



Sail boating popular sport, Butler County State Lake

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KANSAS FISH AND GAME

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THE KANSAS FORESTRY, FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

Pratt, Kansas

LEE LARRABEE, Chairman

GUY D. JOSSERAND, Director DAVE LEAHY, JR., Asst. Director

GARLAND ATKINS, Secretary

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GAME BIRD SEASONS ANNOUNCED

The 1942 migratory game bird season will officially open in Kansas at sunrise September 1 and continue through to sunset December 23.

Rails and Gallinules: Season—sunrise September 1 to sunset November 30. Daily shooting hours, sunrise to sunset. Daily bag limit, 15 in the aggregate. Possession limit, same as daily bag limit.

Mourning Doves: Season—sunrise September 1 to sunset October 12. Daily bag and possession limit, 10. The hunter is reminded that because of a shortage of doves the limit has been reduced from 12 to 10 birds.

Duck Season: A seventy-day duck season has been declared for the state of Kansas as well as our neighboring states Colorado, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma.

The season opens at sunrise October 15 and continues through to sunset December 23. The lengthening of the season from 60 to 70 days and the general liberalization of the regulations was due to an increase in the waterfowl population. An inventory of the waterfowl population, jointly conducted by state and federal game officials, indicated that the waterfowl population was about 100,000,000 birds, or 30,000,000 more than the 1941 estimated population, and three times more than the estimated population of seven years ago.

Daily bag limits on ducks are "10 in the aggregate of all kinds including in such limit not more than 1 wood duck, or more than 3 singly or in the aggregate of redheads and buffleheads." Any person at any one time may possess "not more than 20 ducks in the aggregate of all kinds but not more than 1 wood duck, nor more than 6 of either or both of redheads or buffleheads."

Method of Taking Birds: Outlining the means by which migratory game birds may be taken legally. The new regulations continue the prohibition of the use of bait or live decoys and prohibit "the taking of waterfowl by means, aid, or use of cattle, horses, or mules." Hunters, it is provided, may use shotguns not larger than 10 gauge or bows and arrows, as formerly, and the 3-shell limit on repeating shotguns, either hand operated or auto-loading is continued. All persons over 16 years of age hunting migratory waterfowl are required to have with them an unexpired federal migratory bird hunting stamp validated by their signatures on the stamp. These stamps, commonly called duck stamps, may be purchased at post offices for one dollar.

Coots: Season—same as duck season. Daily bag limit, 25. Possession limit, same as daily bag limit. Shooting hours, sunrise to sunset.

Geese and Brant: Season—sunrise October 15 to sunset December 23.

Investigations having disclosed a decline in goose populations, other than blue geese the 1942 regulations reduces the bag limit on these birds. Ross' geese have been given continued and complete protection. Daily bag limit, 2, but in addition 4 of the more abundant blue geese may be taken in a day. In case only blue geese are taken the daily bag limit is 6. Possession limit on geese other than blue geese is 4, but in addition 2 blue geese are allowed; if only blue geese are taken the possession limit is 6.

Wood Ducks: During the forthcoming waterfowl season, Kansas nimrods for the first time in many years will have the opportunity of taking a limited number of these birds without incurring the disfavor of conservation officials.

As early as 1918 state and federal game officials, fearful that this beautiful bird was close to the point of extinction, successfully petitioned their governments to enact laws designed to protect and preserve this species. Last year the taking of wood ducks was limited to 15 eastern and southern states, the fact that the entire country has been declared open this year would indicate that the long closed season has accomplished its purpose.

Wood ducks, pictured elsewhere in this issue of KANSAS FISH AND GAME, respond readily to back yard propagation, a fact that has aided materially in increasing their numbers. Although wood ducks prefer building their nests in hollow trees in wooded areas often far removed from water, they do not disdain nests and nesting places erected by their sportsmen friends. One wood duck may be taken during each day of the open season, but only one may be legally in the possession of the hunter.



Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Philipy, Wichita, and Mrs. John Newson, Scott City, with 50 pounds of channel cats taken from the Scott County State Lake.

