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Iowa's Popular Pan Fish For Fun and Action

By David R. Evans
Superintendent

Information and Education

What are the most popular fish in Iowa? No doubt about it. It's the pan fish.

Eighty percent of the total catch in Iowa is made up of bullheads, yellow perch, bluegills and crappies—all pan fish.

Some people say pan fish are popular because there are so many of them. However, it may be because they are easy to lease and will grab a variety of baits.

Generally speaking, a pan fish can be one that will fit into a frying pan. But, some anglers say they are called pan fish because they are as much a delight on the end of a light line as in the frying pan.

"There are many things to recommend an fishing in Iowa," points out Jim Mayhew, assistant superintendent of biology for the State Conservation Commission. They are easy to catch, lots of fun to bring in and mighty good to eat. They are found in most areas of the state and provide angling throughout the summer, where other species are seasonal biters."

Fish for Everyone

Pan fish are everyone's fish. Young and old. Expert and novice. Men and women. One doesn't have to spend a fortune on equipment. A light cane pole, bobber and worm rig will keep a four-year-old busy. Perhaps children, with an inexpensive rig and unsophisticated attitude toward fishing, will get the greatest thrill. However, even a veteran angler will find it exciting to land a big old crappie on an ultra light spinning outfit or fly rod.

Just about every angler enjoys a lot of action. And pan fish provide just that.

Another important factor in pan fish popularity is that these species can stand angling pressure. "Basically, you can't hurt the pan fish population with hook and line," said Mayhew. "Iowa's

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With light tackle the power of a pan fish is greatly magnified.

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COMMISSION MINUTES

**State Conservation Commission Meeting
Held in Des Moines, Iowa
April 1 and 2, 1969**

Exercised the land acquisition option for 3.5 acres of woodland—Volga River Project, Fayette County.

The following County Conservation Board land acquisition projects were approved: Adams County Conservation Board—Highway 34 Safety Rest Area—2.50 acres. Buchanan County Conservation Board—Troy Mills River Access—23 acres. Cedar County Conservation Board—Cedar Valley Green Belt—227.70 acres. Cerro Gordo County Conservation Board—Gerke Recreation Area—70 acres. Cherokee County Conservation Board—Ranney Knob Access Area Addition—12.14 acres. Hardin County Conservation Board—Alden River Dam Access—1.00 acre; Bessman-Kemp River Access Area—10 acres; Ira Nichols Bird and Wildlife Preserve—16 acres; Lepley Memorial Park—9 acres; Steinberg Wildlife Area—3 acres; U. S. Highway 20 Safety Rest Area.

Linn County Conservation Board—Squaw Creek Park Addition—49.40 acres. Pottawattamie County Conservation Board—Arrowhead Park Addition—42 acres.

Wright County Conservation Board—Walker Slough—25.10 acres. Pottawattamie County Conservation Board—Long's Landing Missouri River Access Addition—2.176 acres.

The following County Conservation Board development plans were approved: Adams County Conservation Board—Highway 34 Safety Rest Area. Audubon County Conservation Board—Nabotna Pond Fishing Area.

Decatur County Conservation Board—Shewmaker Park; Trailside Historical Park. Hardin County Conservation Board—Bessman-Kemp River Access

Our Readers Write . . .

Dear Sir:

While visiting my brother in Cedar Rapids last June I became interested in your publication and subscribed to it. I am enjoying each issue, but along with your other readers, I have become alarmed about the destructive results of the use of DDT.

I am hoping the contamination can be controlled to preserve our fish and wildlife.

This week's issue of our local paper here in Parker had an article, which may interest you, as to one attempt to lick this major problem. We hope it will work.

Yours very truly,
Lester F. Merrifield
Parker, Arizona

Dear Sir:

I note our subscription to the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST will expire soon.

I wish to renew this subscription for two more years and thank you. We enjoy hunting and fishing like many others and always look forward to reading the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST.

Sincerely,
Lee R. Boddy
Iowa Falls, Iowa

Dear Sirs:

Although we are making our home in Florida we still love to get the IOWA CONSERVATIONIST. We like to see what changes are taking place. We lived in Iowa for 40 years and we liked to fish and squirrel hunt and camp at the many lakes and streams. We hope there will be such places for many years.

Many thanks for such a wonderful magazine.

Sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. Jasper Wenman
Florida

Dear Sir:

The time is now to stop such deals as this to pollute the air and our rivers. It will only be a question of time when this pool of stench will get into Yeader Creek and from there into the Des Moines River. The disposal plant is doing enough damage already and we don't need any more to kill our fish which we don't have too many of as it is.

There is enough stench in this part of the city from the disposal plant on SE 30th St. without making matters worse by adding another.

You would think the city manager would know what it would do to the city as a whole.

The enclosed clipping will tell you the story as it is.

Keep up the good work in our IOWA CONSERVATIONIST. It's a grand little magazine. I only wish it was bigger, but it gets to the point.

I am eighty-five years of age and love to fish and hunt but I don't do so much anymore. Lake Easter is going to be a nice place to fish and relax. Too bad we don't have more near by.

Yours truly,
R. F. "Dick" Geedeck
Des Moines, Iowa

Area; Ira Nichols Bird and Wildlife Preserve; Ox-Bow Lake Wildlife Area; Steinberg Wildlife Area; U. S. Highway 20 Safety Rest Area.

Winnebago County Conservation Board—Kendallville Park; Ludwig River Access; Merlin Moe Memorial Park. Woodbury County Conservation Board—Little Sioux Park Revision.

Accepted a proposal from the town of Lake Park to police Trappers Bay State Park so that camping can be permitted this summer.

Exercised the land purchase option on one-fourth acre of land adjacent to Pine Lake State Park.

DID YOU KNOW?

Unexcelled vision and keenness of hearing, coupled with it uncanny instinct for knowing when it is being hunted, make the wild turkey perhaps the most difficult to bag of all upland game birds.

