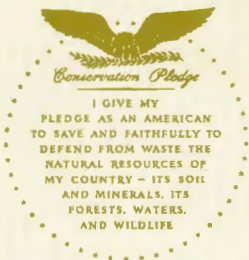




MASSACHUSETTS

Wildlife

MAY-JUNE, 1963



MASSACHUSETTS

Wildlife

MAY-JUNE, 1963

VOL. XIV NO. 3

DIVISION OF FISHERIES AND GAME

Board

ROGER D. WILLIAMS, Chairman
Natick

BERT B. NIETUPSKI, Secretary
Hampden

LAWRENCE BARBIERI
Great Barrington

F. STANLEY MIKELK
Gilbertville

HARRY C. DARLING
East Bridgewater

FRANCIS W. SARGENT
Director

ALLAN S. KENNEDY
Superintendent

BRYANT R. CHAPLIN
Chief, Information and Education

E. MICHAEL POLLACK
Chief Game Biologist

WILLIAM A. TOMPKINS
Chief Aquatic Biologist

District Wildlife Managers

Western District

EUGENE D. MORAN
Hubbard Ave., Pittsfield
Phone: Hillcrest 7-9789

Central District

EMERSON H. CHANDLER
Rice Lane, Westboro
Phone: Forest 6-4607

Northeastern District

JAMES M. SHEPARD
RFD, Acton
Phone: Colonial 3-4347

Southeastern District

RUSSELL A. COOKINGHAM
RFD No. 3, Buzzard's Bay
Phone: Plaza 9-3406

Published by

THE MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION OF FISHERIES AND GAME

IN THIS ISSUE

Looking Ahead	1
Cohasset Annex - A Golden Opportunity ..	6
Access to Ponds in Worcester County	12
Massachusetts Freshwater Sportfishing Awards...	
	inside back cover
Project Acquisition	back cover

Unless otherwise credited, all photos are by personnel of the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game.

BRYANT "RED" CHAPLIN, *Editor*

DICK BEALS, *Managing Editor*

JACK AND DICK WOOLNER, *Photography*

KAY ROBBIO, *Circulation*

Fisheries & Game Field Hq., Westboro

Phone: FOrrest 6-4479

MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE is published bi-monthly at 8 Portland Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game, with Editorial Offices in the Information and Education Section, Fisheries and Game Field Headquarters, Westboro, Massachusetts. PERMISSION TO REPRINT any and all material published herein is hereby granted. Credit is not required though always appreciated. FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS may be had by applying in writing to the I. & E. Section, F. & G. Field Hq., Westboro, Mass.

PUBLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT APPROVED BY ALFRED C. HOLLAND, STATE PURCHASING AGENT

Form FG-108 44M-4-63-935270

Estimated cost per copy: \$.056

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT WORCESTER, MASS.

LOOKING AHEAD



by FRANCIS W. SARGENT, *Director*
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game

Since receiving appointment as director of the Division of Fisheries and Game on February 28, I have really been undergoing an education, one in which I wish it were possible for every one of Massachusetts' five million citizens to participate.

Of course, having been director of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission in Washington D. C. for the past four years, and Massachusetts Commissioner of Natural Resources before that, I have had the benefit of a head start in knowing something of the Division's people, programs and problems.

However, in the past few weeks it has become increasingly apparent to me that the Division of Fisheries and Game's diversified programs of wildlife conservation are of importance to all the citizens of Mass-

achusetts, not just to the hunters and fishermen alone, although sportsmen pay the costs through license fees and specific federal-aid funds derived from taxation on sporting goods.

For example, we operate a system of wildlife management areas, over the length and breadth of the Commonwealth, which are open to public use *12 months of the year*. Such uses as picnicking, camping, boating, bird watching, berry picking, "just plain relaxing", horseback riding, hiking, etc., are common on these areas. More individual visits for these forms of recreation were made to just one of our areas last summer than were made by sportsmen for hunting on the area during the same year!

And this is as it should be, for one of the things in which I firmly believe is that multiple recreational



Governor Endicott Peabody administers the oath of office to Francis W. Sargent, newly-appointed director of the Division of Fisheries and Game.

use of all such areas is essential. We cannot afford in the crowded East to set aside valuable land areas for one specific use alone. This would not be conservation, if we ascribe to the definition that conservation means wise use of all resources, which implies multiple use. Perhaps then, it logically follows that if people other than sportsmen are going to benefit from areas purchased and developed by sportsmen's funds, they should be willing to help defray a proportionate share of the costs.

I find also that the Division has had an active land acquisition program for years. It owns many of the areas just mentioned, while others are secured through license arrangements or agreements with

such public bodies as the Metropolitan District Commission, the U. S. Army, the Department of Natural Resources, etc. It is sound economy to obtain use of such areas free of charge as is the case in the license agreements, when the Division is hard-put to find sufficient funds for acquisition.

In addition, we hold leases on many miles of stream bank, thus assuring access for fishermen. And, the recently established Public Access Board, using funds from the unreimbursed portion of marine gasoline taxes, will go a long way toward creating more access sites to great ponds. I look forward to serving as a member of this particular board.

But - I find that the need for

open space, "green areas", water recreational areas, fishing sites and hunting grounds, is outgrowing the Division's present ability to produce. As director of fisheries and game, I hope to find a successful means of overcoming this problem. You'll be hearing more about this in the future.

The need is increasingly apparent for a dramatic, aggressive approach to the setting aside in public ownership for all time of sufficient areas to provide for outdoor recreation. The population of Massachusetts, already over five million, is expected to double in the next 40 years. A giant city - "megalopolis" if you will - will exist for 30 miles inland all the way from southern Maine to

northern Virginia. Just look around you, especially if you live east of the Connecticut River - and you can already see it coming. In many places, it's here now.

