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November 1989

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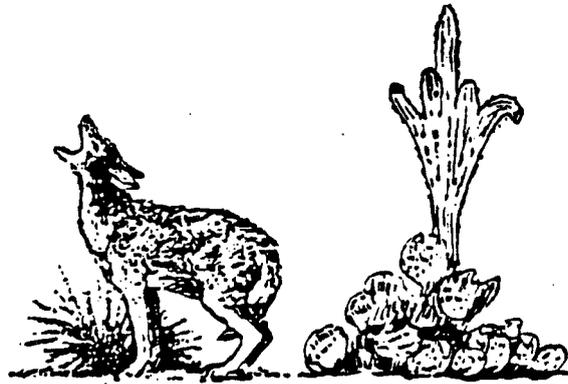


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THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

NOVEMBER 1989

NUMBER 97

APHIS ACTIVITY REPT.
(The following are abstracted from APHIS-ADC activity reports and newsletters like IDAHO TRAPPIN AND GABBIN, TEXAS TRAPLINE, THE TRAPPERS' JAW, etc. for the benefit of non-APHIS readers. This is not a publication source. Only names of NADCA members are used in situations in which they are involved. So if you want to see your name in print, better join up.)

BEAR: (ID) A bear cub caught inadvertently in a coyote trap was released by a Peruvian shepherd who had never seen a bear before. He decided to take it back to camp for a pet. Using his belt for a leash, he was almost back to camp when his dogs decided to teach the cub some manners. The cub immediately treed by climbing the herder's leg. When last seen the cub was disappearing over the ridge leaving the herder holding his pants up with his hands.

(ID) A trapper was shown just how much non-predation damage a bear can do. A bear had crawled into a new extended-cab Toyota truck through an open window to get some "doggie treats" from the seat. While rummaging around, he managed to knock the transmission out of gear, rolled down the hill about thirty yards until stopped by a fir tree. The bear became so distressed at the incident he left a large quantity of well-used chokecherries and berries over the gray velvety interior of the truck.

LIZARD?: (TX) GARY MCEWEN investi-

gated a story about a four-foot green lizard. While driving along he spotted the animal easing up on the road. When he slowed down to get a better look, the reptile dashed across the road and he ran over it. By the time he got back the lizard had disappeared. Gary decided it was a duckweed-covered alligator and he had just run over the gator's tail.

LYNX: (ID) A job applicant stopped in for an interview at an APHIS office the other day, but they felt he might be a little overqualified for their purposes since there was no problem he didn't have an answer for. He described his unique method for trapping "blue lynx" from the Owyhee desert. "Take a big nut (off a bolt) and coat it with tallow and blood. Freeze it and hang it up with a string where the "blue lynx" can find it. He will lick off the tallow and blood and when he gets to the frozen nut, his tongue freezes to the metal. This makes it so he can't swallow and he dies within a matter of an hour or so. Now all you have to do is cut off the end of his tongue to get him loose, recoat the nut with tallow, refreeze, and you're back in business."

WATERFOWL: (OR) A farmer has been using border collies for ten years to haze geese and other waterfowl from his alfalfa fields. These were reported highly effective when properly trained and used in conjunction with other hazing methods, including an electric wire to repel flightless geese.

(MD) LES TERRY had a request for blue heron control over a 75-acre goldfish pond where losses were exceeding \$25,000/year. Every available bird scaring device had been used with limited to no success. Les recommended applying for a depredation permit.

WOLF: (MN) Wolf depredation losses have been steadily increasing in Minnesota over the past few years. This year there was a total of 39 complaints that have been verified on 34 farms. To date 67 wolves have been captured with 56 of these being dispatched. The remaining were 11 pups which were released in accordance with Federal Court guidelines.

If swimming is so good for your figure, why do whales look the way they do?