Did you know a male swan should be called a cob, a female swan a pen, and the young swan a cygnet?

The hard-working beaver has been known to cut down a five-inch tree in three minutes. He has also been known to down a tree five feet seven inches thick.

An otter can swim a quarter of a mile under water without coming up for air.

EDITORIAL

June is probably one of the most important months for game biologists and managers. June is the month when Nature restocks her ample living quarters with new life.

This is the month when spotted deer fawns put in a wobbly-legged appearance in the rich farmlands. It's the month when pheasant and quail chicks burst from the confines of their shells and head confidently toward the fall hunting seasons. On countless sloughs and potholes, downy ducklings and fuzzy goslings paddle happily in wet contentment.

However, June's generous stocking is only a temporary thing.

Cold, wet weather often makes serious inroads into bird populations while drought and abnormal heat at the wrong time can also spell disaster.

The menace of an adverse summer is only one fearful phase. Add to this the man-made dangers from the hay mower, the drainage dragline and fire on the land. Disease and predators remove some of the weak.

This then is Nature's way—to always overstock wildlife, knowing full well that only the best and strongest will survive. Something like seven out of every ten birds will disappear in less than a year. This includes not only huntable birds like pheasants and quail, but also robins, meadowlarks, and doves which have protection under the law.

Food and shelter are basic human needs. The equivalent for wildlife is a thing referred to by game men as "habitat." Where habitat is right, lucky hunters can reap a harvest of game birds and animals. Where it is wrong, though, Nature is always brutal.

Obviously, good habitat is wonderful and wildlife fills it brim full. Habitat that is not so good may hold only a certain measure of wildlife and no amount of artificial stocking can fill it any fuller. Like water added to a full bucket, the surplus spills over and evaporates.

This is why most of what Nature produces in June must disappear. The habitat "bucket" is purposely made too full. But, after the surplus is spilled out, the wildlife level can be just right.

Wonderful month—June.

de

Growing Interest In Hunter Safety Courses

In the first four months of this year 3,218 students graduated from hunter safety courses in Iowa, more than doubling the number of graduates for the same period in 1968.

The State Conservation Commission believes that hunter safety plays an important part in making hunting a safe and enjoyable sport. Thus, in cooperation with the National Rifle Association, volunteer organizations and individuals, the Commission adopted the hunter safety training program in November, 1960.

Since the program was initiated, a total of 50,621 students have completed the training.

The program teaches proper gun handling, sportsmanship, safe hunting, and provides information on weapons and ammunition.

Hunter safety courses are conducted throughout the state by Commission fish and game officers who set up the classes in cooperation with local organizations and individuals. Volunteer instructors, including conservation officers, teach the classes.

Anyone who is interested in sponsor-

ing a hunter safety course should contact their local fish and game officer or write the State Conservation Commission, 300 4th Street, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.



There can be no better way to end an afternoon of swimming or hiking, than to return to a campsite and find a yummy treat ready and waiting for you to enjoy.

If any member of your family has that proverbial "sweet tooth," cookies or bars are sure to please, and great for the chef because they can be prepared at home giving the "galley mate" time to enjoy the outdoors.

For the campers who will be away from home for several days, snacks that can be stored easily and will stay fresh have a definite advantage. This recipe for "Peanut Butter Bars" not only fills these requirements but, best of all, is quick and easy to make.

Peanut Butter Bars

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup white syrup
- 1 cup chunk-style peanut butter
- 6 cups "Special K" flakes
- 1 pkg. chocolate chips
- 1 pkg. carmel chips (can substitute butterscotch chips)

Bring syrup and sugar to a boil. Melt peanut butter in this mixture. Then add "Special K" flakes. Mix well and spread in greased pan (fits 13 x 9 inch dish best, either metal or glass).

Melt chips and pour over top. Allow bars to set in refrigerator for 10-15 minutes ONLY. Bars will keep for a considerable time if covered and stored at room temperature.

For "goodies" that the whole family will enjoy, try these bars. They will keep for days, but don't count on saving very many—they're too yummy to last.



Time, Money Spent for Pan Fisherman

(Continued from page 41)

regulations on pan fish are liberal because it's possible for a good harvest without hurting the resource."

Bullheads will be hitting in the early spring at the natural lakes. Yellow perch provide some quality fishing in the natural lakes such as East and West Okoboji and Spirit in the fall. Artificial lakes, farm and city ponds provide bluegill fishing. West Okoboji Lake is also good for bluegills. May and June are good fishing months. The backwaters of the Mississippi River above Dubuque provide excellent angling for crappies and bluegills. Crappies are also found in artificial lakes, municipal ponds and other impoundments except farm ponds.

Pan Fisherman Most Important

If you are a pan fisherman you certainly don't have to feel inferior to anyone—even the purist fly fisherman or trophy angler. The pan fisherman is the most important segment of the angling fraternity.

Today anglers in the United States spend almost 58 million dollars on fishing licenses each year. It's especially agreed that most of this outlay is on behalf of the pan fish. In Iowa the majority of fishing license fee money is plunked down for pan fishing.

As Ken Madden, superintendent of fisheries, emphasizes: "The pan fish is mighty important and we certainly don't forget the pan fish angler. Pan fish provide tremendous recreational opportunities all year long. Ice fishing for bluegills and perch is growing rapidly. Apparently, some people are too busy to fish in the summer or they just want to fish all year.

"Actually, the only problem we really have in the management of pan fish is that there are not enough anglers. Often we are faced with an over population of pan fish in some waters. While it appears that management emphasis is on predator fish such as the bass, walleye and northern pike, it is an indirect aid to pan fishing.

"Predator fish contribute to halting over population of pan fish. However, our most effective and flexible control tools in management are the liberal seasons and public harvest. When pan fish over populate (and this results in slow growth), we try to thin down the population to promote more rapid and satisfactory growth."

So while trout, walleye and northern pike are enjoying the publicity, it's the pan fish that provide the action for most of the anglers.