We're already late, with a program that's too meager and too slow. I propose to devote a major portion of my energies to getting into high gear a program to acquire more recreational lands for hunting and fishing, as well as other compatible uses.

In the past four years with the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission, directing a nationwide study of the needs of outdoor recreation, I visited every state except Hawaii. I honestly feel that Massachusetts has as much to offer

The population of Massachusetts, already five million, is expected to double in the next 40 years. The need is increasingly apparent for the setting aside in public ownership for all time of sufficient areas to provide for outdoor recreation.





The important consideration is what we can do for wildlife, not what we can do for one or the other of the wildlife oriented groups. What we do for wildlife benefits both sportsman and non-sportsman alike.

as any, and more than most, *if we save it in time.*

I have also been impressed by the fact that sportsmen, through their license monies and federal-aid funds they contribute through taxes on firearms, ammunition and fishing tackle, have lead the way in creation of areas and access sites enjoyed by all the public. But sportsmen's funds are limited. Some way to augment their contribution must be found.

It seems to me that Bay State sportsmen, a relatively small portion of the total population, have contributed far more to this cause than their numbers would seem to indicate. They produce through their license funds a wildlife management program encompassing land acquisition, education, game bird stocking, stocking of trout and other fish, wildlife management areas, pond and stream rehabilitation, important research, and other things vital to all who appreciate wildlife. The total annual expenditure amounts to over one and one-third million dollars! In addition, Massachusetts' sportsmen spend well over \$74,000,000 every year for the goods and services they require for their sport - a sizeable contribution

to the income within our Commonwealth. I think sportsmen should receive more help from others who may not fish or hunt but nevertheless enjoy wildlife and the outdoors.

In fact, I might suggest that sportsmen themselves could gain considerably by developing better relations with non-hunting groups. The recent program to establish a public access fund from gas tax monies was successful because all the many different groups who were concerned worked together. Any one of them, sportsmen's groups or otherwise, would have found it impossible to go it alone.

I believe that this sort of approach, development of a broader base of public understanding by working cooperatively with all organizations interested (or that should be interested) in wildlife and outdoor recreation, will be the only way we can work successfully for the future.

It's time, I feel, to recognize that the important consideration is what we can do for wildlife, not what we do for one or the other of the wildlife-oriented groups. What we do for wildlife conservation benefits both the sportsman and the non-sportsman, and we can't escape it.

I find that the Division of Fisheries and Game has had an outstanding record. Certainly the tributes paid to the late Director Charlie McLaughlin attest to the fact that his administration was held in high regard by all who were familiar with it.

With continuing counsel from our dedicated Fish and Game Board and exceptionally able personnel of the Division, I hope to continue the aggressive, forward-looking, soundly based administration that was Charlie's. I also hope to be able to keep all Division policies up to date, to meet the changing needs of wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation in Massachusetts.

One place, perhaps, that I may be of particular help is in developing a close working relationship with our legislature and the agencies of our state government as well as federal agencies. It seems to be a characteristic, country-wide, that those of us in conservation have tended to forget this important function. This is wrong.

Since we are a branch of the Commonwealth, effective working relations with other units of government are an essential factor in the success of our overall program. I believe that our legislators and lead-

ers of government will do their utmost to assist us to discharge our responsibilities, if we only make the effort to develop mutual relations with them, based on a complete understanding of each other's problems.

I certainly intend to continue the outstanding record of achievement of your Division of Fisheries and Game. The Division is currently producing, for example, nearly twice the number of legal pheasants, and half a million more catchable trout, than it did a decade ago. It operates many more wildlife management areas, it has an open-book policy towards public information with an able staff specifically instructed to keep the public thoroughly informed, it has brought up to date many of the formerly too-restrictive fishing and hunting laws, it has received national recognition for many of its different successes in the fields of fish and wildlife management and conservation information. I not only hope to continue this outstanding record, but to enlarge and improve upon it wherever possible.

And it is possible - with the cooperation that comes from fuller understanding of the needs and ways of meeting those needs, by the Division, the legislature, and the public served by both.

The Route from philosophy to results.

. . . Philosophies and attitudes tend to bog down unless translated into action guided by know-how. Research is not a painless answer to wildlife restoration but a tool employed to channel efforts to do things better. It is thinking of tomorrow instead of yesterday. It is an attempt to co-operate with biological laws—not kick them in the teeth.

JACK ALLEN in OUTDOOR INDIANA



COHASSET ANNEX

A Golden Opportunity

by COLTON BRIDGES, *State Ornithologist*

Fisheries and game management and research, game bird culture, conservation demonstrations, nursery products of plants and shrubs beneficial to wildlife, swimming, camping, hunting, fishing, hiking, bird-watching and other allied pursuits are but a few of the increased opportunities in store for the outdoor-minded public of Massachusetts should a proposed acquisition of a large portion of the U. S. Naval Ammunition Depot in Hingham, Cohasset, Norwell and Scituate become a reality in the future.

Under stipulations of the Burke-Wherry Act, also known as Public Law 537, which authorizes the

transfer of certain surplus real property for wildlife conservation purposes, the Division of Fisheries and Game is in a position to acquire 2,991 acres of the tract without any monetary consideration to the U. S. Government.

Recently declared surplus by the General Services Administration, government agency designated to handle the disposal of surplus property, the Cohasset Annex, as the area is called, represents a unique area chock-full of potential for multiple uses by the public and the implementation of a comprehensive fisheries and wildlife management program by the Division.

It has been established as a national policy that state and local governments should be encouraged to acquire and develop excess federal lands to help meet the increasing demands of American people for outdoor recreation. Acquisition of the Cohasset Annex and implementation of the proposed wildlife and associated conservation programs would constitute an immeasurable and unprecedented contribution to the fish and wildlife recreational program in Massachusetts.

