-11	Charles E. Rock Grand Mount
6 lb. 4 oz.	Coldwater Stream Winnebago County	9-30	Kent Koeppen Marion
6 lb. 3 oz.	Canoe Creek Winnebago County	3-13	Walter Bender Decorah
6 lb. 2 oz.	Soy Magill Creek Clayton County	3-21	Cyril Lloyd McGregor
6 lb. 2 oz.	Big Paint River Allamakee County	3-24	Daryl Tamm Davenport
6 lb.	Big Mill Creek Winnebago County	3-22	Todd Sittlerberg Decorah
5 lb. 13 oz.	Bailey's Ford Delaware County	8-21	Tom Hart Jesup
5 lb. 10 oz.	Big Mill Jackson County	3-4	Greg Day Bettendorf
5 lb. 8 oz.	Big Mill Creek Jackson County	1-23	Henry K. Gertz Bellevue
5 lb. 8 oz.	Twin Springs Winnebago County	7-5	James Saitou Decorah
5 lb. 6 oz.	Big Mill Jackson County	6-1	Goff Soltav Davenport
5 lb. 5 oz.	Ensign Hollow Delaware County	7-14	Donald R. Schmidt Cedar Rapids
5 lb. 4 oz.	Bailey's Ford Delaware County	4-22	Dennis R. Larson Orion, IL
5 lb. 4 oz.	Upper Swiss Valley Dubuque County	6-3	Carl E. Lax Dubuque
5 lb. 3 oz.	Paint Creek Allamakee County	3-29	Jeff Steere Greene
5 lb. 2 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	7-26	Gary Schmidt Cedar Rapids
4 lb. 15 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	6-9	Richard Hess Dubuque
4 lb. 13 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	5-19	Richard Holland Davenport
4 lb. 12 oz.	Soy Magill Clayton County	3-22	John Seeley Dubuque
4 lb. 11 oz.	Big Paint Creek Allamakee County	3-1	Ed Hill Waverly
4 lb. 10 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	5-7	Tom Hart Jesup
4 lb. 6 oz.	Big Mill Jackson County	5-6	Thomas P. Decker West Carrollton, OH
4 lb. 6 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	5-19	Michael D. Hutson Waterloo
4 lb. 5 oz.	Soy Magill Clayton County	3-22	Ed Hill Waverly
4 lb. 5 oz.	Maquoketa River Delaware County	6-25	Steve E. Venzelaar Creston
4 lb. 4 oz.	Brush Creek Jackson County	4-30	John Frederick Clinton
4 lb. 3 oz.	North Canoe Winnebago County	2-3	Todd Sittlerberg Decorah
3 lb. 14 oz.	Spring Branch Delaware County	7-23	Stephen A. Arnold Davenport
3 lb. 14 oz.	Little Turkey River Delaware County	4-6	Randy Westmeier Dyersville
3 lb. 13 oz.	Soy Magill Clayton County	3-22	Ed Hill Waverly
3 lb. 12 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	10-24	Karl M. Mische Dubuque
3 lb. 12 oz.	E. Pine Creek Winnebago County	4-22	Todd Sittlerberg LaValle, WI
3 lb. 11 oz.	Maquoketa River Clayton County	5-24	Ed Hill Waverly
3 lb. 9 oz.	Spring Branch Creek Delaware County	4-6	Kevin Howes Dubuque
3 lb. 9 oz.	Big Mill Jackson County	10-29	Dennis L. Sanford Davenport
3 lb. 8 oz.	Pine Creek Winnebago County	3-12	Todd Sittlerberg Decorah
3 lb. 6 oz.	Spring Creek Mitchell County	9-3	Dean Steffen Orchard
3 lb. 4 oz.	Twin Springs Winnebago County	7-1	Chap Piper Decorah

TROUT, RAINBOW (Minimum—3 lbs. or 18")

19 lb. 13 oz.	Bankston Dubuque County	4-2	Gilbert Teal Davenport
18 lb. 8 oz.	Bankston Stream Iowa County	5-26	Rosa P. Postel Farley
18 lb. 1 oz.	Big Mill Jackson County	4-10	William P. Hein Davenport
16 lb. 12 oz.	Little Mill Jackson County	4-9	John A. Frederick Clinton
16 lb. 8 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	4-23	Duane A. Schumacher Dubuque

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
16 lb. 4 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	5-9	Ronald O. Vogt Manchester
14 lb. 11 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	5-1	Donald Schmidt Cedar Rapids
14 lb. 11 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	8-15	Ward B. Strang North Liberty
14 lb. 8 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	4-29	Garry Steine Decorah
14 lb. 4 oz.	Turkey River Clayton County	6-29	Jerry Long Ames
14 lb.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	4-22	Ed Singer Independence
13 lb. 7 oz.	French Creek Allamakee County	5-9	Jeff Stevens Cedar Rapids
13 lb. 7 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	8-22	Ward Strang North Liberty
12 lb. 8 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	7-17	Clair Fliss Winthrop
12 lb. 8 oz.	Little Paint Allamakee County	6-24	Richard Gerber Ionia
12 lb. 2 oz.	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	6-22	Dean Worden Hampton
11 lb. 14 oz.	Bankston Creek Dubuque County	7-2	Richard J. Stelken Farley
11 lb. 8 oz.	Coldwater Winnebago County	5-28	Randy Garoutte Van Horn
11 lb. 3 oz.	Brush Creek Jackson County	5-9	Scott D. Anderson Bettendorf
11 lb. 3 oz.	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	4-10	Fred Daugs Monona
10 lb. 15 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	4-4	R. L. Tothman Washburn
10 lb. 12 oz.	North Bear Winnebago County	5-30	Jonathan Borlaug Lawler
10 lb. 12 oz.	South Bear Winnebago County	4-22	Fred Daugs Monona
10 lb. 12 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	4-17	Walter R. Knockle Dubuque
10 lb. 8 oz.	South Bear Winnebago County	4-21	Fred Daugs Monona
10 lb. 8 oz.	Trout River Winnebago County	4-17	Thomas E. Tobin Floyd
10 lb. 4 oz.	North Bear Winnebago County	5-30	Tom Borlaug Lawler
10 lb. 4 oz.	North Bear Winnebago County	4-30	Fred Daugs Monona
9 lb. 12 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	8-17	Erik Ransom Van Home
9 lb. 2 oz.	Little Paint Allamakee County	6-19	Michael Stofus Lawler
9 lb. 1 oz.	Bankston Park Dubuque County	6-26	Ray Vaske Dyersville
8 lb. 4 oz.	Waterloo Creek Allamakee County	4-25	Fred Daugs Monona
7 lb. 4 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	7-22	Edward Allen Dubuque
7 lb. 3 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	5-30	Lloyd Gjere Decorah
7 lb.	Village Creek Allamakee County	5-24	Lorraine Olson Cedar Rapids
6 lb. 10 oz.	French Creek Allamakee County	5-14	Alvin Worrell Waverly
6 lb. 6 oz.	Little Mill Jackson County	4-18	Bill Oeth De Witt
6 lb. 4 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	7-29	George M. Karam Cedar Rapids
6 lb. 3 oz.	South Cedar Clayton County	5-10	Glen R. Sears Waterloo
5 lb. 9 oz.	Bankston Dubuque County	5-1	Victor J. Grice Dubuque
5 lb. 6 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	9-23	Ron Fenchel LeClaire
5 lb. 6 oz.	North Bear Winnebago County	5-9	Kenneth N. Roberts LaCrosse, WI
5 lb. 4 oz.	Jackson County	9-28	Jeremy Ksil Maquoketa
5 lb. 2 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	9-30	Brad Fenchel LeClaire
5 lb. 2 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	5-24	Edward J. Kucharski Cedar Falls
5 lb.	Trout River Winnebago County	5-29	Ruth J. Miller New Hampton
4 lb. 14 oz.	Lower Swiss Valley Dubuque County	4-12	Lyle Daugheter Dubuque
4 lb. 13 oz.	Richmond Springs Delaware County	8-31	Christian Karam Cedar Rapids
4 lb. 8 oz.	Trout Run Winnebago County	5-11	Todd R. Welch Decorah
4 lb. 6 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	9-20	Ron Fenchel LeClaire
4 lb. 4 oz.	Fayette County Spring Creek Mitchell County	6-13	Layne Martin Central City
4 lb. 3 oz.	Spring Creek Mitchell County	4-8	Edward J. Crosby Toledo
4 lb. 3 oz.	Dubuque County	7-20	Scott Hochberger Dubuque
4 lb.	Little Mill Jackson County	4-20	Leon L. Bird Dubuque
4 lb.	West Canoe Creek Winnebago County	4-8	Garry D. Steine Decorah
3 lb. 12 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	9-20	Ron Fenchel LeClaire
3 lb. 12 oz.	Baileys Ford Delaware County	5-8	Phillip Turner Clinton
3 lb. 10 oz.	Spring Creek Mitchell County	5-1	Jerry Steffen Orchard
3 lb. 9 oz.	Coom Winnebago County	5-31	Steve Perry Mason City
3 lb. 8 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	9-20	Ron Fenchel LeClaire
3 lb. 8 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	6-2	William Kuttmas Davenport