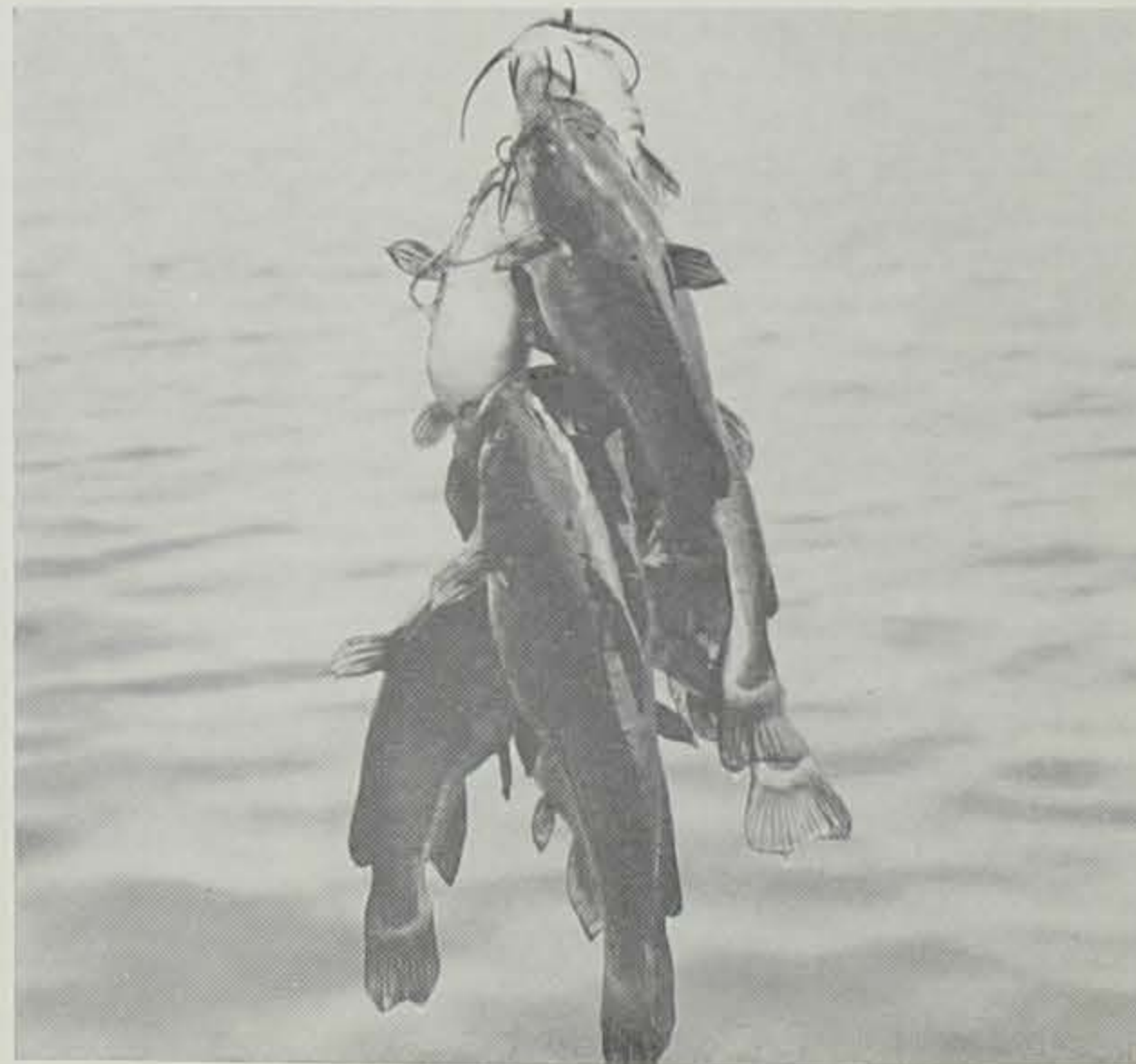
What's a good size for a pan fish? An old, experienced pan fisherman held up his hand and said with a smile: "As big as your hand."

There is a continuous open season and no size or catch limit on bluegill, crappie and bullheads. For perch there is a continuous season with the daily catch limit of 25 and possession limit of 50 in inland waters. However, there is no catch or possession limit on the boundary waters, and no minimum length on these species in Iowa.



Above: Yellow perch traveling in dense schools provide sport in Iowa's Great Lakes.

Below: Bullheads are the number one pan fish in Iowa's farm ponds and lakes.



bird watching —

*a sport that
offers something
for everyone!*

By Kenneth Formanek
Information Officer

Who is a bird watcher? One might ask himself this question on sighting a person with field glasses in hand, strolling along a woodland trail, searching tree branches carefully for a certain bird.

This becomes a typical mind's eye portrait of a person labeled as a "bird watcher." Yet, bird watchers include persons of every age and from every background.

There is the toddler, becoming acquainted with his new world, who is intrigued with these funny creatures that visit a window feeding station. The grade school child learns of bird nesting habits in his general science class.

In high school biology courses, students may advance to anatomy studies, while at the college level, concentrated research is conducted to unlock the secrets of migratory habits.

During some period of our lives, all of us will find ourselves caught up in watching birds.

Bird watching can be a very simple and fascinating pastime and, at the same time, so intriguing that one is eager to continue and expand his hobby.

Bird watching can take place almost anywhere, and by anyone. It can be the housewife's quick glance out the back window as her eye catches the red of a male cardinal darting about the yard scrubby. Or, it might be the sight of a pair of wood ducks bounding skyward as a fisherman rounds the bend of a quiet stream.

Boat tail grackles glisten in the sun as they grab insects from a newly turned furrow left by the plowman. In everyday places in our everyday lives, birds can be seen.

Variety adds considerable spice to the life of the bird watcher who has an opportunity to visit different areas in the state. Certain species prefer special types of habitat which may not be available in conditions found close to home.

Timbered areas such as state parks and forests provide homes for several species of woodpeckers including the elusive pileated woodpecker found along the northeastern border of Iowa.

