

conservationist

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Page

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Cover Photo:

Roy Moore Family, New Albin, Nursery Stock Planning









orders do not get filled, so hurry! Get those orders in now.

Left

Dave Reisinger, R. R., Corning

This land wasn't good farm land and I decided planting trees would be a good long-range investment for the future. Growing trees is actually a hobby for me.

I planted 16 acres in trees — 7 acres in black walnut, 1 acre of butternut (white walnut), and about 8 acres of various pines and spruce. The conifers will be mine; I plan to sell Christmas trees in about 5 years. The walnut trees were planted as an investment in the future for my children.

Right

A. M. DeCook, Pella

This is an odd corner—there's only one acre here and it's pretty steep. I can't farm it so I thought I'd plant some trees.

I've got 70 scotch pine here with multi flora rose all the way around it.

I like wildlife and the pheasants and quail really nest in here. I think it's a wonderful program.

(Continued on Page 14)





a Christmas present for wildlife

Increasing numbers of persons concerned for the environment buy artificial Christmas trees. These individuals reason that reuse of artificial trees year after year saves many real conifers from the ax or saw; and, therefore, benefits the environment. NOTHING CAN BE FARTHER FROM THE TRUTH. Not only are artificial trees expensive in environmental terms, but real trees offer numerous advantages to both man and the environment.

Real conifers that are utilized as Christmas trees are a renewable resource. After use these trees are returned to the land where bacteria, fungi and many other types of decomposers reduce them to basic elements and molecules which contribute to the growth of other trees. Artificial trees, however, are not a renewable resource. Many of them are constructed from materials such as aluminum, which are becommore and more scarce as the consumption of earth's non-renewable resources accelerates. Unlike the real tree which is recycled through the soil to be ultimately used again by other trees, the artificial tree is not returned to its original state. A prime example is an aluminum tree which is not restored to the land as bauxite (aluminum ore), but merely discarded as waste.

Concerned environmentalists must also consider the energy needs for producing artificial trees. A large quantity of electricity is required for the manufacture of aluminum. This further depletes resources of fossil fuels (coal, oil, etc.) and nuclear fuels (uranium, etc.) essential in the creation of electrical energy.

Most of the Christmas trees purchased in Iowa are now grown on Christmas tree farms, not randomly cut from natural forests. This trend is increasing. Christmas tree farms are often located in areas too difficult or too poor to farm. Therefore, these farms can place otherwise unused land into production. Unlike the row crops Iowa is famous for, a conifer crop is a year-round one good for soil and wildlife conservation. Christmas tree farms also stimulate the local economy.

Even where Christmas trees are still cropped from wild areas, cutting of conifers can aid both man and wildlife. Trees too tall are not cut, but serve as seed sources for future trees. Those too short are not taken because the market for them is poor. So, in natural forests only a specific size range of Christmas trees is considered. This implies selective cutting. Small openings are created in the forest by these selective cuttings, which increase both the sunlight striking the ground and the ground vegetation which serves as wildlife food. This random thinning of trees also releases more nutrients for other trees, increasing their growth rate and health.

Discarded Christmas trees can be employed as fish and wildlife shelters. Construction of such shelters is a positive action that environmentalists can take. In conte. porary society, environmentalists are encouraged to write governmental representatives, to exert influence in private discussions, and to show voting booth support for environmental affairs. However, few consider physical work to better the environment, particularly fish and wildlife resources. Why not donate time this January to recycling Christmas trees as shelter for these valuable resources.

Fish shelters serve several functions in Iowa. Probably the most common use is as a device to concentrate game fish to improve angler harvest. Other limited uses are to increase the fertility of ponds low in nutrients, and to protect forage fish in newly constructed ponds and gravel pits, totally devoid of cover.

Fish shelters particularly help increase fishing success in early spring and late fall when there's a lack of vegetative cover in ponds. First step in constructing fish shelters is to gather many conifers together on the ice during winter. In spring when the ice melts, the trees will sink. However, to insure that the trees sink, cement blocks are added. Experiments by fisheries personnel in Iowa indicate that one block per six average-sized Christmas trees is adequate. Trees should be wrapped together with No. 9 wire, weighted with blocks, and sunk in approximatefis too

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ly ten feet of water. By being sunk only ten feet the shelter will probably not be below the thermocline during summer, insuring that fish will be present yearround. Experience shows that shelters which are about six feet high provide the best fishing (assuming that the shelter is sunk in ten feet of water). Shelters four feet beneath the surface are at a perfect depth for easy fishing by almost any method. Examples of these types of fish shelters are found in several manmade Iowa lakes (Lake Macbride, Geode and others).

Shelters for wildlife are more commonly used than those for fish.

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One factor which limits cottontail populations in Iowa is a lack of winter cover. Winter cover is particularly critical when there is deep snow and cold temperatures. Brushy areas and weed patches alone are not sufficient to sustain cottontails through the winter. As a result cottontails tend to overconcentrate in choice cover. Stress placed on food sources close by can be so severe that starvation can become a problem.

Rabbit shelters should be built at least five feet high and ten to fifteen feet wide at the base. Locate them next to food (picked cornfields) and escape cover (brushy edges, wheat fields and multiflora rose hedges). Remember not to erect shelters close to ornamental trees or orchards. Undue predation on the valued trees and vines can occur. Rabbit shelters will not be effective when built now, but will be by next fall. If several shelters are placed in an area, they should be spaced 150-600 feet apart. To protect wildlife from severe weather, put the shelters in low areas and on south-facing slopes.

If you decide to construct either fish or game shelters, consider some of the following suggestions:

1. Ask local newspapers and radio stations to print articles and broadcast announcements

that will inform the public of the beneficial uses of Christmas trees as fish and game shelters, and at the same time locate landowners interested in the program.