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
3 lb. 8 oz.	Silver Creek Allamakee County	4-22	David Williams Cedar Falls
3 lb. 6 oz.	Turkey River Clayton County	5-31	Joan L. Coughlin Cedar Rapids
3 lb. 6 oz.	Little Paint 7 County	6-21	Tom L. Dunn Floyd
3 lb. 6 oz.	Dalton Lake Jackson County	9-20	Ron Fenchel LeClaire
3 lb. 5 oz.	Spring Creek Mitchell County	5-8	Jerry Steffen Orchard
3 lb. 4 oz.	Little Paint Allamakee County	6-13	Harley E. Hart Ottumwa
3 lb. 4 oz.	Soy Magill Clayton County	5-11	Gerry Oberbroeckling Luxemburg
3 lb. 3 oz.	Joy Springs Clayton County	8-19	Joe Arthur Waterloo
3 lb. 1 oz.	Fountain Springs Delaware County	5-7	Tom Hart Jesup
3 lb. 1 oz.	Swiss Valley Dubuque County	6-19	Kevin Howes Dubuque
3 lb.	Cold Water Winnebago County	5-22	Jim Anderson Britt

WALLEYE (Minimum — 8 lbs. or 28")



*Gloria Eoriatti, record walleye,
14 lbs. 8 oz.*

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
14 lb. 8 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	9-20	*Gloria Eoriatti Ankeny
12 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-16	Doug Bartlow Okaloosa
11 lb. 8 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-30	Al Akin Spirit Lake
11 lb. 8 oz.	Saylorville Lake Polk County	2-6	David Albright Norwalk
11 lb. 6 oz.	Wapipinicon River Buchanan County	6-7	Cliff Brimmer Independence
10 lb. 12 oz.	West Lake Okoboji Dickinson County	10-28	Jeff Hurdle Okoboji
10 lb. 11 oz.	Des Moines River Boone County	11-2	Richard O. Grove Boone
10 lb. 9 oz.	Wapipinicon Linn County	10-15	Dean R. Wood Central City
10 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-27	Don Schroeder Guttenberg
10 lb. 7 oz.	Rathbun Lake Appanoose County	5-11	Mike Sinnott Melrose
10 lb. 6 oz.	Des Moines River Webster County	4-1	Kevin Brown Fort Dodge
10 lb. 4 oz.	Rathbun Lake Appanoose County	4-6	Tom Harmon Unionville
10 lb.	Lost Island Lake Palo Alto County	5-1	Mark Mitchell Estherville
9 lb. 13 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	10-23	Glen Petrich Milford
9 lb. 12 oz.	Lost Island Lake	11-2	Roger Hough Algona
9 lb. 4 oz.	Clear Lake Cerro Gordo County	9-4	Ken Borrell Clear Lake
9 lb. 4 oz.	Des Moines River Palo Alto County	11-27	Jerry Podaska Ames
9 lb. 2 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	7-3	Don Hestkamp Adrian, MN
9 lb.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	4-2	Jay Dana Waverly
9 lb.	Saylorville Spillway Polk County	4-23	A. E. Johnson Des Moines
9 lb.	Lost Island Palo Alto County	10-6	Howard M. Johnson II Ruthven

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
9 lb.	West Buck Creek Appanoose County	8-18	Mrs. Raymond Jones Albia
9 lb.	Saylorville Spillway Polk County	11-3	Dick Kyra Perry
8 lb. 15 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	9-19	Larry Bendlin Spencer
8 lb. 14 oz.	Mississippi River Allamakee County	3-9	Leon F. Deutsch Waverly
8 lb. 12 oz.	Big Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-27	Roger Hough Algona
8 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	5-3	Shaw LaDoux Spirit Lake
8 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-30	Michael C. Novy Cedar Rapids
8 lb. 12 oz.	West Okoboji Dickinson County	10-12	Irv Schnell Milford
8 lb. 12 oz.	Mississippi River Clayton County	3-30	Chad Van Lennep Garber
8 lb. 9 oz.	Lake Rathbun Appanoose County	7-24	Richard A. Herman Centerville
8 lb. 8 oz.	Mississippi River Jackson County	3-18	Kerry L. Krebs Clinton
8 lb. 8 oz.	Lake Rathbun Appanoose County	8-29	Richard Pauley Mystic
8 lb. 7 oz.	East Okoboji Lake Jackson County	12-7	Jim Burgeson Arnolds Park
8 lb. 5 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	9-	Rick D. Uhl Mapleton
8 lb. 4 oz.	Iowa River Hardin County	4-24	Wayne J. Caster Union
8 lb. 4 oz.	Mississippi River Scott County	6-18	Gary Faley Davenport
8 lb. 4 oz.	Rathbun Lake Appanoose County	7-25	James Hushour Centerville
8 lb. 4 oz.	Des Moines River-West Palo Alto County	11-28	Harriet Mackie Laurens
8 lb. 3 oz.	West Okoboji Lake Dickinson County	5-6	Alvin E. Akin Spirit Lake
8 lb. 3 oz.	Des Moines River Polk County	4-25	Billy Chen Des Moines
8 lb. 3 oz.	Des Moines River Palo Alto County	11-28	Dennis Podaska Laurens
8 lb. 2 oz.	East Okoboji Dickinson County	5-3	Alvin E. Akin Spirit Lake
8 lb. 2 oz.	Des Moines River Webster County	10-29	Harold C. Johnson H. Dodge
8 lb. 2 oz.	Saylorville Spillway Polk County	10-29	Dick Kyra Perry
8 lb. 2 oz.	Spirit Lake Dickinson County	10-23	Lanoni Wegner Algona
8 lb. 1 oz.	Rathbun Lake Appanoose County	7-31	Ryan D. Platt Emerson
8 lb.	Cedar River Black Hawk County	4-4	Jeff Albright Waterloo
8 lb.	Shell Rock River Butler County	9-6	Bruce Hoodjer Clarksville
8 lb.	Lost Island Palo Alto County	10-7	Howard M. Johnson II Ruthven

WHITE AMUR (Minimum — 25 lbs.)

Weight	Where Caught	Date	Name and Address
36 lb. 8 oz.	Hickory Grove Lake Story County	9-6	John P. Carr Ames

FISHING REPORT

Call
515/281-3307

April 8 - July 28

Updated each
Wednesday morning.

The Cormorants are Coming

By Tim Thompson



Cormorants — large, black water birds — are an increasingly common sight to many Iowans. Though officially an endangered species, cormorants can often be seen during spring and fall migrations perched on tree branches or stumps along Iowa's major rivers and large reservoirs. In 1982, 650 cormorants were reported at Saylorville Reservoir and 500 at Coralville Reservoir. During the fall of 1986, approximately 2,000 cormorants were seen using the Coralville Reservoir. Of the six cormorant species in North America, only the double-crested cormorant has been reported in our state.

Fish eaters, cormorants find a plentiful supply of shad in Iowa's major reservoirs. These big birds swim low in the water and, at times, completely disappear from sight as they dive to catch their prey. For this reason, cormorants are often confused with loons. Cormorants can be identified, however, by their bills which usually point upward.

A much larger bird than any duck, cormorants are also occasionally mistaken for geese. That is because cormorants fly in a line or wedge formation as geese do. If you plan to hunt any of Iowa's major water areas, be sure you can distinguish cormorants from ducks and geese.

Cormorants build nests of twigs, plant debris and a variety of coarse rubbish, using finer materials as the lining. Thin and shallow the first year, cormorants build upon and reuse old nests in following years. Female cormorants usually lay three

Rodney Krey



Wendell Simonson

Many new cormorant nests (right) signal the return of the double-crested cormorant to Iowa. Hawkeye Wildlife Area at Coralville Reservoir is Iowa's only nesting area inland of the Mississippi River.

to four eggs in June or July. If you happen to see an immature cormorant — one that is whitish in the breast area — you are probably in the vicinity of a cormorant nest.

