

Under the Treaty, the Federal Governments of Canada and the United States, after consultation with the states and provinces, set bag limits. Season lengths can also be set within certain outside limits prescribed by the Treaty. Within that framework, the states and provinces may add other waterfowl restrictions if they so desire. The prohibition of hunting on Sunday is an example of a provincial regulation that is found in some provinces, but not in all. Enforcement of the migratory bird regulations in Canada is the responsibility of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

In Canada federal-provincial wildlife conferences are held annually, where delegates of provincial and federal game agencies meet to co-ordinate their activities. The success of the conferences has been shown by their expansion to include discussion of technical problems of game-management, after the more routine details of co-ordinating waterfowl seasons have been completed. Subjects considered vary widely. Recently, for example, they have included co-operative caribou studies, interprovincial shipment of live game, effect of pesticides on wildlife, and the marketing of wild furs.

Canadian Wildlife Service

The Canadian Wildlife Service, which has developed from a migratory birds section in the National Parks Branch, has certain clearly defined and generally accepted responsibilities. Besides its work with migratory birds, it advises other federal agencies on wildlife in federal areas, and the territorial governments on wildlife in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, advises the Federal Government generally on wildlife resources, and carries out related research.

As a result, it acquires and distributes much information useful to managers of the wildlife resource. Research findings are made available in a series of reports. Informative pamphlets are issued as the need arises. A series of translations of Russian papers on game management and research was instituted at the request of the provinces. A new series of monographs has been started. In contrast to the reports which deal with individual studies, the monographs are exhaustive treatises on wildlife subjects.

Over 60 biologists are employed by the Canadian Wildlife Service, about one-quarter assigned exclusively to research in Northern Canada and the remainder distributed among research projects in other parts of the country. The biologists work in three sections, concerned with migratory birds, mammals, and fish. The ornithologists work in close association with the provincial governments, Ducks Unlimited (Canada), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The mammalogists concentrate on the mammals of the national parks and the northern territories, co-operating closely with the territorial governments and other agencies. Because sport fishing is such an important activity in national parks, biologists carry out research in support of fish management programmes and investigate special problems caused by blood-sucking insects and algae. These, if unchecked, create unfavourable conditions for swimmers, fishermen, and other parks visitors. Control measures must be handled carefully if wildlife is not to be harmed.