The proposed plans for development and future usage of the lands under consideration have met with full and unanimous approval of the Department of the Navy's Fish and Wildlife Branch, The Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions and the Boards of Selectmen of the towns of Cohasset, Scituate, Norwell and Hingham agree unanimously that it would be in the best interests of all four abutting towns that the Division of Fisheries and Game acquire the property, stating that the land should be kept in its natural state as a watershed area and wildlife reservation. The prevailing sentiment on the south shore of Massachusetts is that this would be the "highest and best use of the land".

The Cohasset Annex will be utilized primarily to provide recreational hunting and fishing opportunities and to augment the service facilities of the Division necessary to maintain an expanded program in other areas of the state. The major aspects of the utilization program to be instituted for the Annex consist of wildlife and fisheries management and game bird culture. Attendant to these primary considerations, a nursery for plants and shrubs beneficial to wildlife, a research area to evaluate current and future fish and wildlife management

techniques, a demonstration area for conservation oriented groups and facilities for general outdoor recreation will be developed insofar as they don't conflict with the primary uses.

Wildlife management on the area will amplify its potential by improvement for forest game species through an intelligent and well-planned forest management program. This will not only enhance productivity and carrying capacity of the area for wildlife, but will assure a sustained yield of forest products and maintenance of the watershed in an improved state.

Farm game habitat, at present fairly limited, promises to be greatly increased in extent by the utilization of a comprehensive land management program incorporating latest techniques. The development of more "edges" and agricultural land in the form of food strips will create necessary feeding and nesting covers essential to farm game populations.

Public hunting and fishing will be permitted on a controlled basis within the confines of the area in conjunction with the wildlife management program to provide increased opportunities for sportsmen, prevent over-harvest, and provide for the general safety of the participants.

The fisheries management program has great possibilities in many respects. At present, there are ten ponds on the area varying in size from 0.1 to 8.2 acres in surface area. All are warmwater ponds, being suitable for growth and development of trout, and as such represent excellent opportunities for the incorporation of an extensive fisheries management program. Warmwater management techniques designed to improve recreational sportfishing potential of all the ponds will be utilized to the fullest possible extent.



The Cohasset Annex will be utilized primarily to provide recreational hunting and fishing opportunities but will also provide facilities for many forms of outdoor recreational activities.

Accord Brook and the Aaron River, two streams which meander through the tract, warrant management for a "put-and-take" trout fishery. Public ownership of these streams coupled with the application of modern fisheries management techniques will greatly supplement the currently limited trout fishing opportunities to be found in this locale.

Further, there remains the definite possibility of increasing the size of several of the small impoundments within the area. Construction of additional bodies of water will be fully investigated, too. There are apparently two sites on Accord Brook where ponds can be constructed, one approximating 49 acres, the other about 29 acres in size. These would appreciably increase the fishing opportunities within the area.

Approximately 53 acres of open land located on the east side of the tract will be reserved and developed as a pheasant rearing facility, incorporating the use of an open-pen rearing technique. This type of program entails the use of peripheral fencing, addition of a food-cover

crop and introduction of six-to-eight-week old pheasants to the enclosed range. Total production of this area is estimated at approximately 15,000 pheasants.

A portion of the overall production will be stocked on the Cohasset Annex in farm game covers to supplement the available hunting opportunities, while the remaining birds will be released statewide on other managed areas and in suitable covers in towns not having restrictive hunting ordinances.

The secondary program of development will further utilize the inherent potentials of the area for furtherance of the sports of hunting and fishing, research for fish and wildlife, as a demonstration area, and for general outdoor recreation.

Plans call for the establishment of a nursery for the growth of food and cover plants and shrubs beneficial to wildlife. While some of the plants and shrubs so grown will supplement the wildlife management program to be implemented on the area, the remainder will be available for distribution to other wildlife management areas in the

state. Such a program will eliminate the need to purchase costly stock from other sources.

The physical nature of the completely enclosed area presents a unique opportunity to establish a normally unattainable degree of control over environmental conditions for the purposes of fish and wildlife research. Techniques which utilize complete creel and bag checks can be effectively employed only where hunter and fisherman ingress and egress can be channeled through a suitable check point. Such is the case at the Cohasset Annex where high fencing surrounds the area.

The planned reservation of a 229 acre portion of the Annex as a wildlife sanctuary will serve several purposes at once; while it will provide a fine area for ecological studies and serve as a control area in the evaluation of game habitat improvement techniques, it will also serve the public as a source of countless enjoyable hours of observing wildlife in their natural habitat.

Some of the other possibilities for full utilization of the Annex show great promise. One, for example, is its use as a conservation workshop and demonstration area where the relative importance and interrelationships of the many facets of conservation may be aptly pointed out.

A proposed tour route, to be included as an integral part of any workshop program, will permit the observation and study of several basic conservation aspects; forest management techniques, ecological succession and a stand of climax forest, game management techniques, stream improvement structures and methods and wildlife in their natural habitat.

Such a program will enable the general public, school children, conservation oriented groups and sportsmen to more fully comprehend and appreciate the interrelated aspects of forest, watershed, game and fish management. Town conservation commissions will also be able to use the area as an example of well-planned and executed resource management to guide similar programs within their own communities.

The purposes to which the area may be put for general outdoor recreation are many, providing they do not conflict with the primary purposes for which the area is intended. Swimming, skating, camping, hiking, horseback riding, bird-watching, and picnicking are among the many considerations. A limited type of facility development consisting of beaches, picnic areas and trails will be provided for the encouragement of this type of usage.

Plans call for a workshop tour route where the many facets of conservation may be demonstrated.



