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WILDLIFE BUREAU ISSUES  
BOOK ON OREGON MAMMALS

Technical Work by Vernon Bailey Now Available  
to Scientists and Wildlife Students

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Another scientific work of basic importance has been made available to wildlife workers and students, says the U. S. Biological Survey in announcing publication of "The Mammals and Life Zones of Oregon," a 416-page illustrated report by Vernon Bailey, formerly senior biologist in the Bureau's Division of Wildlife Research. The new book is No. 55 in the Bureau's technical series entitled "North American Fauna," and is now on sale at 75 cents a copy by the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C.

"Only by applying the most thorough and reliable information can the wildlife of a country be managed efficiently," says Mr. Bailey in his introductory remarks on the importance of the work. "Whatever may be our attitude toward the native wildlife, our course," he says, "should be guided by a full knowledge of all the species, their physical characters, distribution, natural or controlled abundance, natural habits, and as far as possible their relations to our own lives and industries."

The object of the work, says the Survey, is not only to provide as full information as possible, but also to give information that will enable others to go ahead with future studies, until far better means for understanding, appreciating, managing, and controlling our native fauna are attained. "While the present report;

says the author, "puts on record much that is not commonly known about animal life, it represents a beginning rather than the finished product of studies of the State's mammals. Its greatest value should be in enabling a large number of local people to observe correctly and record the habits of animals until much better understood than at present, to know what particular species they are observing, and to obtain definite and accurate information."

#### Similar Publications on Other Regions

Mr. Bailey's new book, says the Biological Survey, represents a part of the scientific work of the bureau as the nation's wildlife service. While it deals with only one state, it takes its place with similar publications on other states and regions and represents progress in work that is still going on. Bailey's new book together with a report on the birds of Oregon, now in manuscript, by Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Bureau chief, will constitute a complete reference work on the higher forms of wildlife of this state.

The Survey has provided a similar source of information on New Mexico. Two works by Mr. Bailey, "Life Zones and Crop Zones of New Mexico" and "Mammals of New Mexico," have been published by the bureau in the North American Fauna Series, and a comprehensive work entitled "Birds of New Mexico" by Mrs. Bailey (Dr. Florence Merriam Bailey) was issued in cooperation with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish.

Other scientific regional reports issued by the Biological Survey, or in cooperation with other agencies, have dealt with Colorado, Wyoming, Alabama, North Dakota, Florida, Alaska, California, and Canadian and Mexican wildlife areas of special importance to scientists in the United States.

Based on Field Work

Mr. Bailey has based his Oregon report primarily on field work of Biological Survey naturalists carried on since 1888, but he has also used other available published information. A systematic survey of the state was begun in 1896 under the direction of the bureau's first chief, Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Other agencies and private collectors and students have given valuable assistance.

A Comprehensive Work

"The Mammals and Life Zones of Oregon" includes a detailed description of the State's physiographic features and their importance in wildlife distribution. Owing to its broad extent, wide range of altitude, and varied physiographic features, Oregon shows a great diversity of climate and contains five of the seven primary life zones of the continent. Mr. Bailey discusses each of these life zones, and their subdivisions, and lists not only the mammals but also the breeding birds, the reptiles, and the native plants of each.

The larger section of the work, however, is devoted to the mammals. In addition to paragraphs on the distribution and habitat, general habits, breeding habits, food habits, and economic status, the treatment of the species includes technical information on scientific names, type specimens, measurements, and general characters.

Illustrations include animal photographs, views of various typical life-zone areas, maps showing the animals' ranges in the state, and a map of the state showing the life zones in color. The work includes a glossary of Indian names of mammals, as well as a bibliography and an index.

Not for Free Distribution

"The Mammals and Life Zones of Oregon", the Survey points out, is not available for free distribution. Copies have been sent to libraries and to workers in this field, and it will thus be available for reference where needed. It is a

technical work intended primarily for mammalogists and for students and others who have need for scientific information. Copies, however, are available to anyone at the office of the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 75 cents each.

Author a Veteran Naturalist

Vernon Bailey, author of "The Mammals and Life Zones of Oregon", is a veteran naturalist of the Biological Survey. Retired in 1933 after 46 years of service, he has continued active in the bureau's work, making special surveys on request and remaining available as a consultant.

Mr. Bailey has achieved wide recognition for his studies of the geographic distribution of mammals, birds, and plants, and his work in building up the Survey's collections and files of information has been especially noteworthy. He has conducted biological surveys of Texas, New Mexico, and North Dakota, as well as of Oregon, and in addition to his writings for the Survey has published reports on the mammals of Glacier National Park, on the animal life of the Carlsbad Caverns, and on that of Yellowstone National Park.

For years, Mr. Bailey has also been active in behalf of the humane treatment of animals, especially in the invention of traps to capture them alive and unharmed. He designed and perfected the Biological Survey beaver trap now in wide use in connection with restocking operations and also a foothold trap, for both of which he has received prizes awarded by the American Humane Association.

A native of Michigan, Mr. Bailey was first employed in the Department of Agriculture as a special field agent in 1887, when he was 24 years old and living in Minnesota. In 1890 he gained the title of chief field naturalist.