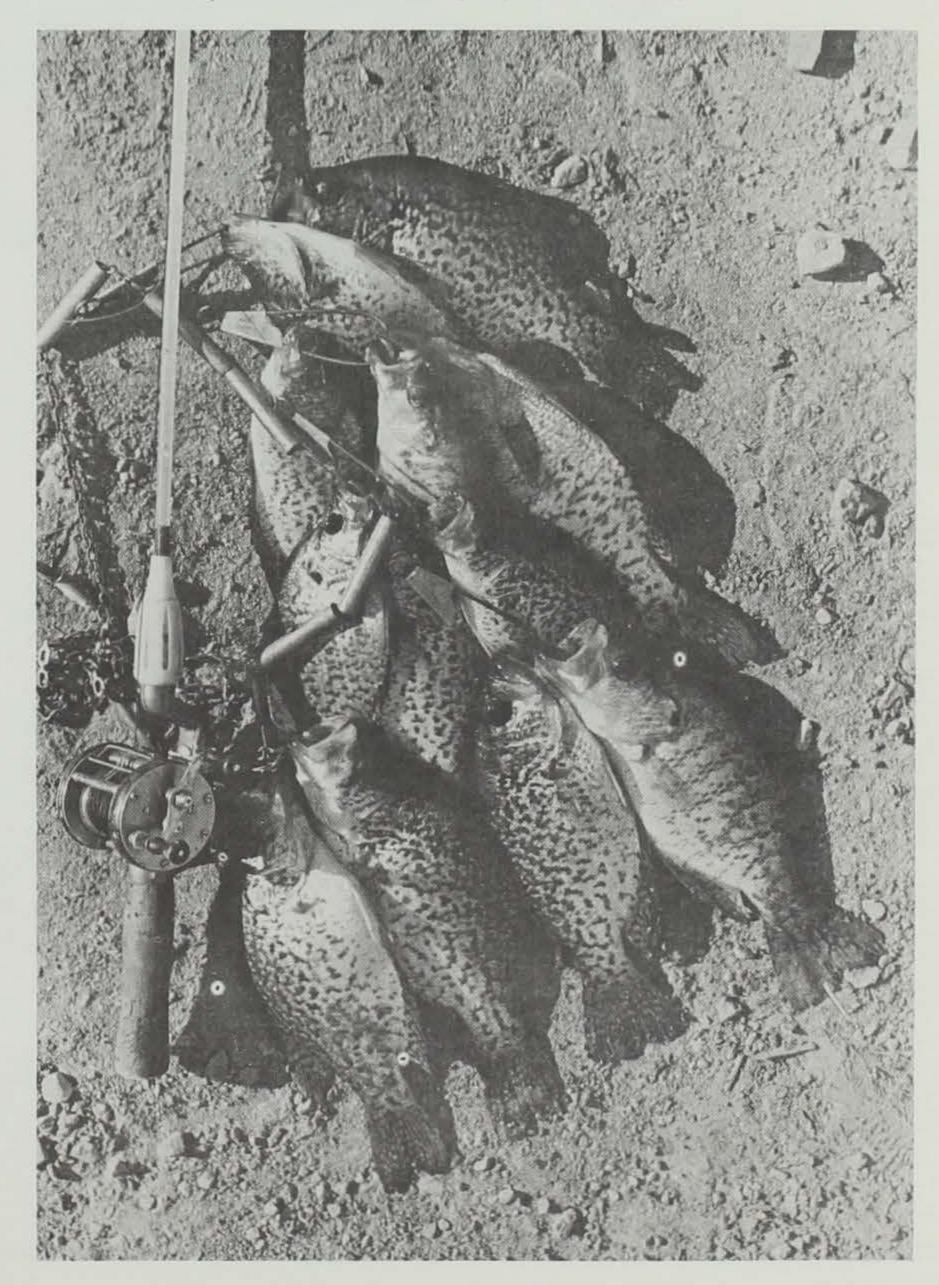
- 2. For a place where the community can deposit the trees select an area conveniently located where any trees not utilized elsewhere can remain as game shelters.
- 3. Encourage citizens through articles and announcements by

the news media to drop trees off at the chosen site.

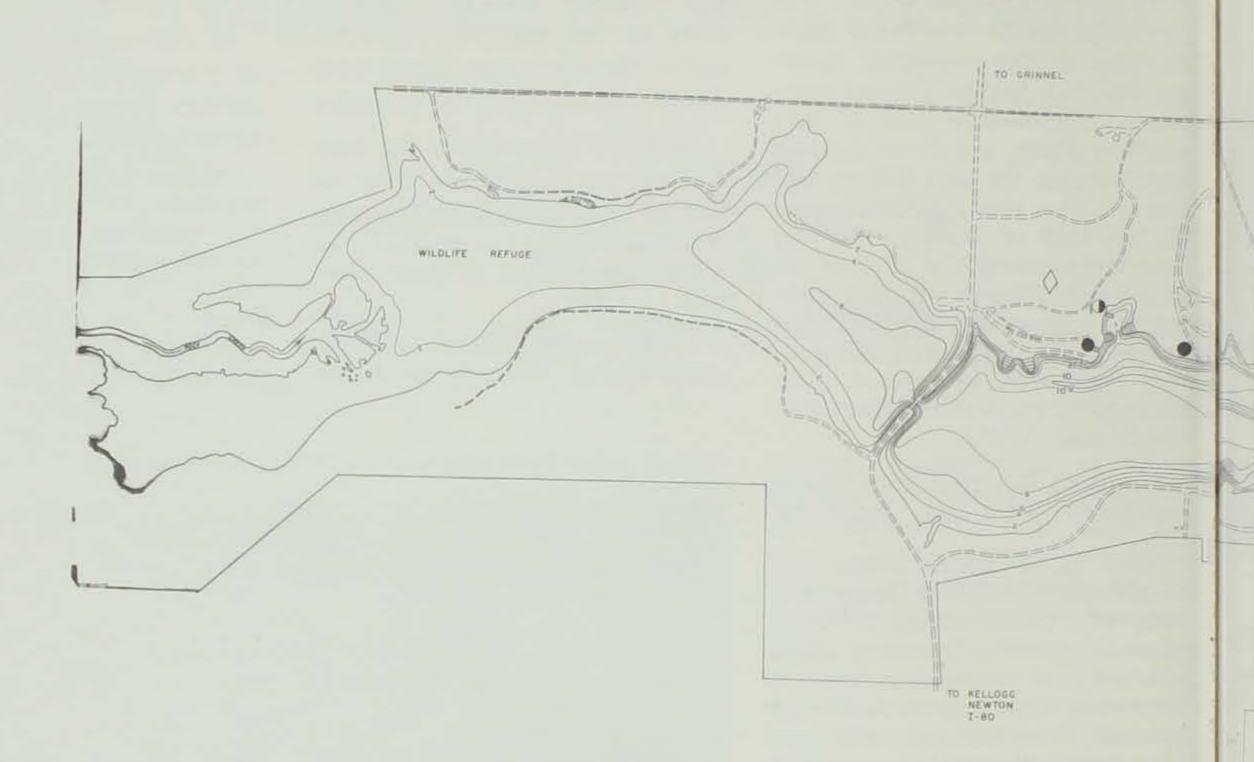
4. Arrange for voluntary help to transport and construct the shelters according to the specifications above.

If you have written your congressman, talked to your friends, and voted on crucial issues, but haven't seen any action yet, then why not roll up your sleeves and begin to take positive action on improving the environment for our fish and wildlife resources.

Last year's christmas trees helped produce this string



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COPYRIGHT BY

IOWA CONSERVATION COMMISSION

STATE OWNED LAND

(1 2) SECTION CORNER

BOAT LAUNCHING RAMP

BOAT LIVERY

PUBLIC CAMPING

SUBMERGENT VEGETATION

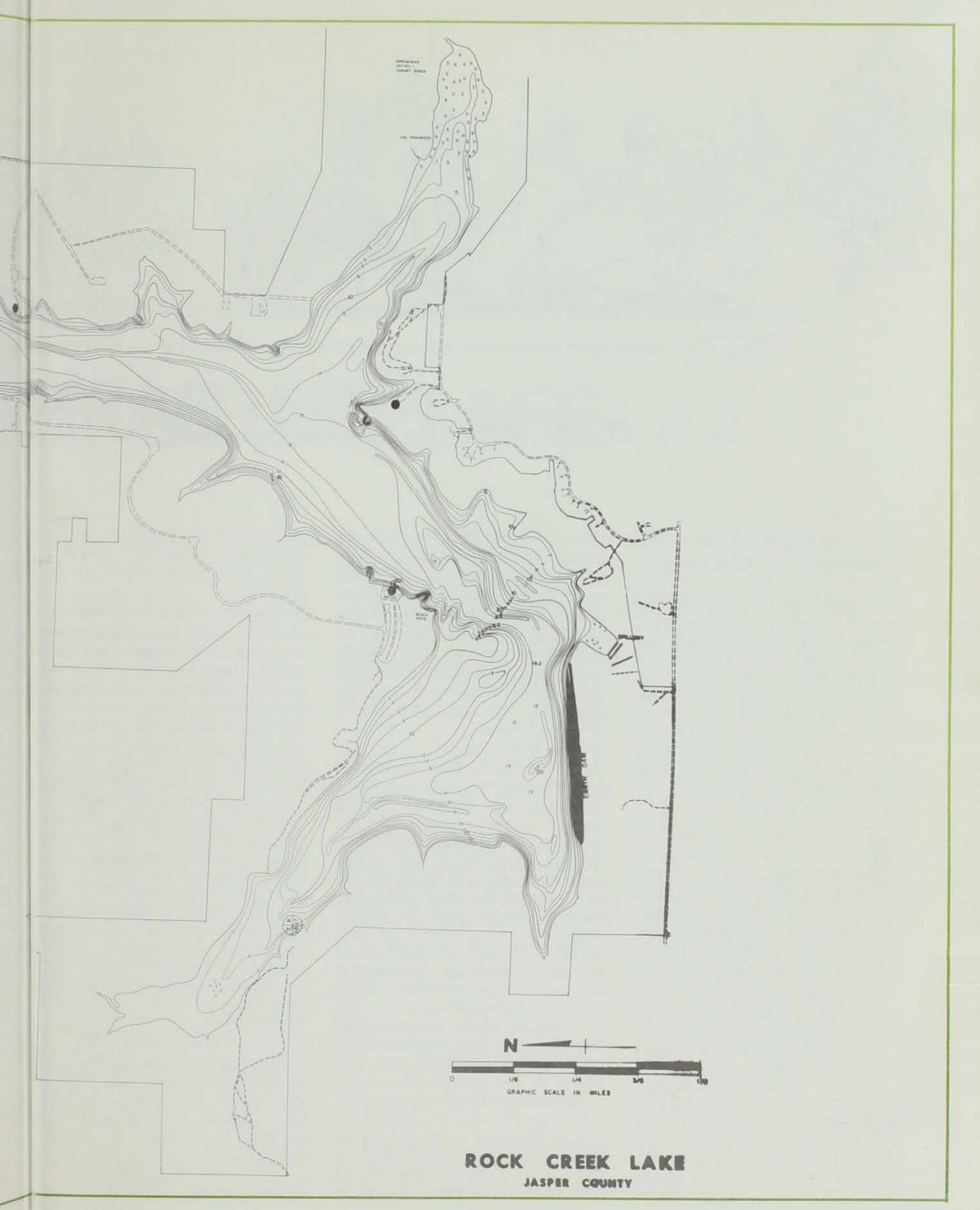
MOTES

SOUNDINGS BY RECORDING FATHOMETER ADJUSTED TO DAM SPILLWAY CREST-BY ET ROSE 1973

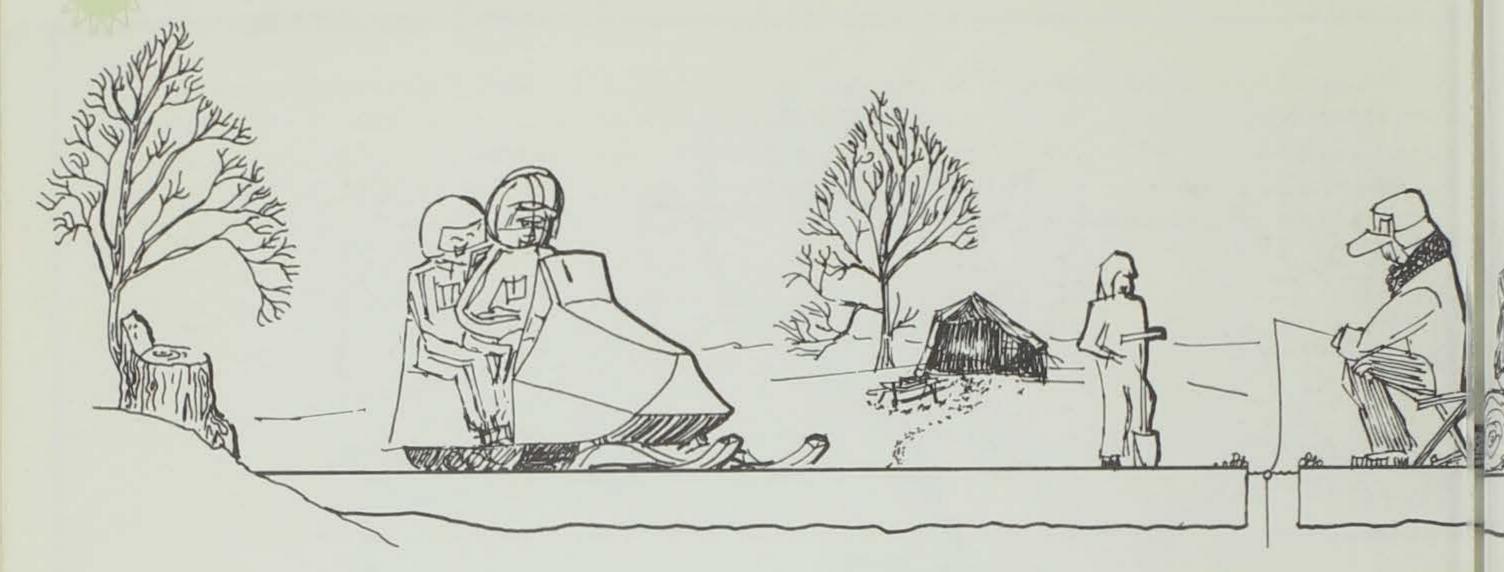
SHORELINE 12.7 MILES

AREA 640 ACRES

MAX DEPTH 22'



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On the ice this winter FEEL SAFEB

By James Horan Boating Safety Coordinator

Editor's Note: Prior to his present position with the Iowa Conservation Commission, Jim Horan spent much time on the ice in his home state New York. An avid ice skater and snow sports enthusiast his experiences in ice safety include working as a Park Manager in New York where he daily cleared and measured ice for safe recreation. On the Ice this Winter . . .

ce is a wonderful thing for people who like to get outside in the winter. Outdoor activities such as skating, ice fishing, and snowmobiling can be enjoyed on a frozen lake or pond and often at the same time. And approaching nightfall doesn't limit your enjoyment either. Hot dog roasts with hot chocolate or coffee by a blazing fire add to the fun.

Those who go out in winter to use the frozen lakes and ponds know the exhibaration of the cold crisp air and the many hours of fun. They also know that certain precautions must be taken before the ice can be considered

safe. To help you feel safe by being safe, heed these time-tested, reliable gauges of ice safety.

Keep one thing in mind. Many environmental factors are constantly changing the ability of ice to hold up weight. Your ability to recognize these and determine their effect on the ice will undoubtedly help you to have more fun this winter.

The first step is determining the actual ice thickness. And that doesn't mean throwing a rock out on the ice. If the rock doesn't break through that's great for the rock, but not necessarily for you. You've got to cut a hole in the ice and measure its thickness. Go to a side of the lake where the water is shallow so if you should break through you can get out easily. A hatchet or chisel works fine for cutting ice (be careful of flying ice particles when you're chopping though).

Carefully check the ice a few inches from shore. From there you'll want to check the area you intend to use that day.

At this point you will have not only learned the ice thickness, but you'll have a good idea of what kind of ice you're dealing with. Now comes the difficulty of predicting ice strength. If ice is

water logged, layered, or has snow in it, its ability to withstand additional weight is decreased.

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How Much Ice Is Needed?

Let's start with clear, fresh cour water, blue ice (the very best ness kind). According to a Civil En- som gineer's handbook, studies by the beco Army, and studies by another in- los dependent source, 2" of clear ice it al is safe for one person, 8" of clear ice is safe for 1,000 lbs. per sq ft. on sledges, and railway trains have run over ice 15" thick.

The National Safety Council suggests at least 3" of clear ice for a single snowmobile. But that's too close for comfort. Another source suggests 4"-6" for one snowmobile. Since ice doesn't necessarily freeze at a constant rate, water temperature, winds. currents, springs, even movement of waterfowl can cause various sections of lakes and ponds to be thinner than others.

Beware of "Rotten" Ice

Periodic thawing and freezing along with accumulations of snow can quickly make ice a hazard. Ice subjected to these conditions becomes "sun-rotted" or "honeycombed" and may be unsafe.

Snow not only insulates ice against greater freezing it also



EBY BEING SAFE

acts as a blanket to hide thin ice and slush resulting from water overflow. Eventually snow becomes part of the ice and weakens it considerably. Then, of fresh course, additional inches of thickbest ness are required for safety. At vil En- some point in this process, safety becomes impossible and it's time to stay clear of these areas until it all melts and starts over again.

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Probably the most difficult ice conditions to judge are on rivers and streams. Flowing water, swirling around rocks and snags, Council when combined with snowing, thawing and freezing conditions produces some of the most unsafe ice. If you fall in that water you're in trouble and unless you can get out in a hurry you may onstant not survive. Never go on a river winds, until you're sure it's completely safe. Again, check any area in question by chopping a hole. s to be

Sometimes on more heavily used areas ice thickness is measured periodically by various users or other interested persons. Snowmobile groups often perhazard form this safety service and local aditions law enforcement officers may honey also do it. Before traveling long distances and finding unsafe contes ice ditions call ahead and check. If it also the service is not being per-

formed by others, you or your group may want to. If so, be sure your measurements are complete, accurate, defined by area, and dated.

The rate of ice growth depends on weather conditions. Again working with good conditions, that is, no snow or wind, and air temperature at about +14° F., you can expect ice to thicken by about four inches in about eight hours.

Remember to always start measuring from the edge out, even if you've already done it once. Ice always melts first around the edges of ponds so if the weather has been mild the edge could be unsafe even though the center is safe.

In Case of a Breakthrough

Another important aspect of safety on ice is knowing how to react if somebody falls in. You should know and be prepared to use Red Cross or Boy Scout basic ice rescue techniques. All you need to have is a:

- 1. 14'-18' ladder or board
- 2. blanket

You need to get that person out of the water, possibly administer artificial respiration, and treat for cold and shock. Get the victim of an ice accident to shelter immediately and call a doctor.

One very good way to provide yourself with an extra measure of protection is to wear one of the new winter coats which is also a Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD). These PFDs come in all colors, styles, and sizes and are windproof, waterproof and very buoyant. They're available at boat dealers, marinas, and many sporting good stores. If you can't find one, a Coast Guard approved vest type PFD could be used. It can be worn under your outer clothing and will hold you up. According to the hypothermia chart your point of exhaustion or unconsciousness at 32° F. (water temp.) is under 15 minutes. By then, you've about used up your energy to survive. Heavy clothes and freezing water take their toll quite fast but wearing a PFD will give you some extra time by reducing your expenditure of energy to keep yourself buoyant.

Our final word of caution: always use common sense and good judgment when on or near ice for whatever reason. By making sure you and your family are well protected you'll have a wonderful time this winter enjoying your type of fun on the ice.

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Gyarden's By Rex Emerson Law Enforcement Supervisor

Have been out checking deer hunters. Iowa's only big game season. Some of the hunters are thinking too much about the ten dollars they have tied up in their special deer license, plus the regular hunting license that they must have, and the limited time they have to hunt to use good hunting methods. I think if they would settle down and take their time and enjoy the sport they would be more successful.

One nimrod that I checked was enjoying himself. He was hunting with a muzzle-loading musket. He had fired one shot, but missed. "Too much brush, but at least it was a clean miss. I'll get one yet. Even if I don't, I'm

having a good time just being outdoors." He had a squirrel come down the tree he was leaning against and almost sit on his shoulder.

Most of the deer hunters are good sportsmen. We had a few farmers with a free landowner license who didn't stay on their own property. It will probably cost them more than the ten dollar license when they get to court. Squirrel stew for him.

Some of the licensed hunters were found transporting their deer without the tag on the animal. Evidently going to try to get it home without using the tag so they could go after another deer.

Two hunters didn't have the required orange clothing on. This is a law for their own protection and safety. They will all have their day in court.

Checked the age of deer for the biologists. The Iowa deer are in better physical shape than most of the western states' deer that I have observed, and I'll bet they are better eating. I guess the fact that our deer are better fed is the reason Iowa deer have fawns at an earlier age and bear more sets of twins than those in western states.

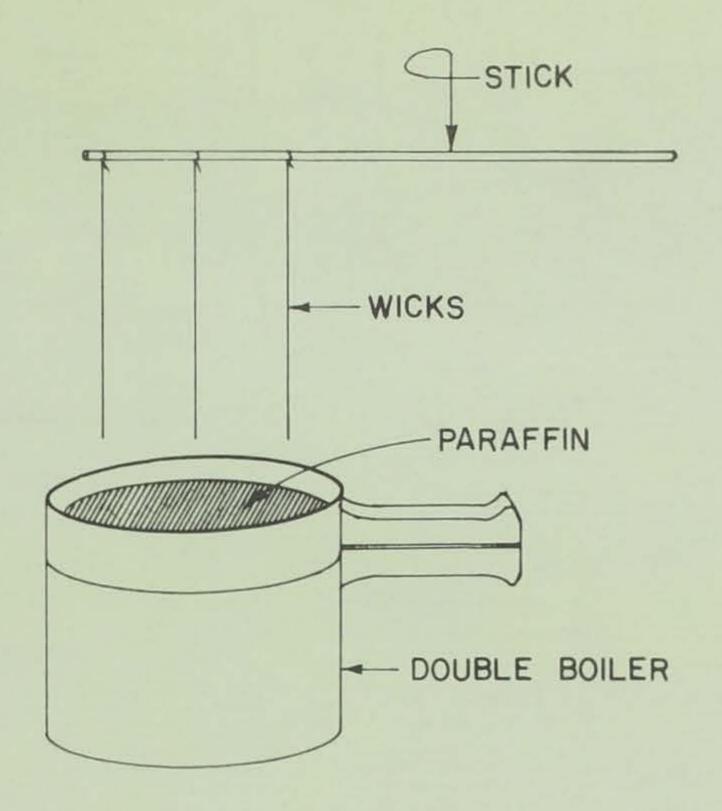
By night there were a lot of tired hunters coming out of the woods. Quite a few would have venison for the table.

Wind-Chill Chart

Estimated	ACTUAL THERMOMETER READING °F											
Wind Speed MPH	50	40	30	20	10	0	—10	-20	30	-40	50	60
				E	QUIVALE	NT TEM	PERATUR	RE °F				
Calm	50	40	30	20	10	0	10	-20	30	40	50	60
5	48	37	27	16	6	—5	15	26	-36	47	—57	—68
10	40	28	16	- 4	9	-21	—33	46	58	 70	—83	—95
15	36	22	9	—5	-18	-36	45	58	-72	85	99	-112
20	32	18	4	-10	25	39	53	67	—82	96	-110	-124
25	30	16	0	-15	29	44	—59	-74	—88	-104	118	-133
30	28	13	—2	18	-33	48	63	—79	94	109	-125	140
35	27	11	-4	20	35	49	67	—82	—98	-113	-129	-145
40	26	10	—6	21	—37	—53	—69	—85	100	-116	132	-148
/ind speeds reater than) MPH have	LITTLE DANGER FOR PROPERLY CLOTHED PERSON				INCREASING GREAT DANGER DANGER							
little addi- ional effect					DANGER FROM FREEZING OF EXPOSED FLESH							

To use the chart, find the estimated or actual wind speed in the left-hand column and the actual temperature in degree F° in the top row. The equivalent temperature is found where these two intersect. For example, with a wind speed of 10 mph and a temperature of —10°F. This lies within the zone of increasing danger of frostbite and protective measures should be taken.

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By Curt Powell Administration Conservation Education Center

Have you ever noticed how easy it is to go to the store and purchase (if you have the money) the various articles you want? It always seems that there are unlimited quantities of items. Modern times and technology have brought a world of luxury to our fingertips.

Let's take an imaginary trip back to 1840, prior to Iowa even becoming a state, and investigate some of the ways our pioneers went "shopping". Providing meat for the table meant hunting. Clothing involved using animal skin, or spinning either wool, flax, or linen. The supermarket wasn't "just across town".

Mrs. Margaret Formanek from rural Britt, Iowa, has provided us with a recipe for soap which could have been used in pioneer days. It might be fun to try some for a class project. You should be cautioned however, that lye is very dangerous therefore, take proper precautions, such as rubber gloves, eye protection, and rubber aprons. I'm certain that the high school chemistry laboratory has these items that you may borrow. The recipe for lye soap is as follows:

5 pounds of lard or tallow

1 can lye

5 pints of cold water

Melt the lard in one container and put the water in another container that is not aluminum. What would lye do to aluminum?

Place the lye in the water very slowly and stir continually. Let it cool at the same time the lard is cooling. Is there some sort of chemical reaction that occurs when lye and water are mixed? Yes, there is! Therefore, the fumes from this can be very dangerous, so do the mixing in a well-ventilated area.

After the melted lard and lye water have cooled somewhat, pour the lye water slowly into the lard, stirring constantly. Then place it in flat pans for hardening.

Where do you suppose our ancestors got the lye for making soap? If I mentioned forests, would it give you a clue?

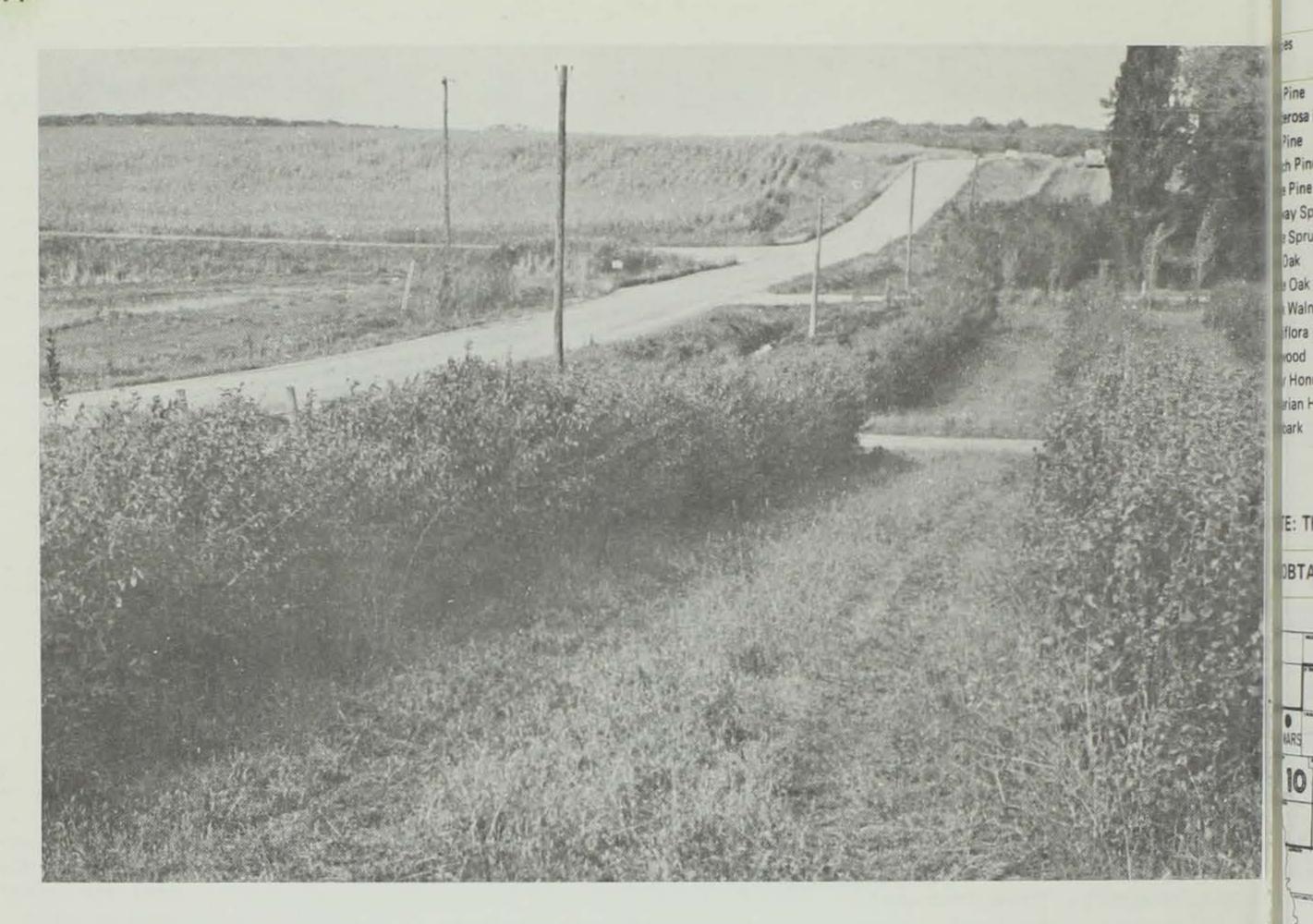
troping our present the rest of the factor o

The pioneers of Iowa also didn't have electricity. What do you think they used for light? Right; kerosene lamps, fireplaces, or candles! How do you suppose they made candles? Again, they used tallow from game they had killed or bees-wax. You can do the same thing with paraffin.

Melt the paraffin in a double boiler. Turn the fire off and then dip candle wick (which looks much like string) into the melted paraffin.

The illustration shows how to dip the wick. Hang the rack up to cool and let the paraffin on it harden, then re-dip the wicks. This adds more paraffin and thus makes your candle bigger. Keep re-dipping the candle until it is the size you want. Store them in a cool place.

Isn't it easier to be modern? Are you interested in Iowa history? There are many fine publications in your libraries about Iowa. If you should find an interesting project, drop us a line at the Conservation Education Center, Route 1, Box 138C, Guthrie Center, Iowa, 50115.



TREES . . . (Continued from Page 7)



Dale Rowling

AMIII outt this order blanck

and send it to the State Forest Nursery at Ames.

Dale Rawlings farms near Wallingford in Dickinson County.

Mt. A

Uppe

"We planted a windbreak around the house and joined the program on the GSA strip. We did this mainly for protection from the wind. The pheasants really congregate around these areas in the winter."

"We've got some plantings about 12 years old, some that are about 8 years old and other plantings about 6 years old.

"Now we're talking about putting in a row of honeysuckle all along the south fence row."

ies	Class Age	Avg. Ht. in INCHES	100	500	1,000
Pine	2-0	6-12	\$2.50	\$12.50	\$25.00
lerosa Pine	2-0	6-10	2.50	12.50	25.00
Pine	3-0	6-12	2,50	12.50	25.00
ch Pine	2-0	6-12	2.50	12.50	25.00
e Pine	3-0	6-10	2.50	12.50	25.00
vay Spruce	3-0	6-12	2.50	12.50	25.00
e Spruce	3-0	6-12	2.50	12.50	25.00
Oak	1-0	6-12	2.00	10.00	20.00
e Oak	1-0	6-12	2.00	10.00	20.00
k Walnut	1-0	6-12	2.50	12.50	25.00
iflora Rose	1-0	6-12	2.00	10,00	20,00
wood	1-0	6-12	2.00	10.00	20.00
r Honeysuckle	1-0	6-12	2.00	10.00	20.00
arian Honeysuckle	1-0	6-12	2.00	10.00	20,00
bark	1-0	6-12	2.00	10.00	20,00

SPECIAL WILDLIFE PACKET\$5.00

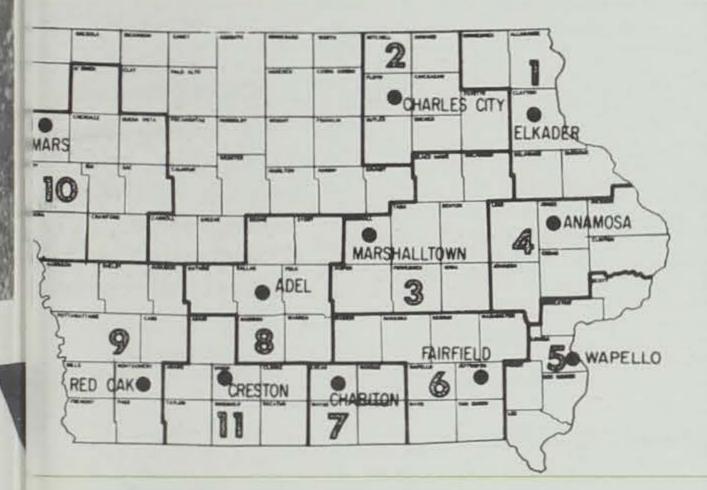
TO SECOND SECOND

The SPECIAL WILDLIFE PACKET contains 200 plants including 50 evergreens, 25 honeysuckle, 25 dogwood, 25 multiflora rose, 25 ninebark, and 50 other plants beneficial to wildlife.

SPECIAL NOTE: \$1.00 per 500 plants up to the first 2,000 plants ordered. After the first 2,000 plants, \$.50 per 500 plants ordered. One (1) Shipping Point for each county has been designated. Your notification of the Shipping Point in your county will be on your Order Confirmation.

E: The Nursery reserves the right to substitute species of a suitable type if a shortage occurs.

DBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR NEAREST DISTRICT FORESTER OR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BIOLOGIST



DISTRICT FORESTER ADDRESSES:

1. ELKADER	3
2. CHARLES CITY Box 4, 5061	6
3. MARSHALLTOWN Box 681, 5015	8
4. ANAMOSA Box 46, 5220	5
5. WAPELLO 220 N. 2nd, 5265	3
6. FAIRFIELD	6
7. CHARITON Route No. 3, 5004	9
8. ADEL	3
9. RED OAK Box 152, 5156	6
10. LE MARS	1
11. CRESTON Box 2, 5080	1

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BIOLOGIST ADDRESSES:

	WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT BIOLOGIST ADDRESSES:
	Bays Branch Wildlife Unit
6	Big Marsh Wildlife Unit Fish Hatchery, Clear Lake, 50428 Big Sioux Wildlife Unit
	SCS Office Bldg., Rock Rapids, 51246
90	SCS Office Bldg., 406 Main, Rockwell City, 50579
	Coralville Wildlife Unit ASCS Office Bldg., lowa City, 52240 Ingham-High Wildlife Unit
	SCS Office Bldg., 20 S. 17th St., Estherville, 51334 Maquoketa Wildlife Unit Box 68, Anamosa, 52205
ı	Missouri River Wildlife Unit
à	Mt. Ayr Wildlife Unit
1.	Odessa Wildlife Unit
	Otter Creek Wildlife Unit
	Rathbun Wildlife Unit
	Red Rock Wildlife Unit
	Rice Lake Wildlife Unit
	Riverton Wildlife Unit SCS Office Bldg., Malvern 51551
15	Ruthven Wildlife Unit SCS Office Bldg., Cherokee, 51012 Saylorville Wildlife Unit
ī	Wildlife Research Station, Boone, 50036 Sweet Marsh Wildlife Unit
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	ASCS Office Bldg., 911 S. Mill St., Decorah, 52101 Wapello Wildlife Unit.
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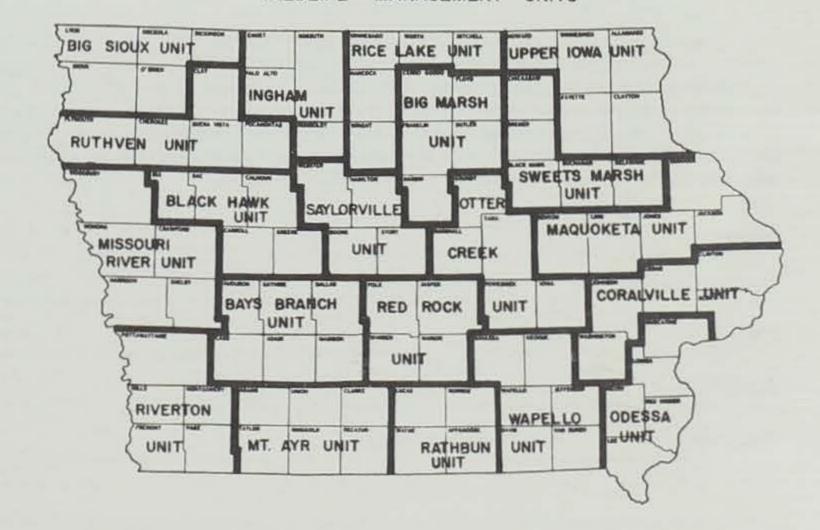
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WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT UNITS



FROM THE IOWA STATE FOREST NURSERY, STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. FOREST SERVICE

APPLICATION FOR OBTAINING TREES FOR ESTABLISHING OR IMPROVING EXISTING FORESTS, EROSION CONTROL OR WILDLIFE COVER 1974

ORDER NO.	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF OR	GENERAL SHIPPING INFORMATION					
Mail your application and remittance to: Nursery Forester		(Please Print) Name Address				
P.O. Box 823 Ames, Iowa 50010						
2. Payment or purchase order for the entire amount mu- blank. Make a check or money order payable to the						
Commission. (Cash will not be accepted.) Your cancelled receipt. 3. Claims for adjustment due to shortage or delay in ship within 20 days from receipt of shipping notice.	Phone					
No order will be processed for less than 500 plants except a) One wild life packet DO NOT ORDER LESS THAN 500 IN MULTIPLE		☐ When notified, I will call for stock at Nursery. ☐ Group or district forester pick-up. Please specify by whom:				
DO NOT ONDER LESS THAN 500 IN MOETH LE		E PRIN	т			
Kind of Trees or Shrubs Wanted	Age Class	N	lo, Wanted	Cost	Application Information	
Please indicate an alternate choice of species if your 1st choice is unavailable.			Subto 3% Sales T d Shipping Charg Special Note on R TOTAL COS	eseverse side)	Order submitted by: PLEASE CHECK BOX Soil Conservation Service ASCS Office Co. Extension Director District Forester Conservation Officer Wildlife Biologist Other Purchase Order	
THE LEGAL PLANTING LOCATION AND YOUR SIGN		_			RMATION (Please complete)	
Range , in Quarter, Section County,	To help us better meet your planting stock requirements check (X) one space in each of the following: 1. MAIN PURPOSE OF PLANTING: () General Forestry					
I agree to plant and use the trees ordered upon the dishing or improving existing forests, erosion control, gas according to restrictions noted below. I agree NOT to reswith roots attached to any person, firm, corporation or agent as windbreak, shade, ornamental, or street trees. All areas plants.	on () Others					
be protected from fire and domestic live stock grazing. I agrany trees planted or used in violation of the above restriction	AT THE TAXABLE WAS A MADE IN THE PROPERTY OF T					
Signed:	existing timber; () Crop field; () Sandy field; () Other					
Mail Address - RFD:						
City:	4. HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN THIS PROGRAM BEFORE? () Yes; () No					
State:			5. I am a (or m	ny land is): () Farmer; () Suburban; (
Zip Code: Phone No.:	dustrial (except mining); () Mining: () Institution; () Municipality; () Other					