COHASSET ANNEX

Proximity to Greater Boston Area



————— EXISTING MAJOR HIGHWAYS

- - - - - EXISTING EXPRESSWAYS

..... FUTURE EXPRESSWAYS



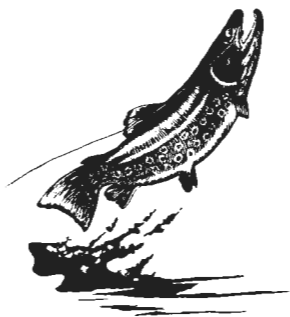
The problem of providing recreational hunting and fishing is becoming increasingly difficult with each passing day. Project ahead to the future the developmental rates of population, housing and industrial interests, and it quickly becomes apparent why thoughtful conservationists everywhere are alarmed by future possibilities of not having any natural resources in some areas, much less sufficient hunting and fishing opportunities. At present, there are 62 towns in Massachusetts which are: entirely closed to hunting; limit hunting to coastal areas; or require permission of landowners to hunt. The majority of these towns are located in the eastern portion of the state.

According to the 1960 census, Massachusetts had a population of 5,148,578, of which 2,085,477 or 40 percent resided within 20 miles of the Cohasset Annex. A population projection compiled in 1959 by the Greater Boston Economic Study Committee indicated the population of the cities and towns within a 20 mile radius of the Cohasset Annex would be 2,247,138 in 1970. The 1960 census, however, revealed that seven towns had already surpassed the 1970 projection! The demand for land and inflated land values attendant with the population increase have created a situation in

eastern Massachusetts whereby it is economically unfeasible for any agency to acquire large tracts of land for recreational purposes.

The heart of the matter lies with the fact that while there is still plenty of land and water acreage for recreation, most of it is where people are not. The need is not so much one of a great number of acres as it is effective acres - acres of land and water available to the public and usable for specific types of recreation. As poignantly demonstrated in the recent report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission to the President and Congress, highest priority should be given to acquisition of acres located closest to population centers and other areas that are immediately threatened. The need is critical, since opportunity to place areas in public ownership is fading rapidly each year as other uses encroach. As so aptly stated by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, "The land we save today may be all we will ever save".

The Cohasset Annex can assuage these needs. Here is an incomparable opportunity to convert extant public land into an open space area assuring present and future generations of a place to hunt, fish, observe wildlife, hike, or enjoy a picnic in rural surroundings.



ACCESS TO PONDS IN WORCESTER COUNTY

by *Central Wildlife District*

The waters of Worcester County present a picture of complicated origin and obscure present status. The simple natural great pond of glacial origin is a rarity in Central Massachusetts. Most of the original ponds were enlarged by dams, and, due to the impetus of the industrial revolution, a great many new ponds were created. New ponds are still being built for recreational and flood control purposes.

The following survey attempts first to establish which ponds have some type of public status, and then to judge which of these are accessible and open to fishing. For purposes of clarity, the ponds are listed in three categories: the first grouping contains great ponds originally containing over twenty acres; the second lists ponds owned or controlled by state or federal agencies; and the third lists ponds owned or controlled by cities and towns. A great many familiar ponds will not

be listed at all because the best information available indicates that they are privately owned, or were originally in the ten to twenty acre class.

There are 132 ponds in Worcester County under some form of public ownership with a total area of over 21,000 acres (excluding the Quabbin Reservoir). On less than 25 of these ponds have adequate public boat-launching facilities been provided. Ponds owned or controlled by state and federal agencies are the most accessible, while those owned by cities and towns (usually as water supplies) are the least accessible.

There are varying degrees of accessibility, but this survey points up the crying need of the type of public boat-launching facilities which guarantee future public use of the waters of Worcester County.

*Emerson H. Chandler,
District Wildlife Manager*

GREAT PONDS ORIGINALLY CONTAINING 20 ACRES OR MORE

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Asnacomet Pond, Hubbardston	127	A right-of-way off Route 62 is used by courtesy of the M. D. C. During peak use, parking is a problem. Pond raised about 12 feet. Pond is part of Ware River watershed belonging to the M. D. C.
Asnebumskit Pond, Paxton	34	Paxton water supply. Closed to fishing.
Bad Luck Pond (Laurel Lake, Crystal Lake), Douglas	67	No public access. Pond surveyed by the Department of Public Works.
Bare Hill Pond, Harvard	316	No public access. Town beach for residents only. Pond raised about 8 feet.
Big Alum Pond, Sturbridge	195	County right-of-way off Clark Road established 1948. Pond raised about 6 feet.