A small colony of nesting cormorants has been reported each year north of Clinton on the Illinois side of the Mississippi River. Other nestings recorded this century have been in 1934 and 1936 at Green Bay Bottoms, in 1951 near Modale, in 1954 north of Lock and Dam 18, and in 1966 at Coralville Reservoir. Cormorant nesting may have taken a turn for the better in 1984. During that year, 11 nests were found at Coralville Reservoir, between ten and 20 nests were found on a Mississippi River island adjacent to Allamakee County, and 84 nests were found on a Mississippi River island north of Lock and Dam 13. So far, all cormorant nests found in Iowa have been located in trees over water.

Nesting at Coralville Reservoir has been particularly noteworthy because it represents the only nesting inland of the Mississippi River. Attempts were made to locate nests in 1985, but a drought left the sites used in 1984 dry. Water levels were high in 1986 and many cormorants were seen during the summer. Last August, a nest with young birds was reported in the same area where the 1984 nests were originally found.

Probably part of Coralville Reservoir's attraction for cormorants is the large oaks that have died since the reservoir was formed. How long these large snags will continue to stand and provide nesting areas is anybody's guess. Artificial nesting platforms have been used by cormorants on the Mississippi River. Perhaps such platforms will be needed to provide future nesting sites on major reservoirs.

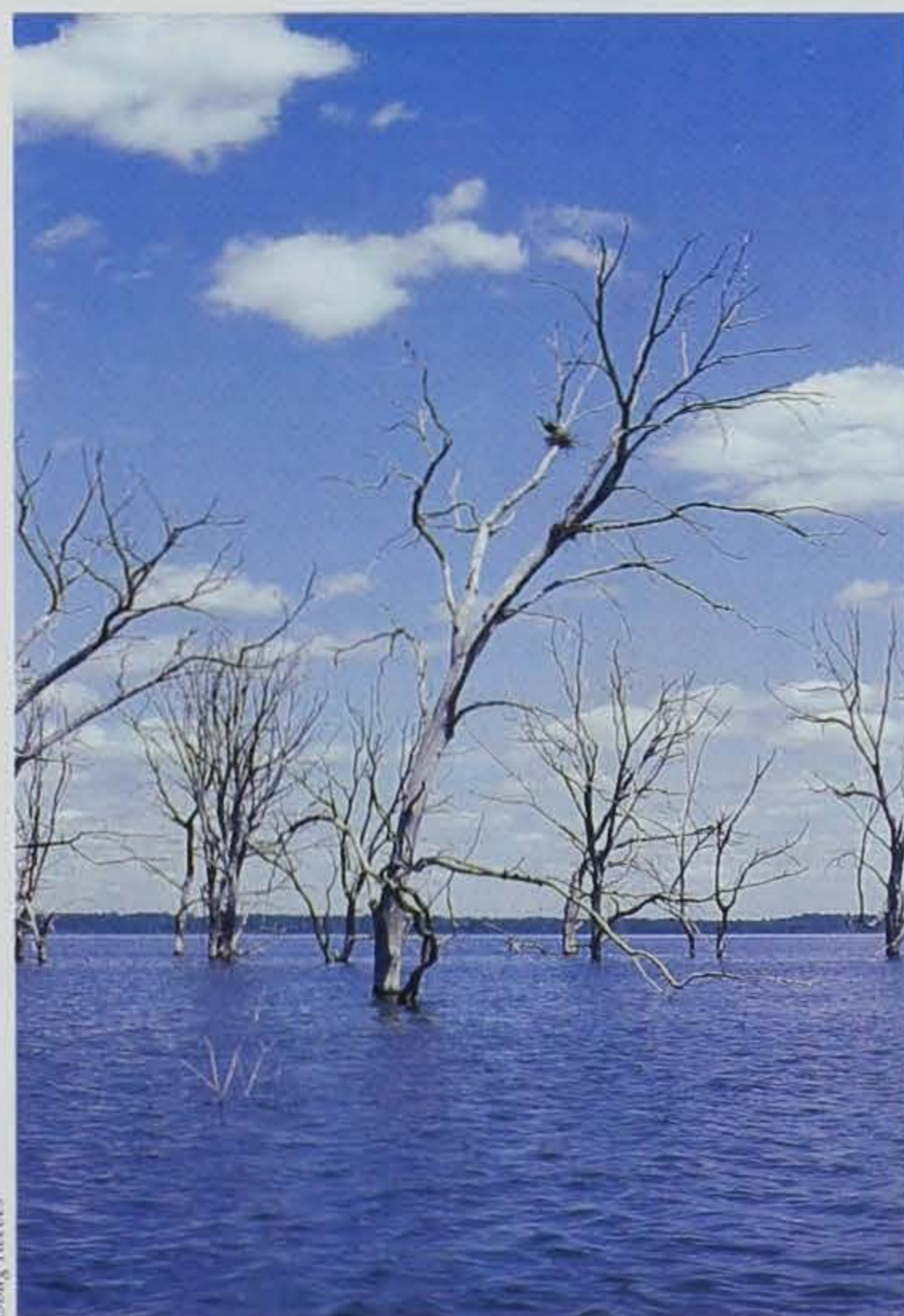
Keep your eyes open in 1987. Maybe you will discover a new nesting colony of cormorants along one of Iowa's rivers or reservoirs.

Tim Thompson is a wildlife biologist located at the Coralville Wildlife Unit. He holds an M.S. degree from South Dakota State University and has been with the department since 1983.



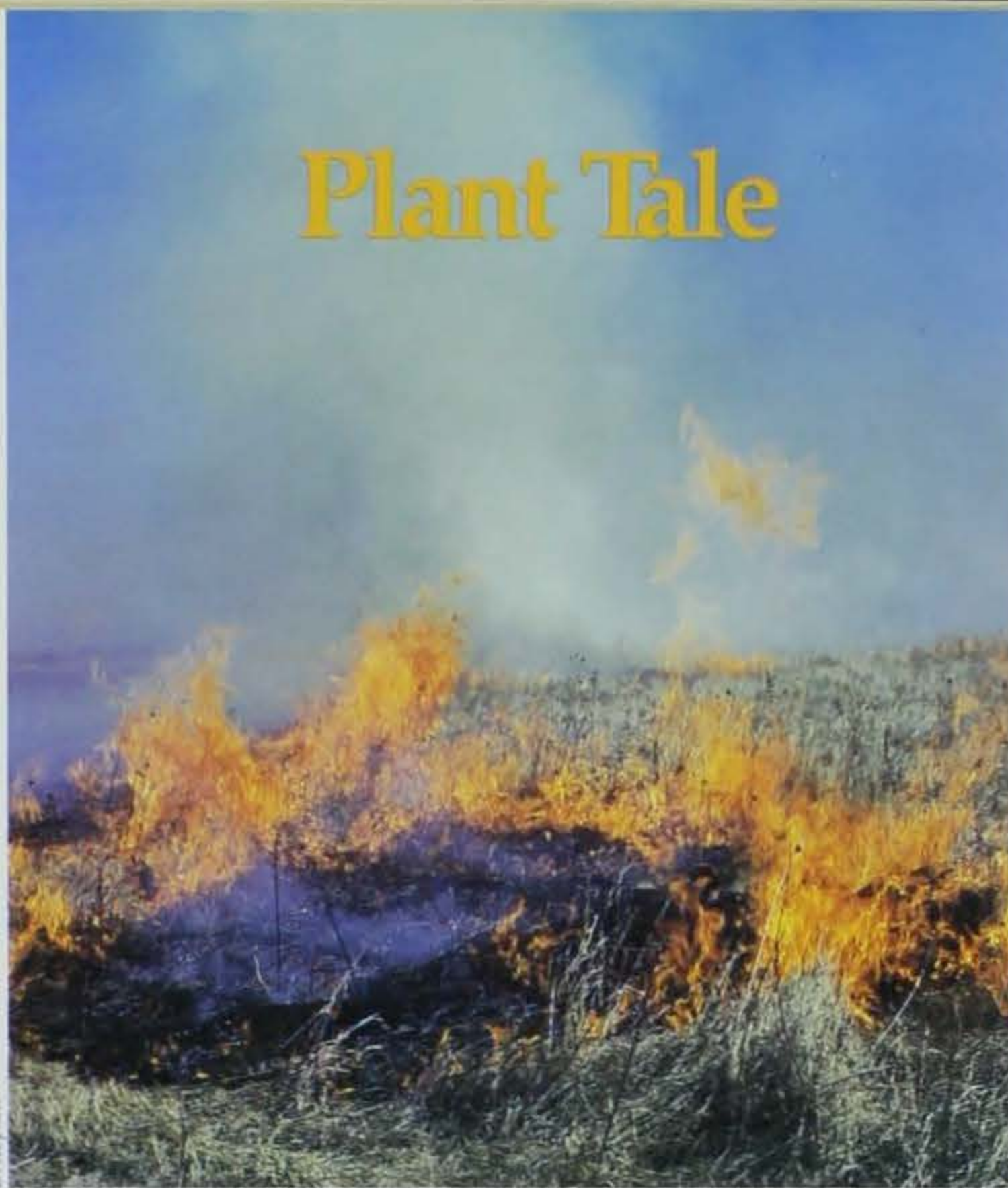
Luther Goldman

Most cormorants are seen during the spring and fall migrating periods. Although the majority of inland cormorant sightings occur at Coralville, the birds are also seen at Saylorville and Red Rock Reservoirs.