READIN'

G.V.Byrd, G.T.McCellan, & J.P.Fuller made a final report on the use of 1080 to control Artic fox on the Aleutians (Thanx to TEXAS TRAPLINE 09-10/89): Results of the study showed 4mg 1080 in beef tallow-beeswax pellets was an adequate lethal dose for Artic foxes. Nearly 50,000 single dose baits were distributed on Kiska Island. Most fox were killed following the first application in March 1986, but at least one remained until June 1988. No evidence of mortality to bald eagles and ravens but at least two glaucous-winged gulls were killed probably by directly ingesting bait.

Despite the fact that eagles could have been killed by secondary poisoning from affected fox, there is no evidence any were killed. It is interesting to reflect that 1080 use was initially banned because of alleged adverse effects on eagles.

A USFWS release (10/05/89 Thanx to JOHN C. JONES rtd, USFWS/NADCA RD, MD) hails the redesignation of the Aleutian Canada goose from "endangered" to "threatened" status. The population went from 800 in the 1960's to more than 6,000 today. As usual the Service played down the role of making fox-free islands by rigorous ADC methods where the geese could breed.

No place in the release mentions 1080 made it all possible.

R.M.TIMM & R.H.SCHMIDT (1989) Management problems encountered with livestock guarding dogs on the University of California, Hopland Field Station. Ninth Great Plains Wildl. Damage Control Workshop, pp 54-58.

Others have pointed out there are some limitations on effective guard dog use in protecting sheep under certain conditions, such as, arid areas, widely-scattered livestock, rough terrain, and heavy vegetative cover. All these conditions prevail on most of the California north coast rangelands. Station experiences indicate that guard dogs are not a viable solution to livestock predation under these conditions. They spent over \$7,500 on the dogs - purchase, shipping, and handling, and not including vet fees, food, etc. from 11/87 through 03/89. Despite the fact all five dogs used were proven working adults, only one dog is doing a satisfactory job. Plus the habitat limitations mentioned above, they had problems with the dogs jumping fences, straying off the property, chasing cars and cyclists, behavioral problems during reproductive cycles, changes in sheep behavior towards herding dogs, great incompatibility with other ADC tools, and a greater problem than previously reported of chasing and killing wildlife (deer and turkeys).

(The above paper appeared in the Proceedings I just received. There are a number of other excellent articles, but I picked this one just for FRED KNOWLTON as he says I can't say anything good about guard dogs. Copies of this can probably be obtained from the U.S.Forest Service, Rocky Mt. Forest & Range Exp. Sta., Ft.Collins, CO 80526 as GENERAL TECH. REPT. RM-171.)

How come financial advisers never seem to be as wealthy as they say they can make you?

MEETIN'S

FOURTEENTH VERTEBRATE PEST CONFERENCE, Mar. 6-8, 1990 in Sacramento, CA (Red Lion Inn). Contact: Dr. Terrell Salmon,

Wildl. Ext., Univ. Calif.-Davis, CA 95616.

MANAGING PREDATION TO INCREASE PRODUCTION OF WETLAND BIRDS. Aug. 15-17, 1990 at the Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Ctr., Jamestown, ND. Contact Alan B. Sargeant, NPWRC, POB 2096, Jamestown, ND 58402 (701) 252-5363.

GUY CONNOLLY DWRC sent me a long list of meetings that might be of interest to ADC people. The following is only a partial listing and you might contact him in Denver for more details if you are interested:

JAN 02 - 54th Annual Purdue Pest Control Conf., W. Lafayette, IN
 JAN 08 - Natural Resources Communications Workshop, CSU, Chico, CA
 JAN 08 - Wildlife Communications Workshop, Albuquerque, NM
 JAN 11 - Annual meeting NY Chapter, TWS, Ithaca, NY
 JAN 14 - Amer. Sheep Industry Convention, Phoenix, AZ
 FEB 11 - 43rd Annual meeting Soc. for Range Mgmt., Reno, NV
 MAR 10 - Predator management in north coastal California, Hopland Field Station, Hopland, CA
 MAR 16 - Annual meeting TWS, Denver, CO
 MAR 16 - 55th N.A. Wildl. & Nat. Resources Conf., Denver, CO
 MAR 23 - Arizona wolf symposium (sponsored by PAWS), Mesa, AZ
 APR 09 - Native Amer. Fish & Wildlife Soc. Annual meeting, Rapid City, SD
 AUG 27 - Four Corners ADC Conf., Cortez, CO
 OCT 15 - Managing wildlife in the Southwest, Tucson, AZ
 NOV 11 - National Symposium on Urban Wildlife, Cedar Rapids, IA
 APR 21 - Internatl. Canada Goose Symposium, Milwaukee, WI

The program for the 14th VPS in Sacramento, CA lists the following speakers and papers:

ANIMAL WELFARE

H.V.THOMPSON - Animal welfare and control of vertebrates.
 W.E.HOWARD - How animal control improves animal welfare.

BIRD CONTROL

D.R.Crocker - Plant secondary compounds

basis for avian repellents.

F.H.Okurut-Akol, R.A.DOLBEER, and P. WORNECKI - Relations among blackbird corn damage, pest insects, & pesticides.
 D.G.Decker & Avery - Bird damage to Florida blueberries.

---- Clay coatings to reduce bird damage to rice.

B.D.Rana - Effectiveness of tannins against house sparrows.

P.WORNECKI, R.A.DOLBEER, & T.Seamans - Alpha-chloralose for removing waterfowl nuisances.

A.S.Adegoke - Village weaver in Nigeria.

J.L.Cummings & E.W.SCHAFFER - CAT (DRC-2698) baits on roosting blackbirds damaging sunflowers.

J.F.HEISTERBERG et al - CPT-Avicide aerial spray on blackbirds/starlings.

D.F.Caccamise - Communal starling roosts.

P.A.Pochop - Status of lines in bird control.

P.C.NELSON - Bird problems in New Zealand.

URBAN WILDLIFE

B.Colvin et al (W.JACKSON) - Planning Boston's rodent control.

J.MAESTRELLI - Urban ADC in California.

FIELD RODENTS

N.D.Korchmer - Protection of orchards from hare damage during cold weather.

G.H.Matschke - Zinc phosphide/black-tailed prairie dog/domestic ferret secondary poisoning.

J.EVANS et al - Registration of strychnine baits for pocket gophers.

G.Key - Controlling African striped ground squirrel in Kenya.

S.R.Lewis & J.L.O'Brien - Rodent and rabbit damage to alfalfa in Nevada.

P.Vossen & P.Gadd - Comparison of three pocket gopher baits.

M.E.Tobin - Rat damage to Hawaiian sugarcane.

G.Guedon - Control of pine voles in France.

W.D.Edge - Comparison of three traps for ground squirrels.

R.L.Everett & S.Monsen - Rodent problems in range rehabilitation.

S.Loeb - Reproduction and populations of pocket gophers in irrigated fields.

B.J.Wood - Resistant field rats in Malaysia.

L.Hilja - Vertebrate pests in Costa Rica.

FOREST PESTS

- H.C.Black - Animal damage on National Forest Systems.
 R.H.SCHMIDT & J.Borrecco - Animal damage to California forests.
 J.J.Jackson - ADC in nurseries and orchards in Southeast.
 G.Giusti - Blackbear feeding on redwoods.
 R.T.Graham & J.L.Kingery - Seedling damage & mortality in conifer plantations.

ECONOMIC/SOCIAL/POLITICAL ASPECTS

- L.A.FIEDLER - Rodents as source of food.
 R.JOHNSON - Human element in wildlife damage.
 R.A.Marovich - Impact of endangered species on ADC.
 E.Littrell - Effects of ADC on non-target species.
 A.R.Hardy - Vertebrate pests of the UK.
 K.A.FAGERSTONE & R.Bullard - