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RESPECT FOR GAME LAWS  
GROWING, SAYS SUMMARY  
BY BIOLOGICAL SURVEY

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More and more hunters are coming to understand the true purpose of game laws and are becoming cooperators in the work of law enforcement.

This is pointed out by the U. S. Biological Survey in the introduction to Farmers' Bulletin No. 1766 containing the Survey's thirty-seventh annual summary of the federal, state, and Canadian provincial game laws. The summary was prepared by H. P. Sheldon and Frank G. Grimes, chief and administrative assistant respectively of the Survey's Division of Public Relations.

The majority of hunters, says the bulletin, realize that no game means no hunting and that the future of their sport depends upon the conservation of breeding stocks. The restoration of habitat is necessary to a future game supply, but an adequate breeding stock is indispensable. Laws are made to carry out this essential part of a constructive program for the restoration of wildlife, and they are preparing the way for a happier future for hunters.

Drastic restrictions for hunting waterfowl in both the United States and Canada this season reflect the serious plight of wild ducks, according to the bulletin. It points out that the new Federal waterfowl hunting regulations are intended to cut down the annual kill in order to send more birds back to their northern breeding grounds. More birds returned to nest this year than last as a result of the restrictions imposed by the 1935 regulations.

So serious was the waterfowl situation considered in Canada this year that

it became necessary for officials there to restrict the season to 2 months in several Provinces, to curtail materially the bag limits, and to prescribe a close season on wood ducks, eider ducks, and--in all but three Provinces-- on brant.

Noteworthy progress has been made during the past year by the Survey in carrying out its waterfowl restoration program. This program embodies two principles --the restoration of areas where ducks can feed, rest, and breed, and the conservation of ducks to populate the areas restored. In the little more than two years during which emergency funds have been available, more than 1,500,000 acres of refuge land have been acquired, and the Bureau now has approximately 2,000,000 acres under process of development.

The bulletin points out the extension and reinforcement of Federal authority over migratory birds by an Act of Congress approved by President Roosevelt on June 20, 1936, to make effective in this country a treaty between the United States and the Republic of Mexico for the protection of migratory birds and game animals. Mexico has yet to ratify the treaty, and the new law will take effect upon proclamation of the exchange of ratifications. Federal authority over migratory birds has heretofore depended chiefly on the Migratory Bird Treaty with Great Britain.

Prepared for hunters, farmers, and others interested in wildlife and for the use of Federal and State enforcement officials, the new publication constitutes a convenient synopsis of the laws in ready-reference form. It also reviews the Federal, State, and Provincial game legislation of the year and lists the Federal enforcement officers throughout the country and the officials from whom copies of the State game laws may be obtained. Copies of Farmers' Bulletin No. 1766 containing the summary of game laws may be obtained from the U. S. Department of

Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The new game-law bulletin has a title page illustration from the drawing made by Richard E. Bishop for use in designing the Federal migratory bird hunting stamp for this season. These stamps, required of all waterfowl hunters more than 16 years of age, may be purchased at post offices at \$1 each. Proceeds from the sale of these stamps are used in financing the establishment and development of refuges.