Doug Reeves

Plant Tale



Prairie Fire — The Great Rejuvenator

By Dean M. Roosa

Imagine, if you can, a prairie fire encompassing 10,000 acres — flames leaping skyward for fifty feet, traveling as fast as the wind can blow. Imagine, if you can, the knot in a pioneer's stomach when smoke appears on the horizon. What you are imagining is simply a moment in the history of Iowa.

The Midwestern tallgrass prairie, stretching from eastern Nebraska, Kansas and South Dakota to Ohio, was at certain times of the year a tinderbox. Settlers feared the prairie fire and they developed a strategy for survival. They burned firebreaks around their homesteads, but never did so alone; they knew all about backfires — just when and where to start them; they often plowed furrows around their houses.

Grass fires played a big role in maintaining the open, treeless prairie. These fires may have been started by lightning. Some authorities feel the native Americans burned large areas of prairie to improve pasturage or to encourage an early crop of grass for bison to graze. But a few thousand men could

not keep the huge grassland burned; in the final analysis, Nature probably contrived to strike the match.

As important as fires were in keeping the prairie treeless, they did not cause the prairie. The cause was a hot, dry spell called the xerothermic period, which lasted for several thousand years. In more recent times, the climate has turned again cool and moist. This change encourages trees to grow, and they don't mind at all growing in our prairies. If we do not wish to have a young forest in twenty years, we must reinstitute prairie fires. Therefore, each spring, prairie managers burn a portion of each state-owned prairie.

To keep out woody species is only one reason for burning prairies — most prairie plants have evolved in the presence of fire and are dependent on periodic burns. Last year, I burned one-half of a hill prairie in a central Iowa preserve. The day of the fire I counted three dried stalks of purple coneflowers from the previous year. The burn happened without incident. Imagine my joy when I returned in July to see 300 purple coneflowers where I had burned!

Nature Tale

A Dark and Stormy Night

By Dean M. Roosa

It was a dark and stormy night — you know, the kind where you want to rush and jump into your parent's bed — the kind where even the dog runs from the thunder to hide under the bed. It was that kind of night — where lightning illuminated the landscape and the claps of thunder were thrilling and scary all at once.

It was a dark and stormy night all right, and the mother bobwhite had six precious reasons to be uneasy. It was only yesterday that her six tiny chicks had emerged from their eggs, after an incubation period of 23 days. Yesterday they had seemed so independent. Bobwhites and their close relatives, such as partridges, pheasants and domestic chickens, are able to run after their parents and even peck and scratch for food within a few hours of hatching. However, in the face of the raging storm, the six chicks sought protection huddled close under their mother's wings. The lightning lit up the woodland like mid-day. The thunder clashes made the little birds huddle even closer. The mother bobwhite thought the dark and stormy night would never end. But end it did, and the next morning found the parents and only five offspring searching for insects and seeds in a shrubby field in southern Iowa. The bright sun and gentle breeze made the family soon forget about the ordeal of the previous night. The father bobwhite, commonly called the cock, kept a wary eye for danger. The family group, or covey, felt safe in this ancient southern Iowa landscape with its acres of sumac, bittersweet, mulberry, wild rose and dogwood. For the moment at least, all was well in the world of the seven bobwhites.

Danger to wild creatures comes from all quarters. To the unwary bobwhite, danger may come in the form of a Cooper's hawk, great-horned owl, striped skunk or snake. To help avoid these dangers, the covey spends the night in a circle with tails together and many pairs of eyes keeping watch. All the precautions available did not help, however, and one August evening a dusk-foraging great-horned owl reduced the number of young in the covey to four. The remaining six bobwhites spent the remainder of the summer and early fall successfully fending off any new threats, and foraging in the weedy successional fields which formed their territory. On each side were territories of other coveys which often called back and forth and even shared a common-ground roost many evenings. They ventured into the newly harvested fields where they feasted on the fallen crop and weed seeds.

In the fall, a new form of danger arose. Suddenly the fields, so lonely and forgotten most of the year, were now nearly alive with hunters and their hunting dogs, coursing the fields with the hope of flushing a covey of bobwhites. The first day the covey of six bobwhites narrowly escaped when the big pointer betrayed their location. The cock bird became nervous and the entire covey flushed before the hunter was in a good position. The explosive, bomb-like exit startled both dog and hunter, even though both had seen it hundreds of times before. The late shot hit only vegetation, and the covey flew safely across a gentle valley and

regrouped to the time-tested call of the old birds. The covey had another narrow escape a week later, but the hunter's foot, breaking a dry twig, signaled danger and the covey once again flushed to safety across the valley. The covey became more and more wise to the ways of survival and all lived to see the end of the hunting season. Peace again returned to the world of the six-member family.

Fall gave way to early winter and the unpredictable Iowa weather. In late November, a sudden ice storm struck. For two days, rain pelted the landscape and immediately changed to ice. The covey huddled in a sumac patch near a ravine, unable to forage for food. When the sun finally melted the ice and freed the family, only four were able to escape and, though thin from hunger, recovered by feeding ravenously on weed seeds in nearby fields.

In early December, a goshawk from Canada took up residence in a pine grove within the territory of the covey. The old birds knew all about hawks and were very cautious, giving wide berth to this northern visitor. But one morning the nervous youngsters flushed directly in front of this steel-gray bird. This was a fatal mistake for one of the remaining youngsters who was picked off in

flight by the fleet raptor. This left the parents and one young from the spring hatch. Fortunately, the remainder of the winter was unusually mild and the family grew fat in the weed fields and waited for spring.

In late spring, the remaining youngster was setting on eggs at the edge of a field. Her mate was close by, lazing in the warm spring sun. This was their first nest, but they instinctively knew exactly where to build. She patiently incubated; he patiently stood watch; peace was at hand in southern Iowa. On the big day, the day of hatching, the sun was bright, the sky deep blue, everything was right in the world of the new covey. A few fast-moving clouds went by unnoticed. A brisk wind a few hours later caused the parents to worry and look for good cover. The darkening sky caused the hen to call her young close and they huddled under her wings. Then Nature, in all her fury, broke loose; it became a dark and stormy night — you know the kind — where you want to rush and jump into your parent's bed, where lightening illuminates the landscape and the claps of thunder are thrilling and scary all at once. The hen pulled her little family closer under her wings, fearing the night would never end.