POND	ACRE- AGE	STATUS
Blood Pond, Charlton	21	No public access. Pond surveyed by Department of Public Works.
Browning Pond, Spencer	98	No public right-of-way. Access from Browning Pond Road is fair. Pond raised about 2 feet.
Cedar Pond, Sturbridge	152	Town owned access at dam is fair, and is being improved. Pond raised about 4 feet for industrial purposes. Dam now owned by Town of Sturbridge.
Cedar Swamp Pond, Westboro	22	Accessible on foot only. Lies in center of large swamp.
Lake Chauncey, Westboro	185	No public right-of-way as such. Access off roads in Westboro State Hospital grounds. Pond raised about 2 feet.
Clamshell Pond, Clinton	26	No public right-of-way. No public access. Pond surveyed by Department of Public Works.
Crystal Lake, Gardner	153	Gardner Water Supply. Closed to fishing.
Demond Pond, Rutland	119	No public right-of-way. Accessible at dam on Pleasantdale Road. Dam is owned by the M. D. C. as part of the Ware River Watershed. Open to fishing.
Lake Dennison, Winchendon	85	Public right-of-way off old Route 202 in Birch Hill Public Hunting and Fishing Grounds.
Dorothy Pond, Millbury	75	No public right-of-way or good access. Pond raised about 9 feet.
East Waushacum Pond, Sterling	188	No public right-of-way or good access. Town beach for residents only.
Flint's Pond, Shrewsbury		See Lake Quinsigamond
Fort Pond, Lancaster	78	No public right-of-way. No access.
Gates Pond, Berlin	84	Town of Hudson water supply. Fishing allowed residents of Hudson and Berlin by permit.
Gore Pond, Charlton	222	No public right-of-way or good access. A raised great pond.
Hardwick Pond, Hardwick	68	County right-of-way runs off Greenwich Road.
Hayden Pond, Dudley	43	No public right-of-way. Accessible from Hayden Pond Road. A raised great pond.
Henshaw Pond, Leicester	35	Leicester Water Supply. Fishing by residents of Leicester permitted.
Hocomonco Pond, Westboro	27	No public right-of-way. Accessible off Otis Street.
Jordan Pond, Shrewsbury	27	No public right-of-way. Accessible from Plainfield Avenue.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Kendall Pond, Gardner	23	No public right-of-way. No public access. Pond surveyed by the Department of Public Works.
Leadmine Pond, Sturbridge	62	County right-of-way off Leadmine Road. Right-of-way so steep as to preclude its use by cars. Pond surveyed by Department of Public Works.
Lincoln Pond (Mud Pond), Ashburnham	33	No public right-of-way. No public access. Map of 1794 lists pond as 20 acres. Pond raised by low dam.
Little Chauncey Pond, Northboro	45	No public right-of-way. Accessible from a road in the Westboro State Hospital grounds off Lyman Street at the Northboro-Westboro town line.
Long Pond, Royalston	46	No public right-of-way or good public access. Part of Tully flood control reservoir basin, can be reached by ascending Tully River from Doane Hill Road.
Long Pond, Rutland	113	Public right-of-way off Route 122. Part of the M. D. C. Ware River Watershed. Open to public fishing. To be incorporated into a state park and enlarged by the replacement of a dam on Whitehall Brook.
Long Pond (East Brimfield Res.), Sturbridge	400	Public rights-of-way via old Route 20 roadbeds tangent to the relocated Route 20, and on Street Road. The original Long Pond, a raised natural pond of about 114 acres, has been inundated to form the present East Brimfield Flood Control Reservoir's permanent pool.
Lower Naukeag, Ashburnham	288	No public right-of-way. Accessible from Sherbert Road. Pond raised about 7 feet.
Manchaug Lake, Douglas and Sutton	412	No public right-of-way. Poor access off Manchaug Road. Original 193 acre pond raised maximum of 10 feet for industrial purposes.
Massapoag Pond, Lunenburg	38	No public right-of way. Accessible off Lancaster Avenue.
Meetinghouse Pond, Westminster	153	City of Fitchburg Water Supply. Closed to fishing.
Mirror Lake, Harvard	31	Not open to public fishing. Part of Fort Devens reservation. Open to fishing by military personnel, post employees and guests.
Monomonaic Lake, Winchendon, Mass. and Rindge, New Hampshire	592	No public right-of-way or good access in Massachusetts. An interstate pond. Raised about 10 feet.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Moosehorn Pond, Hubbardston	106	No public right-of-way or good access. Part of M. D. C. Ware River Watershed. Open to fishing. Abutting M. D. C. land runs to a town road, but does not provide suitable access at present.
Mossy Pond, Clinton	125	No public right-of-way. Accessible off South Meadow Street. Raised great pond. An early map lists it as 35 acres.
Muddy Pond, Westminster	21	No public right-of-way and no access.
Muschopaug Pond, Rutland	67	Towns of Holden and Rutland Water Supply. Closed to fishing.
Nipmuc Pond, Mendon	85	No public right-of-way or good access. Rights-of-way off Taft Avenue have not been accepted as town ways.
North Pond (Indian Lake), Worcester	192	No designated public right-of-way as such, but accessible via city land on Grove St. The Worcester map of 1794 shows a 40-acre pond. It has been enlarged to its present size for industrial purposes.
Peter Pond, Dudley	44	No public right-of-way. No public access. A raised great pond.
Pottapaug Pond, Petersham		Now included in Quabbin Reservoir. Formerly a 250-acre natural pond. Part of Quabbin fishing area.
Pratt Pond, Upton	34	No public right-of-way. Accessible off Hopkinton Road and North Main Street. Pond raised about 3 feet.
Quaboag Pond (Podunk Pond), Brookfield	541	No designated public right-of-way as such. Accessible off Quaboag St.
Quacumquasit Pond (South Pond), Brookfield, Sturbridge	226	Town right-of-way at pond's outlet on Rice Corner Road.
Queen Lake, Phillipston	160	No public right-of-way as such. Use of town land for boat-launching at the southern end of the pond on Templeton Road is not prohibited, but neither is it officially sanctioned. A raised great pond.
Lake Quinsigamond, Worcester, Shrewsbury, Grafton	934	The City of Worcester right-of-way on Lake Avenue is the best access to the northern portion of Lake Quinsigamond. Many other access points are used, but do not have adequate parking areas, boat-launching facilities, or guarantee of future use by the public. The lower section (southern) can be reached off Route 20, but not without difficulty. Lake Quinsigamond is made up of two, and perhaps three, enlarged natural great ponds; Flint's, Long, and Half-Moon Ponds. The Commonwealth owns the water rights to this lake, having acquired them from the American Linen Thread Company. More access sites and parking facilities should be constructed.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Quinapoxet Pond, Holden	280	City of Worcester Water Supply. Closed to fishing. A 23-acre pond in 1794.
Ramshorn Pond, Sutton, Millbury	117	No public right-of-way. Accessible from Davis Road, but parking is a problem. Map of 1794 lists pond at 64 acres.
Rocky Pond, Boylston	45	No public right-of-way. Accessible off Rocky Pond Road. A raised great pond.
Shaw Pond, Leicester	67	Town of Spencer Water Supply. Closed to fishing.
Lake Singletary, Sutton, Millbury	330	No public right-of-way. No public access. Pond raised about 7 feet.
Solomon Pond, Northboro	22	No public right-of-way. No public access for fishing as such, although a public beach is present.
Spectacle Pond, Lancaster	66	U. S. Army right-of-way off Lunenburg Rd.
Turkey Hill Pond, Rutland	65	No public right-of-way. No public access. Pond raised about 3 feet.
Upper Naukeag Pond, Ashburnham	316	Town of Ashburnham Water Supply. Open to public fishing by town taxpayers. Pond raised about 5 feet.
Wachusett Lake, Westminster	134	City of Fitchburg Water Supply. Closed to fishing.
Wachusett Reservoir, Clinton, Sterling, Boylston, West Boylston	4,135	The map of 1794 indicates that a natural great pond of 35 acres, Sandy Pond, was flowed over by Wachusett Reservoir, an M. D. C. Water Supply. Open to fishing by residents of abutting towns, and cities and towns on M. D. C. water system, on a permit basis. Fishing permitted from designated shore areas only.
Walker Pond, Sturbridge	104	Town right-of-way off Walker Pond Road. Pond raised about four feet.
Wallum Pond, Douglas	322	An access road to the state park beach off Wallum Pond Road is used to reach a boat-launching area. Experience indicates that it would be advantageous to have a separate public access road for fishermen.
Ward Pond (Billy Ward Pd.) Ashburnham	51	No public right-of-way and no public access.
Watatic Pond (Little Watatic), Ashburnham, Ashby	32	No public right-of-way. Accessible from Route 119.
Webster Lake, Webster	1,278	No specific public right-of-way. Access, launching ramp, and parking area available at Webster Fish and Game Club on Route 16.
West Watshaccum Pond, Sterling	142	No public right-of-way. Poor access off Gates Road. M. D. C. owns abutting land and water rights as part of the Wachusett Reservoir drainage. Open to fishing and boating.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Whalom Pond, Leominster	99	No public right-of-way. Access at southwest corner of pond where City of Leominster apparently owns 65-foot shore frontage at the end of the retaining wall.
Wickaboag Pond, West Brookfield	320	No public right-of-way. Accessible at town beach except during summer when boat launching is restricted to residents and campers. Pond raised 4 feet.
White Pond, Athol	67	No public right-of-way as such. Status of roadways leading to pond to be determined. Raised great pond. Records of 1794 indicate a pond of 30 acres or more.
White Pond, Leominster	30	No public right-of-way. Access from White Street extension. Pond raised 1.1 feet according to Department of Public Works survey.
Lake Whittemore, Spencer	56	Water rights held by Town of Spencer. No public right-of-way; no good public access. Parking fee at town beach. Pond raised 8-10 feet.
Lake Winnekeag, Ashburnham	112	No public right-of-way. Accessible off Route 101. Pond raised about 14 feet.

