

of vehicle from the motor-cycle definition. Minibikes, competition snowmobiles and motor-cycles must bear a label reflecting their restricted usage.

Several other minor amendments to the Regulations, relative to such items as the operation of windshield wipers and rear-view mirrors are also proposed.

### PEACE-ATHABASCA DELTA STUDY

A major project to investigate the water-levels and ecological problems of the Peace-Athabasca Delta and to recommend early remedial measures is being undertaken by the Government of Canada in co-operation with the provinces of British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, Mr. Jack Davis, stated that the preliminary hydrological studies indicated that the filling of the Williston Reservoir (created by the construction of the Bennett Dam in British Columbia), appeared to be partly responsible for reduced water-levels in Lake Athabasca and ecological changes in the Athabasca Delta.

Lake Athabasca lies in Alberta and Saskatchewan; the Delta area is located at the west end of Lake Athabasca in Alberta, while most of the Delta lies within Wood Buffalo National Park.

#### LIVELIHOOD OF INHABITANTS AT STAKE

The Federal Government is particularly concerned because much of the problem area lies within a national park and affects the livelihood of the local inhabitants, most of whom are Indians, by reduced trapping and fishing.

Ecologists say that a continuation of low water-levels in the Athabasca Delta may permanently change the vegetation and, in turn, the animal life of the region. They say that it is specially necessary that high-level flood flows cover the Delta not later than the spring of 1972, in order to avoid permanent ecological changes.

"The basic purpose of Canada's system of national parks - to preserve examples of our national environment - is imperilled in this case," says Mr. Davis.

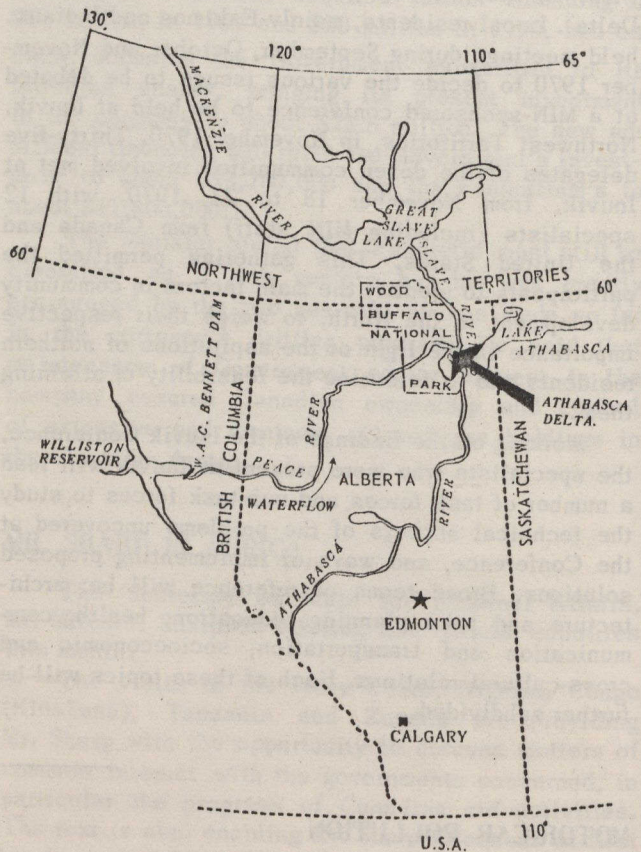
Answers are needed to three questions:

What water-levels does Lake Athabasca require to maintain and enhance the natural habitat and the fish and wildlife populations of the Delta?

What are the most appropriate stream-flows and water-levels for the Delta area, in the light of the ecological requirements?

What remedial measures or works are necessary to nullify the changes and obtain an acceptable flow regime in the Delta?

To unite the efforts of the governments in attacking these problems, a joint federal-provincial liaison team and a senior technical committee have been established to guide the work. The headquarters for the study will be the Baker Centre in Edmonton.



Arrow shows Peace-Athabasca Delta.