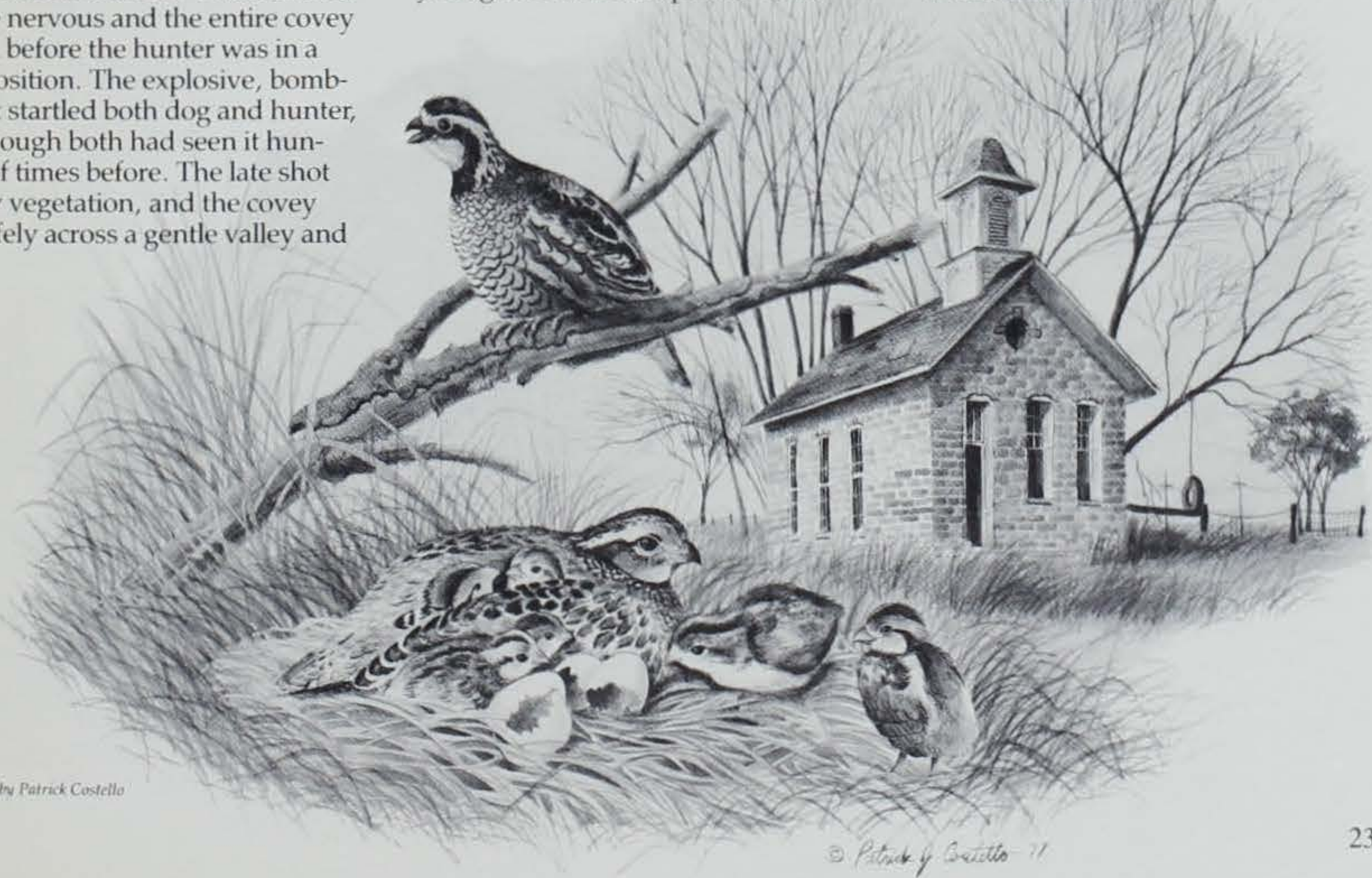


Illustration by Patrick Costello

© Patrick Costello '77

Conservation Update



WETLANDS CLASSIC

May 2, 1987



The Wetlands Classic is the premier fund-raising event for the Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation's special program, Wetlands For Iowa. This unique event is truly a class event featuring art demonstrations, auction of original art, auction of special "outdoor adventures" and auctions of other high-quality items. Selected Iowa artists will create full-color original art pieces while those attending the Wetlands Classic enjoy the artist's talent and creativity. Each artist will submit an additional original, created in pencil, to Wetlands For Iowa. Both full-color and pencil originals from each artist will be auctioned after dinner.

The 1987 Wetlands Classic will be held in Des Moines at the Wakonda Club, May 2, 1987. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with the art demonstration and other festivities beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Your check for \$150 gives you a prime rib dinner for two, \$100 membership in the Wetlands For Iowa Program, and a signed/numbered print by Paul Bridgford, artist of the year and two-time winner of three Iowa wildlife stamp contests. All proceeds from the Wetlands Classic will be used for the conservation of Iowa wetlands. The Wetlands For Iowa Program

utilizes the funds from the classic and other events to save and restore valuable wetlands in Iowa.

The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation and its Wetlands For Iowa Program has conserved 12 wetland areas totaling 1,690 acres in Iowa since 1980. The Wetlands For Iowa Program is presently working on several additional wetland projects in need of funding. The goal of Wetlands For Iowa is to raise one million dollars for wetland conservation by December, 1989.

Wetlands are the richest and most productive of all natural habitats in Iowa. From small aquatic marsh-life to the mighty Canada goose, wetlands provide a home for a great variety of Iowa wildlife. Critical to migrating waterfowl and winter protection to wildlife like pheasants, our wetlands are home to over 200 wild species and provide a welcome refuge to humans.

For more information on Wetlands for Iowa or to receive tickets to the Wetlands Classic contact:

Wetlands for Iowa Program
Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
Insurance Exchange Building
505 Fifth Avenue,
Suite 1005
Des Moines, IA 50309
515/288-1846

Free Fishing Days JUNE 6 AND 7, 1987

Sport fishing license requirements have been waived for residents of Iowa on Saturday and Sunday, June 6 and 7, 1987. This two-day period of free fishing has been set aside by the Department of Natural Resources in recognition of both National and State Fishing Week, June 1-7. In signing the State Fishing Week proclamation, Governor Branstad recognized that fishing is an established recreational tradition rooted deeply in the hearts of our citizenry, and promotes respect for our nation's natural waters, wilderness and wildlife.

At last count, twelve states have adopted the free fishing day concept. Free fishing days are a perfect time to try fishing. If you already fish, it is an excellent opportunity to stimulate your friends to



go with you and teach them about an enjoyable experience. There are several good reasons to promote fishing. Fishing is fun, it is a lifetime activity, it puts participants out-of-doors and in touch with nature, it is an inexpensive sport, it develops individual skills, and promotes



Fishing clinics for youth and beginning anglers are scheduled during Free Fishing Days, June 6 and 7.



companionship between family and friends.

Remember, all laws regarding size limits, bag limits, etc. must be obeyed. Beginning anglers should familiarize themselves with the laws pertaining to sport fishing by obtaining a copy of the Iowa 1987 fishing regulations brochure available from all fishing license outlets such as county recorders, sporting goods stores and Department of Natural Resources offices.

For youth and beginning anglers, DNR fisheries personnel are helping sponsor fishing clinics during free fishing days. Clinics will be conducted on June 6 at Spencer, Davenport, Muscatine, Clear Lake, Willow Lake (Harrison County), Cold Springs Lake (Cass County), Osborne Park (Clayton County) and Dubuque Riverview Park. Clinics to be held June 7 include those at Fairfield and Silver Lake (Delaware County). Contact DNR fisheries personnel for details on these and other clinics to be held this year.

Most of the clinics have five stations. The participants move from station to station as a group until all stations have been visited. The stations last 20 to 30 minutes and cover material on fish identification, fish cleaning, tackle types, casting, water safety and fishing laws.

This year take the time to rediscover the good times of fishing!

CALENDAR

April-May, 1987

April 11	Landscaping for Wildlife 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.	Belva Deer Rec Area Sigourney Keokuk County 515/622-3757	May 9	Birding 8:00 a.m.	Buzzard Ridge Wildlife Area Jackson County 319/652-3783
April 11	Nighttime Prairie Burn 5:30 p.m.	Hickory Grove Park Story County 515/232-2516	May 9	Geology Field Trip 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. \$6 pre-registration	Marshall County 515/752-3150
April 12	Early Spring Walk 2:00 p.m.	McFarland Park Story County 515/232-2516	May 9	Bird Watching Hike	Courthouse Cass County 712/243-3542
April 12	Hanging Bog Discovery 2:00 p.m.	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve Dubuque County 319/556-6745	May 9, 10	Eden Valley Rendezvous and Heritage Days	Clinton County 319/847-7202
April 22	Breeding Bird Atlas Public Information Meeting 7:30 p.m.	Kossuth County 515/295-2138	May 9	Nature Film 2:00 p.m.	Wildwood Nature Center Fayette County 319/425-3613
April 24	Evening Woodcock Watch 6:30 p.m.	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve Dubuque County 319/556-6745	May 10	Spring Birding Program 2 p.m.	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve Dubuque County 319/556-6745
April 25	Star Party 7:30 p.m.	McFarland Park Story County	May 10	Bird Hike 7:00 a.m.	Echo Valley Park Fayette County 319/425-3613
April 25	Wildflower Walk 2:00 p.m.	Swan Lake Park 515/532-3185	May 10	Spring Birding Program	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve Dubuque County 319/556-6745
April 26	Wildflower Walk 2:00 p.m.	YMCA Nature Center Story County 515/232-2516	May 10	Volksmarche 2-5 p.m.	Shimek Forest Lee County 319/556-6745
April 26	Discover New Wine Park 2:00 p.m.	New Wine Park New Vienna Dubuque County	May 11	Armchair Adventures 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Lime Creek Nature Center Cerro Gordo County 515/423-5309
May-August	Saturday Night Movies (dusk) Campground Programs (2:00 p.m., Saturdays)	Swan Lake Park Carroll County 712/792-4614	May 12	Full Moon Hike and Campfire	Jakway Park, Aurora Buchanan County 319/636-2617
May 1, 2	Kite Construction and Flying 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., May 1 10:00 a.m., May 2	Wright County 515/532-3185	May 14	House Concert Dave Para and Cathy Barton	Eagle Point Nature Center Clinton County 319/847-7202
May 2	Early Bird Walk 6:00 a.m.	Palo Alto County 712/837-4866	May 15	Full Moon Walk 8:30 - 9:30 p.m.	Wilson Lake Park Lee County 319/463-7673
May 2, 10	Wildflower Walk 2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.	Dutton's Cave Park Fayette County 319/425-3613			
May 2	Prairie Hike 10:30 a.m.	Maquoketa Jackson County 319/652-3783			
May 2	Wildflower Walk	Pioneer Ridge Nature Area, Ottumwa Wapello County 515/682-3091			
May 2	Wildflower Hike 2:00 p.m.	Rodgers Park Benton County 319/472-4942			
May 3	Spring Wildflower Hike 2 p.m.	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve Dubuque County 319/556-6745			
May 3	Wildflower Program 2:00 p.m.	Bailey's Ford Park Delaware County 319/927-5010			
May 3	Wildflower Hike 2:00 p.m.	Swiss Valley Nature Preserve Dubuque County 319/556-6745			
May 3	Wildflower Hike	Fontana Park, Hazelton Buchanan County 319/636-2617			
May 3	Warbler Hike 2-4 p.m.	Wilkinson Park, Rock Falls Cerro Gordo County 515/423-5309			
May 9	Birdwatch 8 a.m.	Brookside Park Ames Story County 515/232-2516			