Nuthatches, chickadees, and tufted titmice also make their homes in wooded areas, while the meadow and horned larks, bobolinks, and dickcissels seek the open spaces of prairies and grasslands. Along the shores of marshy refuges and public hunting areas wade the killdeer, rails, and herons.

A "birder" may set his own pace as to satisfying his desires in this specialized field. He may be content with a



Tufted Titmouse

casual sighting now and then, or may prefer a continuing study by keeping a life check list of birds he has personally observed.

Very little equipment is needed—just a good field identification guide, binoculars or field glasses, and, of course, an inquisitive mind.

Two popular field guides found in paperback form at most book stores are: "A Field Guide to the Birds" (Eastern Land and Water Birds) by Roger Tory Peterson; and "Birds of North America" by Robbins, Brunn, Zim, and Singer.

With one of these in hand and a scrutinizing eye, proper bird identification is easy. As interest in birding grows, one may eventually build a personal library of various works done by outstanding ornithologists.

Another facet of bird study is to become a member of an organized group such as the Iowa Ornithologists Union, an Audubon chapter, or local garden



Downy Woodpecker

club. These groups share the common interest of bird observation and study.

Game bird hunters might also be classified as bird watchers, for positive identification of fowl before shooting is a must! A hunter has to be able to recognize the color differences between a hen and a rooster and must have the ability to distinguish flight characteristics.

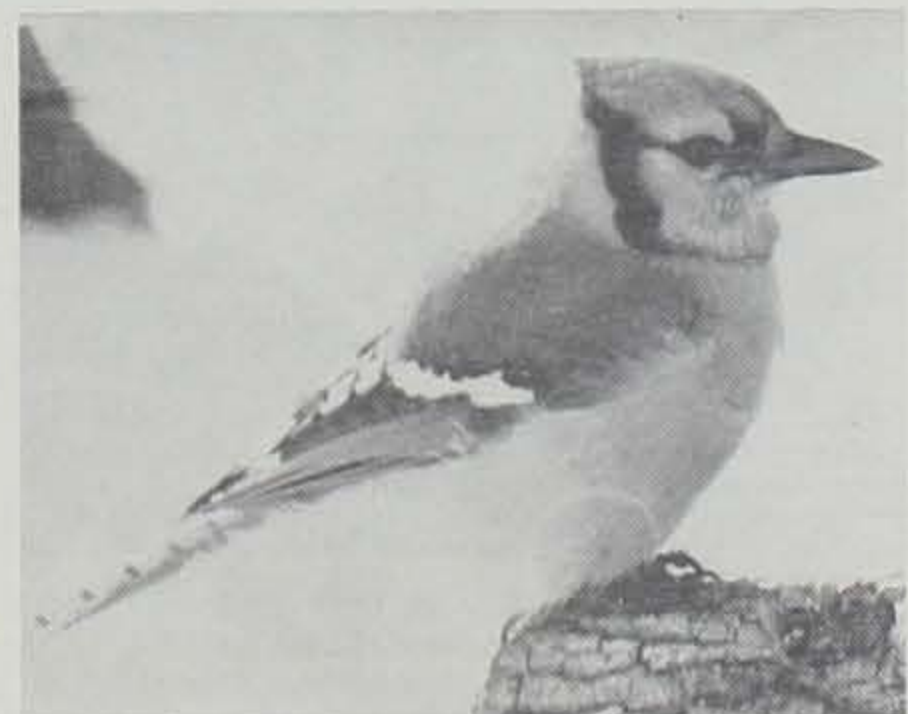
Since we live in an age of waterfowl species control, . . . it is essential for the sportsman to learn flight patterns and identifying marks of the birds he is hunting. Without this ability, a bird in a "protected species" category might be downed, making the act illegal and an unnecessary loss in dwindling populations. Positive waterfowl identification should rank high on the priority list when the hunter equips himself for the fall season.

Birding can be a challenging sport. Ability to identify a bird by its call rather than by sight takes keen listening. Each spring we await the first chirp of a robin, the calls of mourning doves, and the trilling notes of newly arrived house wrens.

Enjoyment of a warm spring evening is enhanced by the distant calls of whip-poor-wills answering each other. Many avid bird watchers will listen carefully for certain bird calls before they attempt a sighting for identification.

Often the so-called bird watcher is pictured as an unusual person—someone

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Blue Jay

Safe Boating Begins With Proper Equipment AND Common Sense

By Wayne Lonning

The items and equipment used by an average Iowa boating family on a typical outing would comprise a "What's-What?" list ranging from animal crackers for the kids to grandma's knitting.

Dad might insist on having "all" his fishing gear, Mom might want her latest paperback romance story and junior could demand he take along anything

from a pet frog to his latest space navigation gadget just acquired from a box of breakfast food.

Knowing what equipment to take and how much of each type should be based on common sense, experience and what the law requires.

