



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release NOVEMBER 17, 1959

UNITED STATES GAME AGENTS ARREST TWO IN DUCK TRAP MOVE

United States Department of the Interior Game Management agents who for two weeks have been quietly tracking down illegal duck trapping operations on the eastern shore of the Chesapeake Bay in Virginia moved in on three of the traps Monday night and took into custody two men, Ross Leffler, Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, said today. The men had 17 ducks in their possession when they were taken into custody.

The enforcement campaign was planned months ago and got under way about two weeks ago when the first waves of northern ducks began to arrive on the wintering ground marshes on the Eastern Shore. Both State and Federal wardens participate in the enforcement of the Migratory Bird Regulations.

"Federal wildlife law enforcement covers all phases of waterfowl violations without fear or favor," said Daniel H. Janzen, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

"Duck baiters, duck trappers, and over-the-limit shooters are all the same; all of them are robbing the general public of a wonderful resource which maintains a great sport of waterfowling, and we will constantly use every possible force to bring these illicit activities to a halt," asserted Mr. Janzen.

He also pointed out that the Fish and Wildlife Service works in close cooperation with State enforcement officers in all such matters. "Only by combining the efforts of both State and Federal game wardens is it possible to do the clean-up job which is necessary," he added. Director Janzen also praised the State Game officials of Maryland and Virginia for the fine cooperation which is now being given the Service.

Spokesmen of the Service agree that there is a problem of duck trapping on the Eastern Shore, but they feel that the joint enforcement efforts of State and Federal officers are keeping most of the violators from operating with any major effect.

They urged anyone with information about duck trapping or any other violation of the Migratory Bird Regulations to contact either Federal or State wardens.

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