Quail Season

Quail hunters are looking forward expectantly to the opening of the 1942 quail season, November 20. They can, with very good reasons, weather permitting, anticipate eleven days of unexcelled quail hunting.

The quail crop this year was far above normal. Few birds were weather-killed, during the mild winter of 1941 and '42. The rains and floods of early spring did destroy many birds and nests, but the damage done was not great or irreparable. The 20,000 or more birds that are released annually from the two state operated game farms have played a large part in maintaining a satisfactory supply of breeding stock.

This year again most of the hunters will be concentrated in the eastern one-third of Kansas. The regulation which provides a daily bag limit of ten birds and a season bag limit of 25 birds, will continue during the 1942 season.

Pheasant Season

After making a personal survey of the twenty-one counties, Cheyenne, Decatur, Ellis, Gove, Graham, Logan, Norton, Osborne, Phillips, Rawlins, Rooks, Russell, Sheridan, Sherman, Smith, Thomas, Trego, Wallace, Mitchell, Jewell and Republic counties to be opened to pheasant hunting November 8, 9, 10 and 11, we have no hesitancy in saying that the sportsmen who hunt pheasants in the open area will have very good shooting.

This year, for the first time, by Commission's action, shooting is not to begin before noon on any day during the open season. Because of this regulation there will be no need to disturb the farmer or his family at the crack of dawn or to disrupt the early morning routine of his household.

District game protectors have also reported that there are many pheasants in the open counties.

Because of the fact that a Sunday and holiday are within the season, hotel men have urged us to request that you make your reservations as early as possible.

Prairie Chicken Season October 20

Regulation No. 19, passed by the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission in a meeting at Pratt, July 25, grants the Kansas sportsman a one-day prairie chicken season, October 20, in Allen, Anderson, Bourbon, Coffey, Franklin, Greenwood, Wilson and Woodson counties.

The number of chickens that may be legally taken on that day is limited to three by the above numbered regulation.

A heavy increase in the prairie chicken population, a favorable breeding season and the concentration of birds in the above mentioned counties prompted the Commission's action.

Sportsmen's Meeting Postponed

Fred Kahn, president of Kansas Fish and Game Development Association, has advised us that because of the war all plans to hold the annual meeting of the association have been abandoned. Lawrence was scheduled to be hosts to this year's meeting.



Charles Burrows, Ottawa, proudly displays 28pound cat taken from the Marais Des Cygnes river near Ottawa.

Many Visit State Parks

For the first time in many years, not a few Kansans, because of the tire situation, have spent their vacations at a near-by state park and found them good.

During these days of strife, worry and expectancy, it is good to have recreational facilities such as our state parks provide near home. Now that our lads are away to war, our attachment for home is much stronger than it was in more carefree days. We like to be near it for the news that comes.

September and October are really the best months to spend out of doors. These are months of golden splendor. If you have not yet taken your vacation, we suggest that you plan to use one of our state parks for that purpose. The communing with nature will do you good and the use of available opportunities near at hand to swim, fish, hike and camp will not only lessen your mental worries but increase your physical capabilities as well.

Seven of our state parks are supervised by resident superintendents. We especially recommend them to you as the men in charge are there to render whatever assistance you might need to make your park visit enjoyable. A glance at the inside cover of this publication will reveal not only the location of the supervised parks but also the name and address of the superintendent. Although cabins and hotel accommodations are not available within the parks, they may be procured at near-by towns and villages at very reasonable rates. If you prefer using your own camping equipment, you may rough it in the camping areas within the park without any cost to you whatever.

Any information that you may require to plan a trip and visit at a state park will be gladly given you by the office of the Forestry, Fish and Game Commission or the superintendent of the selected park.



Luke Cannon, Yates Center, with an 18-pound tackle buster from Woodson County State Lake.



Evelyn Alter, Wichita, smiles happily after taking these four fish weighing 18 pounds from the Woodson County State Lake near Toronto.

The Crow

The crow question has two sides to it. Conservationists just can't seem to get together on the problem, but it seems there are good crows and there are bad crows and only a careful analysis of the local situation can determine whether the crows are doing more harm than good. However, no matter which side you take on the question, it is probable that Henry Ward Beecher's words on this subject will interest you.