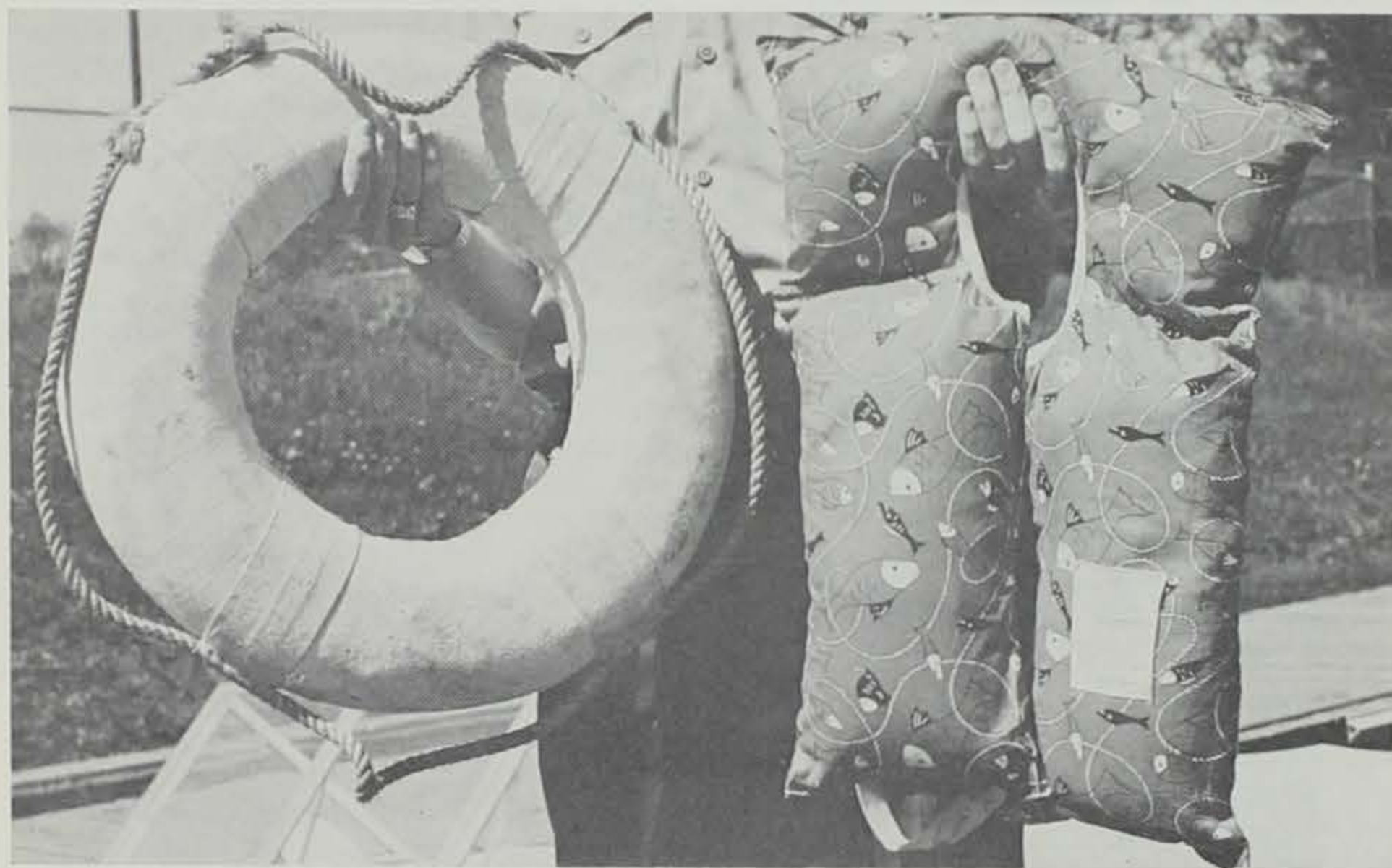
Equipment requirements that are spelled out in Iowa law generally cover boats used with a motor, however, there are basic requirements for boats used

without a motor such as canoes, sailboats and many rowboats. Even if your boat doesn't have to be registered, it still must comply with some Federal and State law when used on public waters.

All boats used on public waters must have one U. S. Coast Guard approved life saving device on board for each passenger. These boats must also comply with the Commission's lighting requirement when operated between sunset and sunrise.

The explosive growth in the number of boat owners in Iowa (from 46,000 in 1960 to almost 80,000 today) has brought about changes that have greatly improved service to individual boat owners. The 62nd General Assembly enacted a law that placed the responsibility for registering boats in the hands of local county recorders in Iowa. This legislation served a two-fold purpose—to speed issuance of boat licenses and to provide an additional place in each county where current information about boating equipment, new laws and other boating news would be available. The Conservation Commission is required by law to supervise and administer the county program.

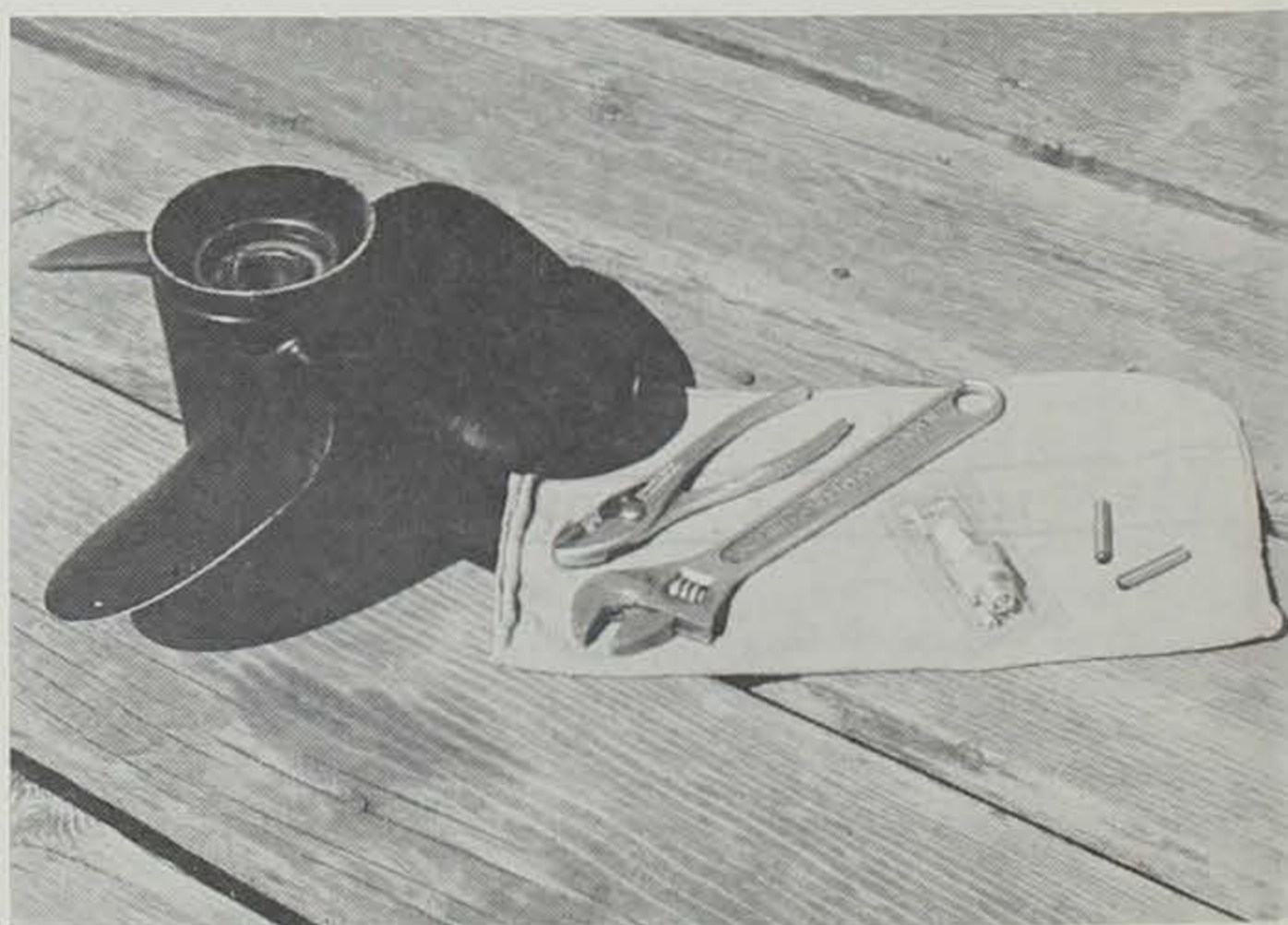
During the peak boating season the Commission has a staff of thirty Water Safety Officers assigned to major areas where large concentrations of boats are in use. In addition, all State Conservation Officers and State Park Officers have a thorough knowledge of boating laws and equipment requirements.



