



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NEW COOPERATIVE WILDLIFE RESEARCH UNITS OPEN

Operations at the newly-established University of Massachusetts Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, Amherst, Mass., will begin on September 15, the Fish and Wildlife Service announced today. Dr. William G. Sheldon has been appointed leader of the project.

In July, units were reactivated at the Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala.; the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg, Va.; and Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, when full Federal participation was resumed.

Dr. Henry S. Mosby was appointed leader of the Virginia Unit, where one of the chief research projects will be the management of quail. The rehabilitation of spoil-bank areas on coal strip mines for wildlife propagation is a major research activity for the Ohio Unit, where Dr. Daniel L. Leedy is project leader.

Quail management will be one of the major subjects for research at the Alabama Unit. No project leader has yet been named to that post. Subjects for research at the new unit in Massachusetts will be selected soon.

Cooperative Wildlife Research Units have been active at land-grant colleges since 1935. There are now 14. Their operations are financed by the colleges, state game and conservation commissions, the Wildlife Management Institute (a private organization), and by Federal funds provided through the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The units train college students for jobs with Federal and state governments in wildlife management and conservation. They also conduct investigations and research upon which practical wildlife management by the Federal and state governments is based. The results of these investigations guide farmers and landowners in general to build up and maintain the country's wildlife resources. In several states the Units cooperate with or supervise Federal-aid wildlife research projects.

More than 500 bulletins, articles, and books reporting research findings have been published by Unit personnel since the establishment of the Cooperative Wildlife Research Program. More than 800 students have received undergraduate and postgraduate training.

The Fish and Wildlife Service assigns a biologist to each unit on a full-time basis. He supervises the work of graduate student assistants, and conducts some research personally. Undergraduate students specializing in conservation or wildlife management frequently receive training at the units by doing part-time work. Faculty members of the colleges also participate in the research activities.

The other Cooperative Wildlife Research Units, their Federal project leaders, and major research projects are as follows:

- (a) Oregon State College, Corvallis, Oreg.; Arthur S. Einarsen; problems in pheasant management.
- (b) Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa; Dr. Edward L. Kozicky; pheasant and rabbit research.
- (c) Utah State Agricultural College, Logan, Utah; Dr. Jessop B. Low; management of mule deer.
- (d) Texas A & M College, College Station, Texas; Dr. George Petrides; conservation and management of deer and antelope.
- (e) University of Maine, Orono, Maine; Howard L. Mendall; research on black and ring-neck ducks.
- (f) Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.; Dr. Ward M. Sharp; habitat improvement for forest wildlife.
- (g) University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo.; Dr. Thomas Baskett; management of bob white quail.
- (h) Oklahoma A & M College, Stillwater, Okla.; Dr. Walter P. Taylor; research to determine best means for production of fish and wildlife in and near artificial impoundments.
- (i) Colorado State College, Fort Collins, Colo.; Dr. Lee Yeager; research on wild fur-bearing animals.
- (j) University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho; Dr. Paul Dalke; management and conservation of forest wildlife.

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