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DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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INTERIOR DEPARTMENT RELEASES NATIONAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR 1960

An estimated 2¼ million fisherman days were spent in 1960 on Federally owned waters that received fishery management assistance from the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, according to a report just released by the Department of the Interior.

Fishing on these National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, National Forests, Indian Reservations, military areas, and Veterans Administration facilities served under the fishery management program rose from one million in 1958 to the 1960 figure, an increase of 125 percent in three years.

Considerable fishing opportunity is provided at Federally owned or developed areas. The Bureau conducts research on sport fishery resources and provides the necessary fish for stocking many of these waters. Fishing surveys, fish-stocking recommendations, and control of rough fish are projects carried out by the management biologists to improve these popular fishing spots.

The Fishery Management Services Annual Report for 1960 shows that the greatest increase in angler use that can be directly attributed to improved management occurred on national wildlife refuges and Department of Defense installations.

Among the 191 Federal areas receiving assistance in 1960, there were 93 Department of Defense installations, 12 Veterans Administration facilities, 26 Indian Reservations, 9 National Forests, 8 National Parks, 34 National Wildlife Refuges, and 9 miscellaneous areas. Waters under the supervision of such agencies as the Atomic Energy Commission, Federal Bureau of Prisons, General Services Administration, and the United States Soldiers' Home were included in the miscellaneous areas.

The Bureau's fishery management biologists also worked closely with the State fish and game agencies in gathering information on sport fishing in interstate waters and in cooperative fish eradication and control projects, according to the report. Cooperative agreements with several States called for joint efforts in planning fish-stocking programs to prevent duplication of stocking by State and Federal hatcheries.

Copies of the detailed report can be obtained from the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Washington 25, D. C.

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