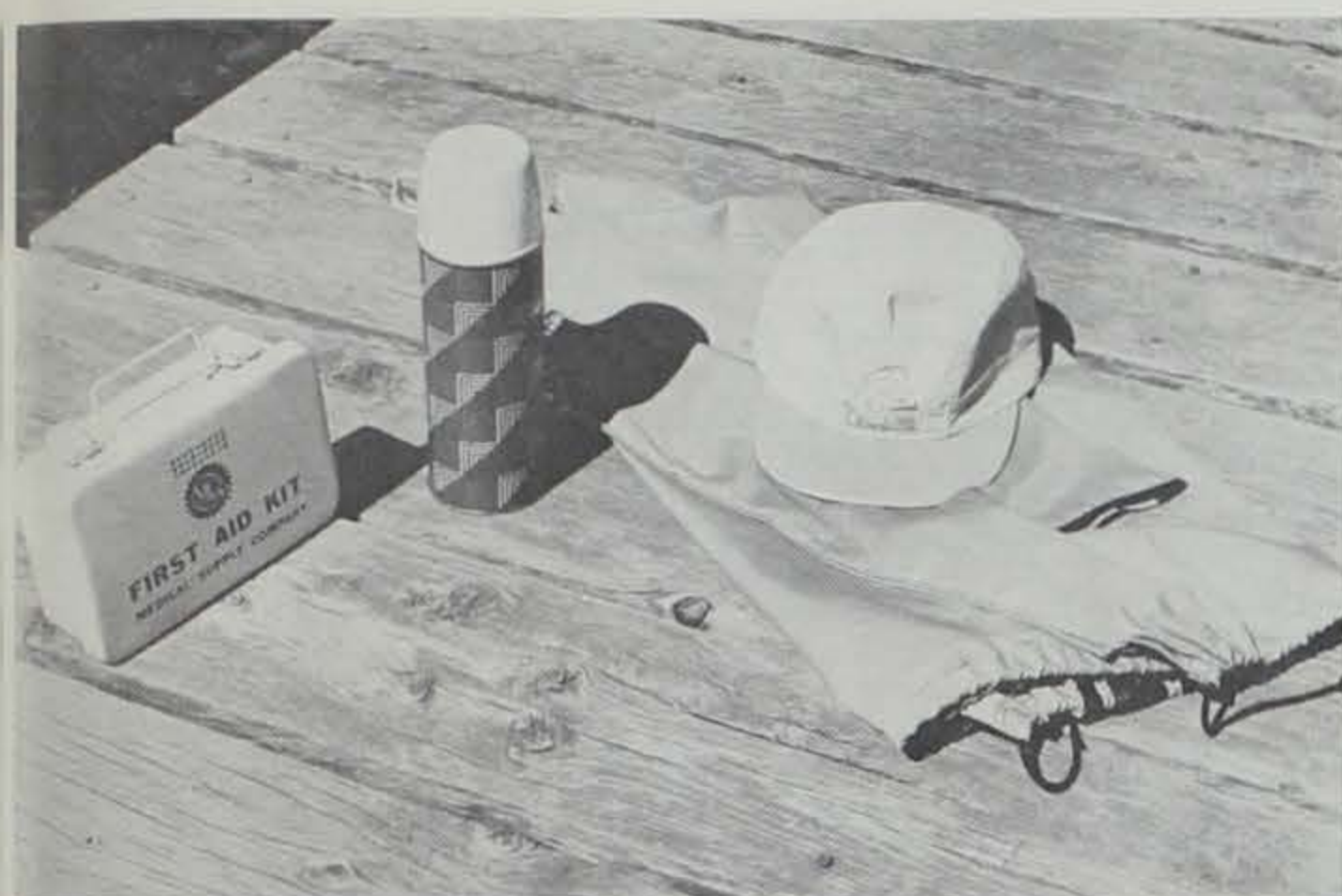
The ring buoy and life jacket are two of the most common types of required life saving equipment. Seat cushion preservers (not shown) are also commonly used. The foam life belts used by water skiers are not currently approved for use in boats.



Oars, rope, anchor, flares, bell or flashlight aren't required but could become very useful if the need arises. A toy whistle could replace the flares and bell for attracting attention if you're lost or in trouble. A wise boater would add a bilge pump or bailing bucket, and perhaps an extra rope for emergency use.



If motor trouble develops, an extra prop, pliers, wrench, spark plug, shear pins, and grease rag might soothe an impatient temper.



A first aid kit, thermos with soft drinks or water of course, cap and jacket are logical personal comfort items to take along. Food, suntan lotion and extra clothing could be added to this group.

These people, working in conjunction with county recorders, have combined their talents to give Iowa one of the top boating safety records in the nation. The courtesy and cooperation of Iowa's boat owners have played an important part in making this record possible.

The license fees paid by boaters are used exclusively for boating safety education and navigation law enforcement.

Although boating equipment is important, a knowledge of boat licensing requirements is also desirable. To determine if your boat must be licensed in Iowa, just remember this phrase: "If you use your boat with a motor, on public waters, it must be registered."

Registration is handled by your county recorder in the county where you maintain your permanent, year-round residence and mailing address. The only exception is boaters living outside Iowa. These non-residents who wish to register a boat in Iowa should do so with the recorder in the county where the boat is principally used.

Boats are divided into four classes—determined by length—for purposes of establishing equipment requirements. Since space won't allow printing all the rules for each class, a copy of the current Iowa Boating Regulations can be

obtained from any county recorder or Commission Officer. Most marinas and boat dealers also have this information.

Whether you take a geiger counter or mother-in-law (she might help row back if the motor quits) is up to you. Just remember to BE LEGAL, BE CAREFUL, DON'T LITTER, and HAVE FUN.



Every boat powered by a motor larger than ten horsepower must have a Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher on board. The Commission recommends carrying an extinguisher on board. The Commission recommends carrying an extinguisher in every boat even though it may not be required by law.

Ducks Limited

By Richard Bishop
Waterfowl Biologist

Yes, the discouraging reports you have been hearing about duck populations are as real as they can be. Drought conditions that existed across Canadian prairies have severely curtailed waterfowl reproduction.

Hunting seasons, for the most part, have been too liberal and contributed to the shortage of ducks.

Some species like the gadwall, blue-winged teal, and lesser scaup have held up better under these conditions than others such as the mallard, pintail, canvasback, and redhead. However, the populations of most ducks are considerably lower than they were in the mid-fifties.

The mallard, our "bread and butter" duck, has taken the hardest blow. Hunting pressure and declining habitat of this species have been the controlling factors in its decline.

Waterfowl breeding surveys across Canada each spring show that even during drought years many marsh areas were not occupied by mallards. This indicates that even with restrictive seasons we have shot too many mallards.

Data from these surveys indicate that the mallard breeding populations in 1968 were 24 percent lower than in 1967. It appears that mallard breeding populations this spring will be lower yet because of poor production in 1968 and heavy hunting pressure. In fact, this year we can expect one of the lowest mallard breeding populations ever.

Many hunters are aware that increased moisture in Canada during the 1968 fall and winter months created excellent water conditions for this spring. However, we have reduced the breeding populations of many species to a level where there will be more habitat than ducks.

Even if we take the best reproductive success which the mallard has experienced in the last 15 years and apply it to this year's populations, we could not look forward to a more liberal season than in 1968 without endangering the population further.

All conditions would have to be ideal for this reproduction to occur, but the
(Continued on page 48)

IMPORTANT
THIS IS YOUR BOAT NUMBER

DISPLAY THIS NUMBER AND NUMBER ON BOAT FRONT
ON BOAT AS SHOWN BELOW AND INSTRUCTED ON ALL
STATE SIZE

STANDARD (RIGHT) SIDE PORT (LEFT) SIDE

1. LEAVE 4" SPACE

2. PLACE YOUR NUMBER HERE

3. LEAVE 4" SPACE

4. BOAT NUMBER DESIGNATING CATEGORY AND WEIGHTING ON
BOAT BODY OR BOAT MOTOR E. G. "SEABOAT 10"

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Duck Hunting CAN Have A Future

(Continued from page 47)

odds are against it. There is little leeway for any type of a season in 1969 even if the hatch is extremely high. If we are going to keep mallard hunting we must curtail mortality and allow the birds to take advantage of the improved habitat conditions.

The 1968 season for most Iowa hunters was extremely poor. Many indicated they would have been satisfied with one mallard if they would only have had the chance to shoot it. Hunters in some places did not experience this poor success due to a funneling of ducks into certain areas.

It's difficult for the successful few to understand why biologists say there are no ducks when they can see thousands. This is like taking the number of salmon in a spawning stream and expanding this figure for the whole ocean from which they come. We must look at the over-all picture to draw accurate conclusions.

The era of liberal waterfowl regulations is past. With reduced habitat, hunters will have to accept lower waterfowl populations and restrictive seasons and limits. We will probably never return to the "good old days" of duck shooting, but, under different management policies, we can still hunt ducks.

Duck hunting DOES HAVE a future if the hunter will change to meet new standards. Species management has considerable promise and would allow hunters to harvest more ducks. However, hunters must learn to distinguish different species and then be willing to abide by the regulations.

Species management is not a new idea. Certain species have been managed separately for many years. For example, there have been closed seasons on woodducks and canvasbacks, and very restrictive limits on redheads, hooded mergansers, mallards, and woodducks.

These cases prove that species management does work if hunters will support the program. If there isn't this understanding and cooperation, sportsmen simply will not be allowed to take advantage of the species that can take the hunting pressure.

In the case of the teal season which provided a lot of high quality recreation, hunters, due to their unwillingness to comply with the law, caused the closed season.

We CAN have duck hunting for years to come provided that hunters are willing to support species management and closed seasons when necessary.

The present situation involves two very basic principles in waterfowl species management. The first is adequate breeding habitat including the good water supply in Canadian marshes. The second factor is what biologists refer to as the "principle of inversivity," a natural

phenomenon pertaining to species reproduction.

This principle states that as the wild-life breeding populations decrease, the reproductive success of the species increases.

Applying this to the present situation, we could assume that because the mallard populations are seriously low, we can expect excellent reproduction—or, a greater number of eggs per hen.

Obviously, many intervening variables must be considered, and limiting factors between birth and the hunting season—weather, fire, predation, etc.—do have great effect on the over-all picture.

Therefore, it is the consensus of the State Conservation Commission that since conditions for good nesting success are about optimum, and assuming that the principle of inversivity holds true, we could have a successful hatch of mallards this spring. Then, this would permit a modest hunting season in the fall.

The final decision will be made only after the combined data has been thoroughly studied at the August meeting of the Flyway Council. Some of the necessary information is available, but many of the determining factors lie in the future.

But right now, the question remains. We can only hope that Iowans will be able to enjoy a 1969 duck season next fall.

BIRD WATCHING . . .

(Continued from page 44)

who is a little different than others. Yet, in our daily lives we casually glance about us noting some common bird species or other.

Bird observation and study is not a dull, lifeless pastime. It calls for continual study, beginning with the child just learning the world of nature, and increasing through the school years to adulthood.

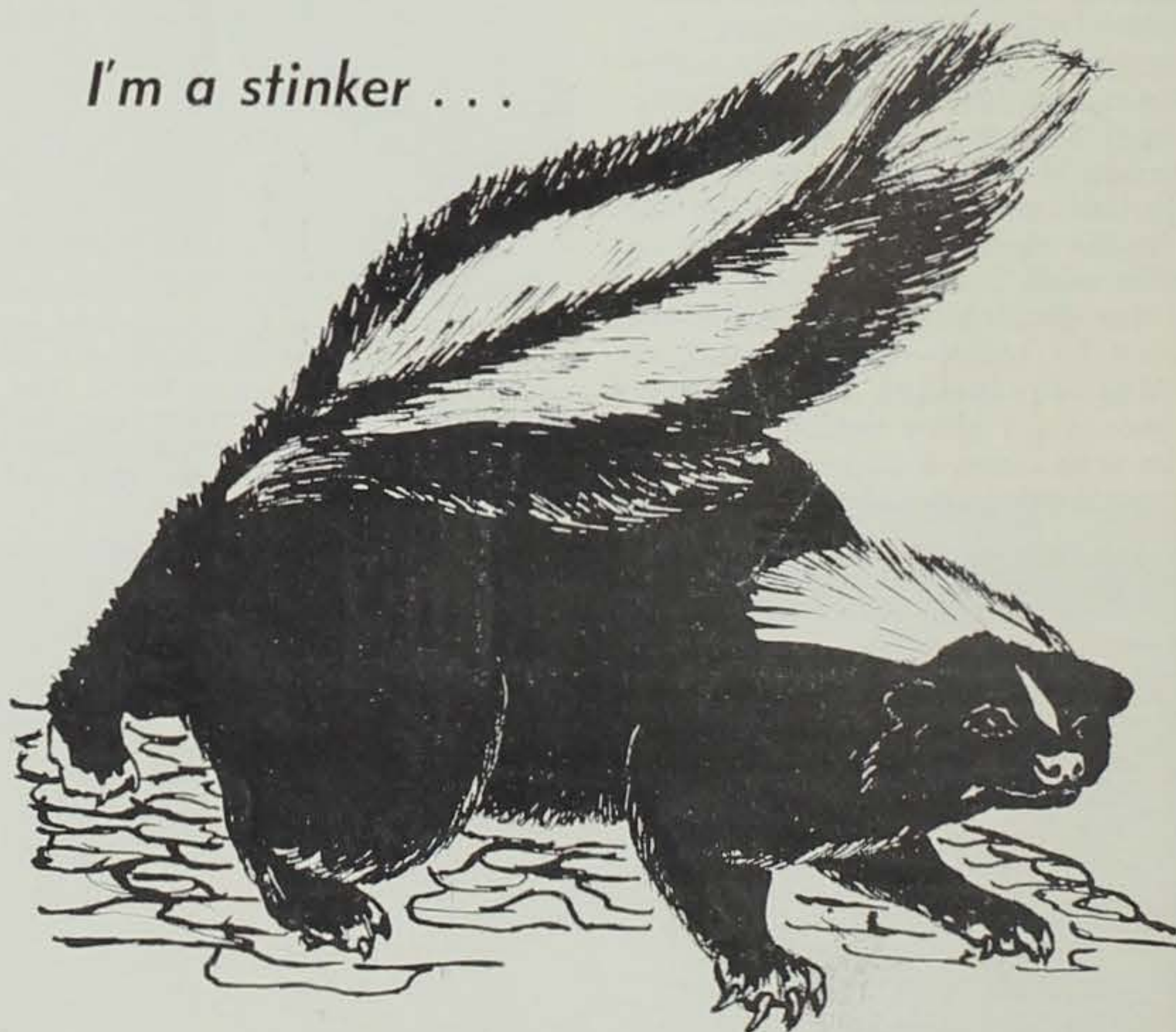
Of course, there are the specialized number of individuals who select a lifetime occupation devoted to study and research of questions which have not been answered in this field. For some, however, bird watching can become a special hobby which provides outdoor recreation that is not only healthful, but stimulating and educational as well.

For the senior citizen, bird watching adds a special interest during a relaxing stroll down a pathway. A casual glance out the window has real meaning—one keeps in touch with a part of nature that has not changed through the years. The "indoors" becomes the "outdoors" by forcing the mind to question and ask if one has seen or heard a particular bird before.

The person who has been attracted by the special pleasures of observing the birdlife about him, is one who has discovered a thoroughly enjoyable aspect of the great outdoors.

Who, then, is a bird watcher? How about YOU?

I'm a stinker . . .



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