

NATIONAL WILDLIFE POLICY ANNOUNCED

Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing recently tabled in the House of Commons a national wildlife policy and programme, the purpose of which is to provide guide-lines for co-ordinated action by the federal and provincial governments for the conservation and protection of wildlife in Canada. Demands on wildlife resources by hunters and other recreationists are increasing and this trend is expected to continue as the population grows. A complicating factor is that wildlife habitat is being sacrificed steadily to human demands for more space.

The new policy and programme have been developed to meet needs expressed by conservationists and wildlife officials throughout Canada and in accordance with principles endorsed by the Canadian Council of Resource Ministers, the Federal-Provincial Wildlife Conference, and the Prime Minister's and Premiers' Conference in July 1965.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

The Federal Government will undertake research on the relations between wildlife and forest and on factors affecting the health of wildlife populations; provide research services to the provinces on request; support research and management related to wide-ranging wildlife populations (problems sometimes cross provincial boundaries); where possible design its information programme on wildlife to serve the interests of provincial and territorial governments; act to improve the supply of professionally-trained wildlife biologists; try to prevent any animal from becoming extinct.

The programme and policy deal specifically with migratory birds and wildlife in national parks, and in the territories.

The importance of co-ordinating programmes and policies across the country is emphasized and the document provides for review and improvement of related research and management arrangements.

Mr. Laing also announced that, in recognition of the importance of the wildlife resource, the Government had decided to establish the Canadian Wildlife Service as a separate branch of his Department.

INCO LICENCES FOR DUCTILE IRON

New royalty-free licences for the production of ductile iron have been offered by the International Nickel Company, to its licensees producing the material.

The original U.S. patent covering magnesium-containing ductile iron expires toward the end of this year. However, International Nickel still owns more than 30 other ductile-iron patents covering various other aspects of its licensees' operations.

Under the new licensing arrangement, licensees in good standing are being offered a modified licence agreement to take effect January 1, 1967. The new agreement will be substituted for the existing royalty-

bearing licence, and will have the effect of eliminating royalty requirements with respect to ductile iron produced after December 31, 1966. The new arrangement covers operation under International Nickel patents currently in effect, and has been modified and simplified in a number of other respects.

International Nickel intends to continue research on ductile iron and activities aimed at developing markets for ductile iron containing nickel. The company also expects to continue to assist organizations devoted to improving the foundry industry and to disseminate technical and market information to licensees.

YEARS OF GROWTH

Ductile iron, which was developed in the laboratories of International Nickel, has become a major product of the foundry industry. Produced by over 600 authorized foundries in 30 countries, the estimated tonnage for 1965 was 1,825,000 tons which is an increase of 30 per cent over the figure for 1964. This has been the approximate annual rate of increase over the last few years and it is expected to continue for a number of years in the future.

NEW HEAVY-WATER PLANT

Atomic Energy of Canada Limited announced recently that it had been authorized by the Government to enter into a contract with the Canadian General Electric Company Limited for the supply of heavy water from a new plant.

CGE had submitted a proposal for a plant with a capacity of 400 tons a year and a contract to guarantee the sale of 4,000 tons, as requested. It also made an alternative proposal for a plant of up to 500 tons a year and a guarantee of sale of 5,000 tons within a maximum delivery period of 12½ years. It is a contract related to this larger plant that has been approved.

TERMS OF CONTRACT

The basic terms of the contract to be signed with Atomic Energy of Canada Limited are that: (a) CGE will be responsible for financing, designing, building and operating the plant. It will select a site before the middle of June 1966, and production will begin in 1969; (b) AECL will underwrite the sale of 5,000 tons of heavy water from a plant to produce up to 500 tons a year within a maximum period of 12½ years, at an average price of approximately \$18.15 a pound. The price for the initial production will be \$20.50 a pound and the price will decrease over the contract period to \$16.00 a pound.

AECL is also authorized to respond to any request from Deuterium of Canada Limited to negotiate a contract for the supply of a similar quantity of heavy water within the same contract period from an expanded plant at Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, provided assurances are received from that firm that adequate financing to build such an extension has been obtained.