April						
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31						



WARDEN'S DIARY

How Are You Doing?

By Jerry Hoilien

It was a really dark night as I came north from Keokuk and crossed the Devil Creek bridge just south of Fort Madison. I noticed an Illinois car parked on the new access area the county conservation board had created from the old roadbed. "Must be some night fishermen," I thought; but as I checked around, I couldn't find a soul. The cartop carriers and the marks on the bank told me they must have gone down the creek. There was not much fishing water upstream. It didn't take long to go home and get my Gruman sportboat. I always kept it hanging upside-down in my garage, so it loaded in seconds. I told my sleepy wife where I was going and that it would be late when I got home. She mumbled and rolled over to go back to sleep.

Not yet a sign of them when I returned. It was after midnight when I slid the boat down the bank and started to paddle. The moon came out almost on call and lit up the river beautifully. Too well, as a matter of fact — I had to move over to one side to stay in the shadows of the overhanging trees. I was about halfway to the mouth when all of a sudden... KERSPLOSH! The water erupted right in front of me. I'll bet I jumped three feet. Did someone jump into the river at me? Silence came as the ripples spread out all around... then I realized, I must have paddled quietly right up on Papa beaver and he dutifully sounded the alarm of the approaching danger to the rest of his clan (to say nothing of almost scaring a warden to death).

The stillness settled on the river once again, and I continued on. It was a long paddle, picking my way through the dark shadows, sculling my paddle to move quietly. Ahead I could see a glow as I came around

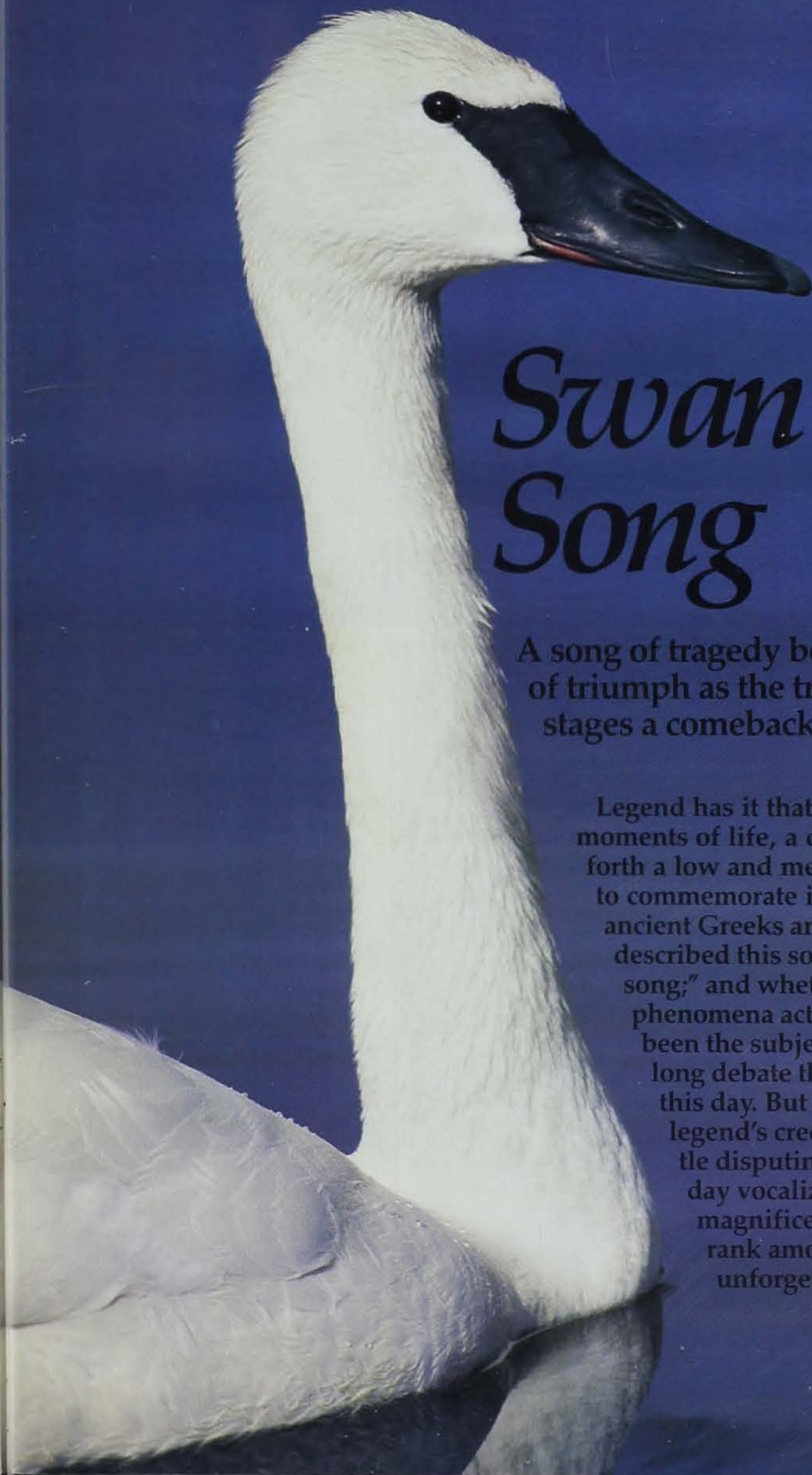
the last bend, and I could make out the outline of a boat. As I quietly neared, I could see the three men in the boat were busy trying to land a fish from a limb-line hanging from a snag in the middle. (Point of law: trotlines must be set from shore and visible above the waterline.)

I had to come out of the shadows to get to them, but no one noticed or heard me as I approached. As a matter of fact, I sculled right up alongside. As I put one foot over in their boat to hold on, I turned on my light and said, "Warden here — how are you boys doing tonight?" If you thought that beaver scared me, you should have seen the reaction of those three! The one took almost five minutes to get his breath, and that scared me just a little bit. I hadn't meant to scare them at all. I will never forget his panting words, "You know, you just as well shoot a man as scare him to death!" I am more careful now!

Later that summer, I was trying to do just that one night on the lower Skunk River. I had seen lights flashing from the river and had moved down to watch. They were running *way* too many lines — you are only allowed five lines with a total of fifteen hooks per person. I had come past their car by a cabin with two young boys sleeping in the back. It was after midnight again, so I knew they would eventually be returning to dock there. It wasn't too long before they came motoring up the river without a sign of boat lights. This time, not wanting to scare them too badly, I decided to back up to the cabin and stand in the shadow of the cabin's nightlight. Only one of them came from the river to the cabin porch. I recognized him as he climbed the steps, and I called him

by name. The reaction was instantaneous, "Warden, Go, Go, Warden!" The motor on the river started as he jumped from the steps like a gazelle and took off on a dead run. I caught him by the arm when he stopped on the edge of the high bank. He threw the dishpan full of trotlines in the river. The boat had roared out into the darkness, but the headlamp he was wearing shined down on the floating dishpan spinning on the water below. Before I could get a good grip, he jumped, feet first, landing smack-dab on top of that pan. He was still trying to sink the evidence, I guess. He came up sputtering and coughing. The water was deeper than he thought, and it was obvious he couldn't swim. "I've got my watch on," was all I could think of as I got ready to go in after him. Another sweep of my light revealed another boat tied off a few feet from him. I jumped down and shoved the boat back to him. When he crawled up over the back of that old boat, he was a sight! His headlamp hung to one side, he was coughing and wheezing, and the hooks and lines from that pan had wrapped and hooked into his pants and legs. He was a sorry sight. "Help me, Jerry, help me, I'm sorry!" What could I do? I got him up to his car and was unhooking the hooks when his partner finally figured out there was no place he could go that I couldn't find him and came back. They were both pretty sheepish, and the one was very embarrassed in front of his boys.