"Aside from the special question of profit and loss, we have a warm side toward the crow, he is so much like ourselves. He is lazy, and that is human; he is cunning and that is human; he takes advantage of those weaker than himself, and that is human; he is sly and hides for tomorrow what he can't eat today, showing real human providence; he learns tricks much faster than he does useful things, showing a true boy nature; he likes his own color best, and loves to hear his own voice, which are eminent traits of humanity; he will never work when he can get another to work for him—a genuine human trait; he eats whatever he can get his claws upon and is less mischievous with a belly full than when hungry, and that is like man; he is at war with all living things except his own kind and with them he has nothing to do. No wonder, then, that men despise crows; they are too much like men. Take off their wings and put breeches on them, crows will make fair average men. Give men wings, reduce their smartness a little, and many of them would be good enough to be crows."-From The Ohio Conservation Bulletin.



Al Deister and Elmer Warren, Dodge City sportsmen, with a few dandies from Scott County State Lake.

Dove Hunting

It has been said that the best way to awaken the sportsmen's interest in a particular bird is either to declare it a game bird or prohibit its taking. The many letters that have been written to us by sportsmen since the government announced a lessened bag limit and a shorter season in fourteen states, seems to confirm this theory. The letters for the most part, are written by hunters who heretofore have not been interested in the dove. Their letters ask for advice as to regulations and how to hunt.

Dove hunting differs but little from duck hunting in methods. One method of hunting doves is to walk or flush them from the field. This method requires the fastest shooting, as the birds are rarely seen until they are in flight. The flight is usually in wide circles almost invariably ending near the point from which they were flushed. Because of this habit they can be marked down and again flushed for another shot.

A few hunters prefer waterhole shooting, but this, according to experienced dove hunters, is not a satisfactory method, since the shooting time is limited. The birds and game protectors have a discouraging habit of appearing at the waterholes just about sundown.

One other plan, and a good one, is to cruise likely looking dove territory prior to your hunting trip, to determine the flyway from roosts to feeding areas. After this has been determined, take your stand early in the morning on the shooting day and await the singles, doubles and flocks that are sure to pass your stands. Then the fun begins. The birds come in boldly and fast. They will often drop to within a few feet of you, although swiftly seek higher altitudes just at the moment you think you have a dead bead on them. A peculiarly wavering flight causes the best of marksmen to score many misses.

The legal method of taking doves and ducks are identical. However, as the dove is not a migratory waterfowl a duck stamp is not needed. To the novice hunter we give this advice. Use a small-sized shot, keep well concealed, as the birds are easily alarmed and always on the alert. In the interests of law observation and safety do not shoot from a moving car along a public highway.

Facts and Figures

U. S. Game Management Agent Melvin E. Ramsey, stationed at Hutchinson, Kansas, says that a great many of our people are not aware of the fact that our outdoor sports such as hunting, have an economical value as well as furnishing a source of very important recreation of the highest type. When it is taken into consideration that during the period from July 1, 1940, to July 1, 1941, the sportsmen of the United States spent for hunting alone the sum of \$191,911,-061.56, it should not be overlooked as an asset to our manufacturers and retailers. Of this large amount, \$14,464,478.31 was spent for hunting license fees and \$1,260,810.00 for migratory bird hunting stamps. The balance went to business enterprises of the country for the necessities and luxuries of hunting. An itemized statement has been furnished, but during the emergency, space cannot be permitted for printing it in its entirety.

Of this amount spent for migratory bird hunting stamps, the duck hunters of Kansas purchased 26,915 stamps, giving Kansas the rank of 13th among the states in the sale of the stamps. Kansas also ranks 14th in the sale of trapping licenses, according to information furnished by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as compiled by the Division of Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration at Washington, D. C.



A section of the flower gardens at Neosho County State Park.

Approves of State Park

We are reprinting a letter from Dick S. Alter, of Wichita, in which he tells of the glories of Lake Fegan known officially as the Woodson County State Park near Toronto, Kansas.

"Like many others, due to the tire conservation, I spent my vacation in Kansas this year. In the two weeks of fishing I spent several days at Fegan Lake, a spot that the Game Department and people may well be proud of.

"After fishing most of the streams of Kansas, Grand Lake in Oklahoma and after two weeks in Minnesota last fall, I would say that if Kansas people would look around they wouldn't do so bad at home.

"The lake has an ideal location in nice timber and a complete watershed of pasture land, as well as being well stocked. No catfish fisherman has ever fished for catfish in this state until he has fished Fegan.

"In addition to previous mentioned qualities, you have a man over there, Mat Sprigg, whom I had never met before. He is by all means the most accommodating and hospitable warden and caretaker of any lake I have fished. A man of his type is of great assistance to anyone fishing a strange place, and will make a good impression on any sportsman, if he is a square shooter.

"I hope this gives you an idea of my impression of Fegan and Mat Sprigg; also hope that more of the taxpayers' money may be applied for such places and for more men like Mr. Sprigg."



Here is pictured a male and female wood duck which may be legally taken this year.



Swimming is a popular sport at many of the state parks

FIELD NOTES

Writes Bond Hale, superintendent of Scott County State Park, "This has been one of the best fishing seasons we have had out here. Sure have been getting nice strings of channel cats. Anglers from as far east as Hutchinson and as far south as Liberal are weekly visitors to the Scott County State Lake. Over 225 boy scouts and 4-H club members were encamped here recently. They said it was the best camping site in Kansas. Lots of ducks coming in. Look for a good season this fall."

Carl Suenram, district game protector for the district comprising Rice, McPherson, Marion, Harvey, and Reno counties, declares that fishing is good in most of his district. "Lots of channel cats being caught in the Smoky Hill near McPherson and in streams around Halstead. Seining operations at lake Inman near Inman reveals the presence of many channel cats, some weighing as much as 15 pounds in that lake. Crappie fishing there has been better than ever this year. Farmers report a fine crop of young quail and pheasants throughout my district."

Walter Rickel, district game protector for southeastern Kansas, writes, "They are continuing to catch big ones at the city dam near Parsons. Aided A. J. Connelly, Parsons, land one that was too big for him, a 16½ pound flat head. Have seen many young prairie chickens this spring. Rains and floods of last spring did little, if any, damage to the state's supply of prairie chickens. A farmer near Yates Center reports that county has had an increase in prairie chickens and that hundreds of them are on his farm. Lots of young quail and rabbits, and, strange as it may seem, wild deer in southeastern Kansas." Jim Andrew writes that fishing has been good around Wellington, particularly in Slate creek. This is due to the fact that 5,000 fish were transferred from Wellington City Lake to that creek. "Harper county has a good supply of quail and pheasants. Recently had the pleasure of releasing a pheasant bearing band No. 30,000 on Bluff creek, two miles west of Anthony. The releasing ceremonies were witnessed by Superintendent Sutherland, Assistant Director Leahy, Messrs. Mattingly, Moore and several other Anthony citizens.

"Many fine strings of fish are being taken from Richmond lake near Ottawa. Among those making good hauls were Stewart Humphrey, Doctor Gollier, Clyde Ferguson, Bob Pinet, Howard McGee, and O. A. Sigler. H. C. Constant fought a long and thrilling battle with a five-pound bass that attached itself to his light fly rod. A fine crop of prairie chickens is in Franklin county. Quail are plentiful throughout all of eastern Kansas."—Olin Minckley.

Coyote Champion

Now, a coyote champion. We reprint a letter recently received from western Kansas, wherein that section of the state demands recognition of one of its citizens as the world's greatest coyote catcher. The letter, at the request of its author, is reprinted "as is."

"Until someone proves us rong, we nominate Cyoat Monte Cook, Sublette, Kansas, as the world's greatest cyoat catcher. Cyoat Monte Cook is a trapper of the old school and the grizzly plainsman knows his onions about the cyoat for that has been his business for 30 years. He has a new technyce.

"A kemical gun about 7 inches long which is stuck into the ground with sented fur showing on top. Inquisitive cyoats takes holt of the bait which pulls a trigger and fires the gun, which has a 38 coliber shell full of powdered kemicals (cynide crystals) into his mouth which paralizes the throat and lungs and the cyoat usually dies within 35 to 60 yards of the gun. It has been a right profitable season for the old timer. The cyoats has averaged over \$5.00 each. He has done all his own skinning and stretching. It takes Cyoat Monte 10 minits to skin a cyoat.

"More than \$1,000 worth of cyoats displayed in this picture of 201. Hunt and stacked everywhere are cyoats he has. His Model A Ford almost covered and it is built so he can stand up in it, cook, eat and sleep when night over takes him on his 250 mile of gun line.

"The two cyoats that Cyoat Monte is holding are almost bright red. If any of you old boys or girls of the old trapping school thinks your trap line is lone you should go with Monte over his line wher he uses the Humain cyoat getter they git um. Who said the spirit of Daniel Boon and David Crocket was no more."

Fishing Foray Paralyzes Hays Industry as Men Held by Court

The fishing story of six young persons in the Smoky Hill river Sunday afternoon was not only a financial disaster to the fishermen but resulted in the virtual tying up of a Hays industry yesterday and was the reason at least one social function in Hays was minus its ice cream last night.

William Pfeifer and Bob Swift, two of the miscreant fishermen, are in the employ of the Hays City Creamery. They are indispensible to the running of the plant at this critical period. When the two were remanded to jail in lieu of the payment of their fines of \$100 and costs of \$7.50 each, there was no one at the creamery to make deliveries and the situation became serious. A party at the Methodist church came up with no dessert at dessert time and other inconveniences were numerous.

This morning the cases of the two men were appealed to the district court, their appeal bonds of \$500 each having been signed by George Ruder, manager of the creamery and by A. J. Schueler.

Alfred Pfeifer and Vernon Herman arrested with William Pfeifer and Bob Swift for fishing illegally did not make an appeal and are serving sentences in the county jail.

Mrs. Swift and Mrs. Pfeifer whose fines were small were released on promise to pay.—*Hays, Kansas News.*

We neglected to announce that the season on squirrel opened August 1 and will remain open until December 31. At the present time there is no limit on the number of squirrels that may be taken, but you are reminded that only the fox squirrel may be legally taken.



Harold D. Connely and Lee Robins, Parsons sportsmen, with two fish totaling 30 pounds taken from the Neosho river at Parsons.

TO KEEP THE RECORD STRAIGHT "OLE DAVE" JOTS IT DOWN

Sportsmen will argue. Here we answer a few of those "We Had an Argument" letters. One sportsman, much to the disgust of a local hunting companion, maintains that he has taken brant in Kansas on many of his hunting trips. Here apparently is another case when local names have caused confusion and an argument.

For example, snow geese and blue geese of the genus Chen are often referred to as the white brant and blue brant, respectively. These birds are very often taken by Kansas hunters. The brant (*Branta Nigricans* Small) spends its summers in the shadow of the pole and uses the coast flyway during the autumn migration. It does not, in the course of the seasonal movement, come through the mid-west.

The western meadow lark, and not the quail, was designated the official state bird by an act of the 1937 legislature.

The actual selection of the meadow lark for that well deserved honor was made by 125,000 voting school children in 1924. In that balloting the meadow lark received nearly 50,000 votes. The quail, cardinal and robin were also contenders for the honor, but the meadow lark received 10,000 more votes than its nearest competitor.

Because of the war we have been required, for the sake of victory, not only to tighten our belts, learn again the art of walking but to forego the use of many utilities and needs heretofore thought indispensable to our happiness and daily life. We have learned to avoid waste. That is conservation.

The lessons we have so far learned could very well be applied to the taking and use of our migratory waterfowl. The regulations, published elsewhere in this issue of KANSAS FISH AND GAME, provide that one wood duck may be taken daily by the licensed hunter. The same regulations grant a generous bag limit on the taking of coots.

The wise hunter, if he has profited by the lessons the war has taught, will forego the taking of wood ducks and include a few of the so-called lowly coots in his daily bag of birds.

The coot, or mudhen, as it is locally known, is not a duck, but a member of the rail family. Every season finds them in great numbers on our shallow ponds and lakes. Many sportsmen do not regard this bird as an item of food or game. Many other sportsmen are fully aware of the fact that the flesh of the coot is gastronomically comparable to that of the mallard and much more palatable than the flesh of many smaller ducks.

The flight of the coot may not be as thrilling as that of ducks and geese, but when once in the air it presents a very difficult target.

The farsighted nimrods would do well to take a few of these birds during the forthcoming hunting season. The coot should be skinned before cooking.

Starlings are not a native bird, they were first introduced into eastern United States successfully about 1890. The birds that are so unwelcomed in Kansas by farmers and orchardists are the descendants of that early planting.

The very large silvery scales of the tarpon are sold as souvenirs and used for making costume jewelry and various ornaments.

All true fishes are cold-blooded aquatic animals, breathe by means of gills, and swim with the aid of their fins.



Here is pictured Coyote Monte Cook and a few of the coyote pelts taken by him last winter.

JUNE AND JULY ARRESTS

DEFENDANT	CHARGE	PROTECTOR	DISPOSITION
	Illegal fishing equipment		
	Fishing without license		
	Hunting without license		Convicted
Otto Moore, Hutchinson	Illegal fishing	Suenram, Shay and Carlson	Convisted
May Painton Parsons	Illegal size fish		
	Snag fishing		Convicted
Alton Euley, Junction City	Shag fishing	Benander	Acquitted
Elisha F. May, Junction City	Snag fishing	Toburen, Carlson and	noquittea
		Benander	Acquitted
S. J. Stone, Wichita	Illegal size fish		
		Concannon	Convicted
	Fishing without license		
	Fishing without license		Convicted
C. E. German, Caldwell	Illegal size fish and illegal trotline	Andrew, Shay and	
		Concannon	Convicted
Bert Staley, Caldwell	Illegal size fish and illegal trotline	Andrew, Shay and Concannon	Convictod
F I Poproso Wighita	Illegal possession of fish		
	Fishing without license		
	Fishing without license		
	Illegal trotline		
	Illegal trotline		
	Fishing without license		
	Fishing without license		
	Fishing without license		
	Illegal fishing and resisting arrest		
	Fishing without license		contracted
0 ,		Rickel	Convicted
John Doe	Shooting meadowlarks	Concannon, Carlson and	
		Suenram	Convicted
R. P. Illard, Lyons	Fishing without license	Concannon, Carlson and	0
Barrier I Car Caffarmilla	Seining fish, second offence	Suenram	Convicted
	Illegal trotlines		
	Fishing without license		
	Illegal trotline and no license		
	Illegal trotline		
	Illegal trotline		
	Hand fishing		
	Aiding in hand fishing		
	Aiding in hand fishing		
	Illegal sale of fish		
	Hand fishing		
	Hand fishing		
	Hand fishing		
	Illegal sale of fish		
	Illegal trotline		
	Illegal trotline		

CHAPTER TOTAL

LOCAL NAMES

To aid hunters in identifying the more common species of ducks, some of their local names are given below: BLUE-WINGED TEAL: Bluewing, teal, teal duck. BUFFLEHEAD: Butterball, butter duck, dipper, dipper duck. CANVASBACK: Can, canvas, whiteback. CINNAMON TEAL: Teal, teal duck. GADWALL: Gray duck, redwing, creek duck.

GREATER SCAUP: Big bluebill, bay broadbill, scaup, blackhead. LESSER SCAUP: Bluebill, blackhead, scaup, little bluebill, broadbill, little broadbill.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL: Greenwing, common teal, teal duck. REDHEAD: Fiddler, fiddler duck, redneck. RINGNECK: Ringbill, blackjack, blackhead. RUDDY DUCK: Stifftail, butterball, ruddy, booby, greaser. SHOVELER: Spoonbill, spoony, shovelbill.

WOOD DUCK: Summer duck, woody, squealer.

NOTICE

The 1943 licenses are now on sale at the office of the county clerks. You are urged to buy your fishing and hunting licenses and quail stamp now.

CTRASSSIMUL COUNCIL

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