PONDS OTHER THAN GREAT PONDS OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY PUBLIC AGENCIES

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Beaver Pond, Royalston	50	This impoundment is part of the Birch Hill Public Hunting and Fishing Grounds. Constructed by the Mass. Division of Fish and Game. Accessible off Swamp Road.
Buffumville Pond, Oxford	202	This is the conservation pool of the Corps. of Engineers Buffumville Flood Control Project. It incorporated the former Colicum Reservoir and other smaller ponds into the present lake. It is open to fishing and accessible via public rights-of-way off Oxford Road.
Brigham Pond, Hubbardston	45	This impoundment is part of the M. D. C.'s Ware River Watershed. Open to fishing. Accessible off Route 68 to the right of the dam.
Crow Hill Pond, Westminster, Princeton	11	This impoundment lies in the Leominster State Forest. Shore fishing is permitted. Accessible off Route 31.
Cranberry Pond, Lancaster	9.6	This pond lies on the Fort Devens Reservation. Fishing is restricted to military personnel, post employees, and guests.
Cunningham Pond, Hubbardston	38	This impoundment is part of the Ware River Watershed and is open to fishing. The dam was rebuilt by the Division of Fisheries and Game as part of the management program of the Hubbardston Wildlife Management Area. It is accessible off the old Westminster Road.
Dean Pond, Upton	9.6	This small CCC impoundment lies in the Upton State Forest and is accessible via Park Road.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Howe Pond, Spencer	13	This small impoundment lies in the Spencer State Forest. Shore fishing is permitted and fisherman access is obtainable off Meadow Road.
Little Hell Pond, Harvard, Fort Devens	8.0	This pond lies on the Fort Devens reservation. Fishing is restricted to military, post employees, and guests.
Muddy Pond, Oakham	27	This pond lies in the M. D. C. Ware River Watershed and is open to fishing. It is accessible off Whitehall Road and at the outlet.
Paradise Pond, Princeton	67	This pond lies on the M. D. C. Wachuset Reservoir Watershed and is open to fishing. It is accessible off Route 31.
Quabbin Reservoir	25,000	Accessible in orcester County via Gate 43 in Hardwick. Fifty-cent parking fee. Launching ramp provided. Special restrictions on size of boats and motors. Shore fishing permitted in designated areas.
Robins Pond, Harvard	14	This pond lies in the Fort Devens reservation. Fishing is restricted to the military, post employees, and guests.
Rocky Pond, Leominster	18	This pond lies in the Leominster State Forest. It is accessible off Rocky Pond Road.
Stockwell Ponds, Sutton	72	These 6 ponds are used by the Division of Fisheries and Game for the rearing of warm-water fish for restocking. Closed to fishing.
Sudbury Reservoir, Southboro, Marlboro	1,292	Part of the M. D. C. Water system. Fishing by residents of Southboro and Marlboro permitted in designated areas.
Thompson Pond, Spencer	117	The dam lies partly in the Spencer State Forest. The pond is accessible off the causeway along Thompson Pond Road.
Wachusett Reservoir	4,135	See Great Ponds.

**PONDS OTHER THAN GREAT PONDS OWNED BY
CITIES AND TOWNS
(listed alphabetically by towns)**

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Lower Naukeag Lake, Ashburnham	288	See Great Ponds, open to fishing.
Uppcr Naukeag Lake	316.0	See Great Ponds, open to town taxpayers.
Bates Power Reservoir, Athol	36.8	Located in Phillipston and open to fishing. Accessible from dam on Road off Blake's Corner Road.
Newton Reservoir, Athol	26	Located in Athol. Closed.
Phillipston Reservoir, Athol	22	Located in Athol and Phillipston. Closed.
Rice Pond (Mill Pond), Brookfield	168	Located in Brookfield. Fishing by town residents or members of Brookfield Rod and Gun Club.
Glen Echo, Charlton	115	Located in Charlton. Open to fishing. No public right-of-way or good access.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Fitch Pond, Clinton	13	Located in Sterling. Closed.
Heywood Reservoir, Clinton	23	Located in Leominster and Sterling. Closed.
Lynde Basins (Upper and Lower), Clinton	11	Located in Sterling. Closed.
Ashby Reservoir, Fitchburg	153	Located in Ashby. Closed.
Bickford Pond, Fitchburg	56	Located in Hubbardston and Princeton. Open to fishing.
Lovell Reservoir, Fitchburg	39	Located in Fitchburg. Closed.
Mare Meadow Reservoir, Fitchburg	300	Located in Westminster and Hubbardston. Shore fishing only by residents of towns of Fitchburg, Hubbardston, and Westminster. Winter ice fishing derbies occasionally per- mitted.
Meeting House Pond, Fitchburg	152.7	See Great Ponds. Closed.
Overlook Reservoir, Fitchburg	14	Located in Fitchburg. Closed.
Scott Reservoir, Fitchburg	35	Located in Fitchburg. Closed.
Wachusett Lake, Fitchburg		See Great Ponds. Closed.
Willard Brook Reservoir, Fitchburg	41	Located in Ashby. Open to public.
Wyman Pond Reservoir, Fitchburg	255	Located in Westminster. Open to public. No public right-of-way, but access is fair from Route 140.
Cowee Pond, Gardner	21	Located in Gardner. Closed.
Crystal Lake, Gardner		See Great Ponds. Closed.
Hamilton Reservoir, (lower half only), Holland	226	Located in Holland. Open to public. Town- owned fisherman landing on Leno Road near town-owned dam.
Henshaw Pond, Leicester		See Great Ponds.
Distributing Reservoir, Leominster	8	Located in Leominster. Closed.
Fall Brook Reservoir, Leominster	85	Located in Leominster. Closed.
Haynes Reservoir, Leominster	54	Located in Leominster. Closed.
Morse Reservoir, Leominster	13	Located in Leominster. Closed.
No Town Reservoir, Leominster	227	Located in Leominster. Closed.
Cedar Swamp Pond, Milford	122	Located in Milford (including the canal). Open to boating, swimming, fishing. Boats need permit obtained from Cedar Swamp Pond Development Committee.

POND	ACRE-AGE	STATUS
Louisa Lake, Milford	19	Located in Milford. Open to the public.
Doane Pond, North Brookfield	29	Located in N. Brookfield. Fishing from shore by town residents only.
Horse Pond, North Brookfield	58	Located in N. Brookfield. Fishing from shore by town residents only.
Northboro Reservoir, Northboro	3	Located in Shrewsbury and Boylston. Closed to fishing.
Asnabumskit Pond, Paxton		See Great Ponds. Closed to fishing.
Muschopauge Pond, Rutland	64.0	See Great Ponds. Closed to fishing.
Shaw Pond, Spencer	67.2	See Great Ponds. Closed to fishing.
Sugden Reservoir, Spencer	93	Located in Spencer and open to fishing. Accessible on foot over town land on Paxton Rd.
Lake Whittemore, Spencer		See Great Ponds. Open to fishing.
Jourdan Pond, Upton		Located in Upton. To be built on West River. Access status to be determined.
Mill Pond, Upton	8.0	Located in Upton. Open to fishing.
Westboro Reservoir (Sandra Pond), Westboro	59	Located in Westboro. Fishing by permit for town residents only.
Whitney Pond, Winchendon	107	Located in Winchendon. Open to public. No legal access. Can be reached from Pond Street or Glenallen Street.
Holden Reservoir #1, Worcester	130	Located in Holden. Closed.
Holden Reservoir #2, Worcester	53	Located in Holden. Closed.
Kendall Reservoir, Worcester	175	Located in Holden. Closed.
Kettle Brook Reservoir #1, Worcester	12	Located in Leicester. Closed.
Kettle Brook Reservoir #2, Worcester	31	Located in Leicester. Closed.
Kettle Brook Reservoir #3, Worcester	37	Located in Paxton and Leicester. Closed.
Kettle Brook Reservoir #4, Worcester	119	Located in Paxton. Closed.
Lynde Brook Reservoir, Worcester	132	Located in Leicester. Closed.
Maple Spring Pond, Worcester	34	Located in Holden. Open to fishing. Accessible from Princeton Street.
Pine Hill Reservoir, Worcester	345	Located in Rutland, Paxton, and Holden. Closed.
Quinapoxet Reservoir, Worcester	280	See Great Ponds. Closed.

Announcing . . . the first annual **MASSACHUSETTS FRESHWATER SPORTFISHING AWARD PROGRAM**

Beginning this year, the Division of Fisheries and Game will sponsor an annual freshwater sportfishing award program in recognition of outstanding catches of not only the best-known and most sought-after game fish species, but also the little-publicized, sporty panfish species.

Massachusetts sportfishing badges will be issued to fishermen who catch and report fish that equal or exceed the minimums listed below. The following rules must be adhered to for qualification: Fish must be caught on rod, reel and line or legal ice fishing tackle during legal open season from waters where adult fishermen are required by law to possess a valid fishing license. Fish must be weighed, measured and witnessed by personnel at an authorized checking station. Clean side-view closeup photographs must accompany any affidavit form reporting either largemouth or smallmouth bass, and photos of the angler and catch will be welcome in all instances. All photographs will become property of the Division of Fisheries and Game, which reserves the right to reject any affidavit.

Here's a listing of the species, their sizes and weights which will qualify their captors for an award:

Largemouth bass	6 lbs.	Brook trout	15"
Smallmouth bass	3 lbs.	Bluegill	10"
Chain pickerel	4 lbs.	Bullhead	15"
Rainbow trout	4 lbs.	Channel catfish	16"
Brown trout	5 lbs.	Crappie or calico	15"
Lake trout	8 lbs.	White perch	14"
Walleye pike	4 lbs.	Yellow perch	14"

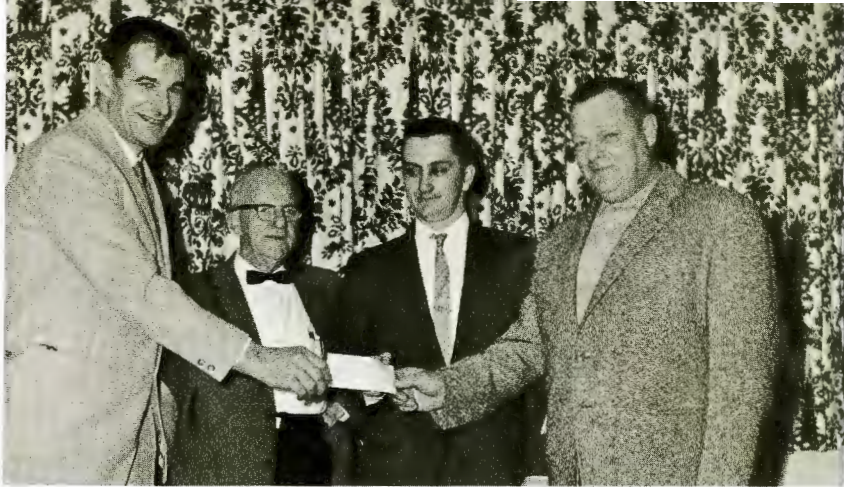
Names, and pictures if available, of all qualifying catches will be announced as they are received at Westboro Field Headquarters. Further plans call for an annual spring announcement of the previous year's largest fish and the successful anglers, with additional badges for top fish in each category. This list will also be published in the March-April issue of *Massachusetts Wildlife*.

Affidavit forms for entries are available at Westboro Field Headquarters, the division's Boston office, any one of the four wildlife district headquarters, and sporting goods stores throughout the state. All but the Boston office will also serve as authorized weighing and measuring stations.

Be one of the first in your area to qualify for an award this year. Each and every fish you catch that meets the minimum standards mentioned above qualifies for an award, one per fish. Awards won't be limited to one per angler, so get busy and good fishing!

**P
R
O
J
E
C
T**

**A
C
Q
U
I
S
I
T
I
O
N**



OFF TO A GOOD START!

The check being passed above by officials of the Middlesex County League of Sportsmen's Clubs, made out for \$1,000, is a down payment on three tracts of land totalling 259 acres in the towns of Shirley and Townsend.

Situated in the most heavily populated county of the state, the land will have a two-fold purpose; first, to help preserve the Squannacook River area and provide fisherman access to it, and secondly, to provide a nucleus for a managed public hunting area for forest and farm game species. Equally important, the area will also be available to the general public for allied recreational uses through sportsmen's contributions.

It is planned to eventually turn the land over to the Division of Fisheries and Game for further development and management, thus insuring future public ownership.

The ambitious program, believed to be the first of its kind in the state, is aimed at raising a total of \$25,900. The money will be raised through contributions from clubs, organized and independent sportsmen, business, industry, civic organizations and any individuals interested in contributing to all the program entails. The League has three years to raise the total sum.

The Middlesex County League of Sportsmen's Clubs deserves congratulations for doing such a fine job to date in getting this project off the ground. They also deserve heartiest wishes for continued success with their venture into the field of land acquisition for the public.

Second Class
POSTAGE PAID
at Worcester, Mass.

**Division of
FISHERIES and GAME**
Field Headquarters
WESTBORO, MASS.

MASSACHUSETTS WILDLIFE



**Like what you read?
Become a subscriber!**

Massachusetts Wildlife magazine is a quarterly publication packed with award-winning articles and photos on the environment, conservation, fishing, hunting, natural history and just about everything relating to the outdoors in Massachusetts.

Subscribe online through our licensing system: mass.gov/massfishhunt or mail subscription requests to:

Magazine Subscription
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
251 Causeway St, (9th floor)
Boston, MA 02114

Please include the following with mailed subscription requests:

1. The name and mailing address of the subscriber.
2. A check payable to Massachusetts Wildlife Magazine. You will be billed if a check does not accompany your request. We cannot accept credit card payments by mail.

**1 year subscription (4 issues) \$6.00
2 year subscription (8 issues) \$10.00**