I have often thought about them wondering what was going through their minds, and I have also given a lot of thought to how I could have done that differently. But, at least, I hadn't scared them to death!



Swan Song

A song of tragedy becomes a song of triumph as the trumpeter swan stages a comeback.

Legend has it that during its final moments of life, a dying swan sends forth a low and melodious lament to commemorate its passing. The ancient Greeks are said to have first described this so-called "swan song;" and whether or not the phenomena actually exists has been the subject of a centuries-long debate that continues until this day. But regardless of the legend's credibility, there is little disputing that the day-to-day vocalizations of these magnificent birds certainly rank among nature's most unforgettable sounds. ♦

Due largely to a windpipe that can be measured in feet instead of inches, the swans have been endowed with an amazingly extensive repertoire that ranges from goose-like honkings to sounds strikingly similar to the distant baying of hounds. At times the notes closely resemble those of an army bugle, though curiously hollow and more resonate in tone. Uplifting, yet at the same time, mournful. At any rate, once you've been treated to the excited clamor of northbound swans cleaving their way through an April sky, the experience will be forever burned upon your memory.

All told, there are nine different varieties of swans, and in addition to their peculiar voices, the group is perhaps best known for its snow-white plumage, graceful movements, and regal bearing. Swans are also noted for their size, and represent the world's largest waterfowl.

The most impressive member of this family is the majestic trumpeter. Strictly North American in range, an adult male may tip the scales at

On an adult trumpeter swan (previous page) the black bill and eyes are in direct contrast to its snow white plumage. The distinctive "lipstick line" is clearly visible.

Once in grave danger of extinction the trumpeter swan population now nears 10,000 and is climbing.



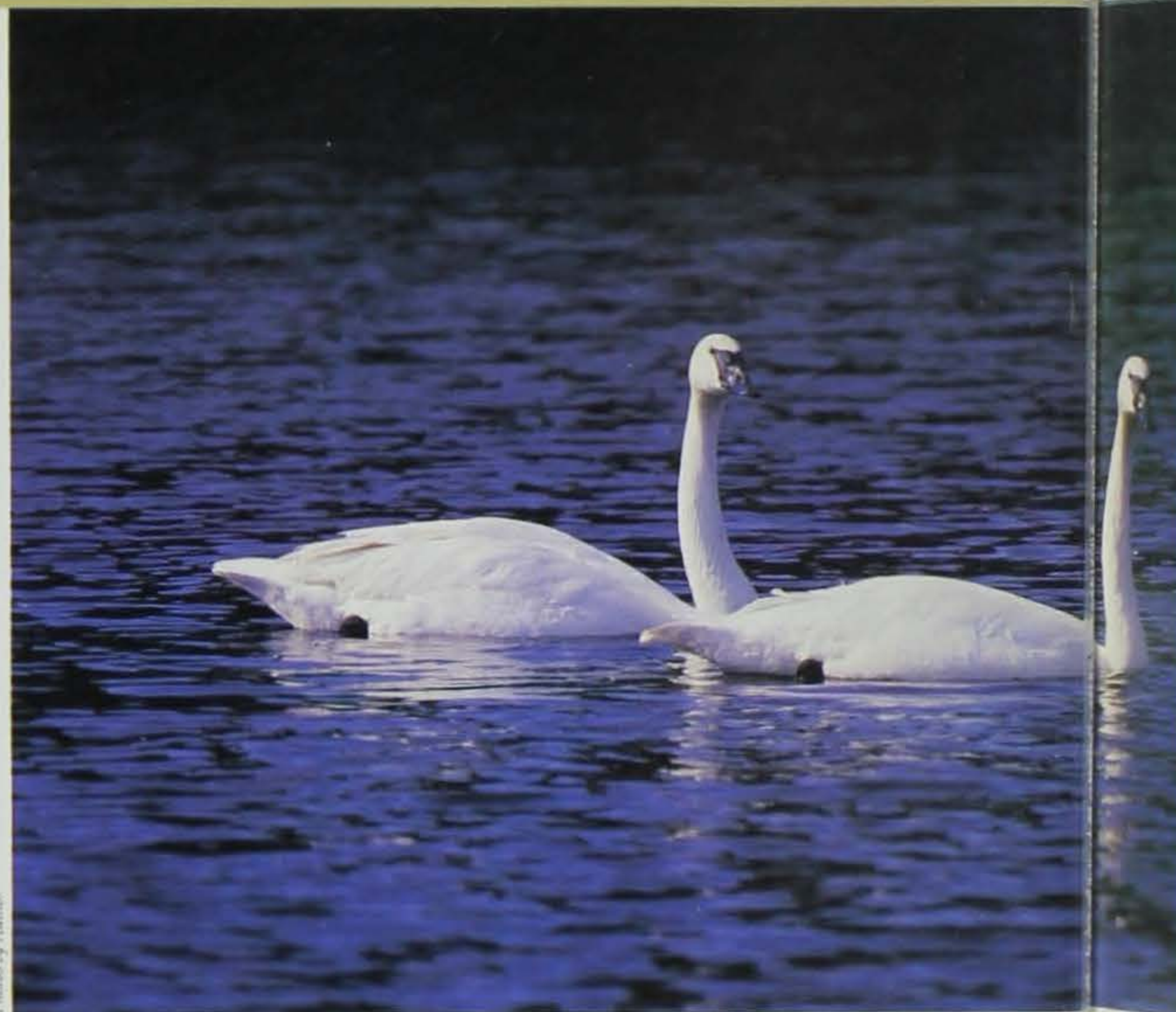
nearly 40 pounds, and with a wingspan approaching eight feet is easily among the largest of flying birds.

A half century ago, the world came dangerously close to losing its trumpeter swans. When only about 1000 birds were tallied during a 1930's survey, it did appear, at least in a figurative sense, as if this magnificent creature was indeed singing its swan song.

Historically, trumpeter swans had enjoyed a fairly wide distribution and occurred throughout the Midwest

and prairie Canada, as well as a portion of the Northwest Territories and Alaska. As with many wildlife species, the trumpeter swan's problems began when European immigrants began to invade the continent's mid-section during the first half of the 19th century. When settlers first arrived on the prairie-marsh complex of northern Iowa, nesting trumpeters were a frequent sight — but not for long.

Whenever possible, the big birds were relentlessly pursued for food



and feathers, and without the benefit of bag limits or seasons, their numbers soon began to wane. (During the 1800's tens of thousands of swan skins were sold to commercial markets in the U.S. and Canada. The bird's quills were used to make writing pens, and the softer feathers were converted to ladies' powder puffs.) The wholesale destruction of fragile wetland breeding habitats soon followed. By the late 1800's the bird had become extremely rare in Iowa, and the last known nesting occurred in Hancock County in 1883.

Throughout its known range the trumpeter swan experienced similar difficulties coping with man. And although modern authorities feel trumpeter numbers never actually dipped as low as a mere 100 birds, they do agree that the species was in a world of hurt.

Today, however, conservationists have a much brighter outlook on what the future may hold for America's trumpeters. Currently, state and federal conservation agencies as well as private organizations, such as the Trumpeter Swan Society, are engaged in an aggressive restoration program aimed at returning the number of breeding swans to a more desirable level. As a result of these

TUNDRA SWANS

By Lowell Washburn

The elegant tundra swan (formerly called whistling swan) regularly occurs in Iowa as both a spring and fall migrant. Among the most widely traveled of waterfowl, the species nests primarily along the treeless, windswept tundras of Canada's Northwest Territories and Alaska's north slope.

As shorter days and cooler weather signal the end of summer, swan families form into larger flocks for the fall migration. This flight is a generally southeastward movement that does not terminate until the birds reach the Atlantic seaboard. Here the flocks winter from the Chesapeake Bay south through the Carolinas.

The migration of the tundra swan represents one of nature's most awe-inspiring feats of aerial navigation. A monumental test of endurance, it leads the bird on a 7,000 mile round trip journey that is not only north to south, but spans the entire continent from east to west as well.

During April, tundra swans make brief stops for fuel and rest on the natural marshes and temporary sheet water areas of north-central and

northwestern Iowa. During this time, the birds are extremely vocal and prone to engage in spectacular courtship displays and battles. The greatest concentrations of tundra swans take place in fall, primarily along the Upper Mississippi River. One of the best places to find swans during November is just above the Iowa border where the population peaked at 13,000 birds in 1985, and at 20,000 in 1986.

During recent years Dr. Bill Sladen of Johns Hopkins University has begun marking tundra swans with large numbered, plastic neck collars. Much of this work has taken place on the wintering grounds at Lake Mattamuskeet along the coast of North Carolina. These bandings have shown that Mattamuskeet swans regularly use Iowa as a stopover during migration. Although no tundra swans may nest within a thousand miles of our state, the food and sanctuary provided here, and on other Midwestern wetlands, represent a vital link in the life cycle of this remarkable traveler. The tundra swan is just one example of why the protection of local wetlands becomes a matter of national significance.

These tundra swans were photographed near Mason City but had been banded a short time before in North Carolina.



Lowell Washburn

continuing efforts the trumpeter swan (like the giant Canada goose) is now returning to much of its former range. Best estimates place the continental population at 10,000 trumpeters and climbing.

Although the Iowa Department of Natural Resources has not embarked upon a swan restoration program of its own, the department's nongame personnel have not ruled out the possibility of such a project in the future. Swans from Minnesota, and possibly elsewhere, are now occurring here as migrants, and waterfowl enthusiasts are hopeful that it's just a question of time until a trumpeter nest can again be seen in Iowa.

As trumpeter numbers continue to prosper, wildlife enthusiasts are hopeful that the term "swan song" will adopt a new meaning — marking not the passing, but rather the triumph of the world's most majestic waterfowl species.

Lowell Washburn is an information specialist located in Clear Lake. He has been with the department since 1984.

What is Quality Fishing?

...the Answers are Many

By Steve Waters

My job as fisheries biologist has enabled me to be involved in hundreds of discussions and stories concerning fishing. One of the most-used terms I have heard in these numerous deliberations about fishing is "quality." "It sure was a quality experience," and "Now, that's quality fishing," are frequent superlatives used to describe many fishing trips.

I felt it was important for me to listen intently in order to understand what quality fishing is. Understanding this concept would give me an opportunity to provide Iowa anglers with the kind of fishing they really want. Therefore, I have listened with great interest to the fishing stories I have heard in order to answer the question, "What is quality fishing?"

Quality fishing may be fishing a favorite water habitat or special area such as a pond, large reservoir, natural lake, large river or small stream. Perhaps such things as clear water, pleasing landscape, and viewing wildlife are part of a quality angling experience for many people.

Some people may wish to fish alone along a secluded reach of stream, while some people involve the company of families and close friends or making new acquaintances as their idea of fishing quality. Other anglers may find competition fishing or relaxing around the campfire at night the segment of their fishing experience that is the most rewarding.

Some people's idea of quality fishing may be dropping a dry fly at precisely the correct location with perfect form, while others may cherish the simplicity of a cane pole. For some, wading along a stream bank or lazily dangling a foot off a dock and hoping to catch an unsuspecting fish is the ultimate quality angling experience. There are also those anglers who are excited about fishing out of a bass boat loaded with specialized high technological angling equipment.

The fish themselves are an important part of the angling experience. Quality fishing for some is fishing to put food on the table, but another angler's idea of quality is releasing the catch to fight another day. Some people are thrilled by catching large numbers of panfish, while others have their day made as a result of a single catch of a trophy fish. Quality for others may be a mixed bag or catching a unique species of fish.

Perhaps the most appropriate answer to the question "What is quality fishing" can be interpreted from the saying "beauty is in the eye of the beholder." Quality is defined differently by various people.

Fisheries biologists recognize that quality fishing experiences are varied. Therefore, we manage Iowa's fishery resource in a manner that provides the opportunity for anglers to enjoy different quality fishing experiences. Angling opportunities are provided through fish stocking, research, management and regulations. Access development, new lake construction, lake and stream rejuvenation, fishing education and resource protection also provide anglers the opportunity to pursue their favorite form of quality fishing.

Through the stories and discussions of anglers, I have determined that quality fishing is essentially varied angling experiences. I have also found that these experiences may change from day to day depending on the objectives of a particular fishing trip. There is perhaps only one true common ground that I have been able to pick out from all the different definitions of quality fishing, and that is fishing is fun.

Steve Waters is the southeast district fisheries supervisor located at Brighton. He holds an M.S. degree from the University of Missouri and has been with the department for 14 years.



Early morning anglers sometimes catch glimpses of other visitors.

Central State Small Impoundment Group

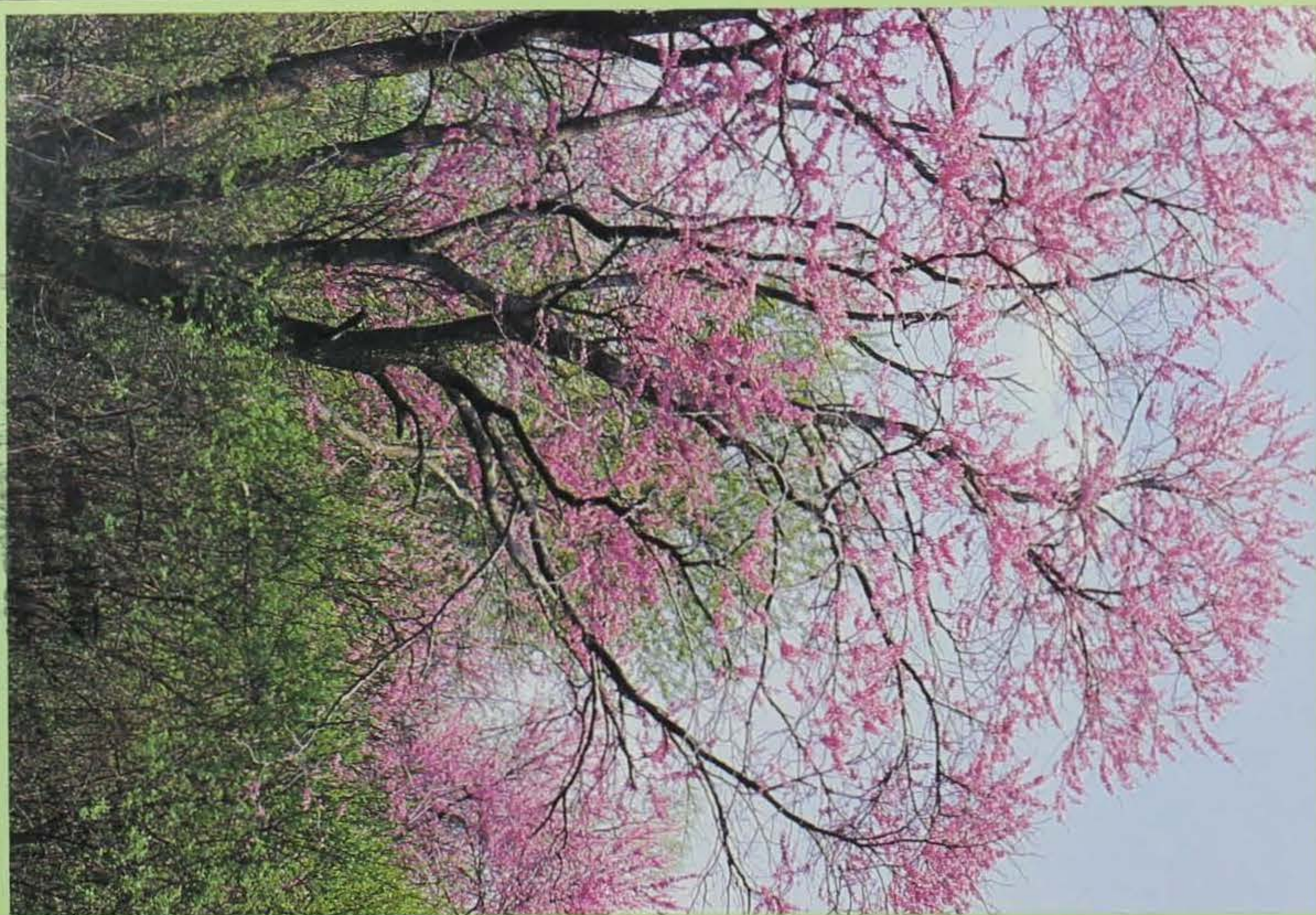


The young anglers at left may have a different idea about "quality fishing" than the stream fisherman below.



Iowa's fishery resource is managed in a manner that provides the opportunity for anglers to enjoy different quality fishing experiences.





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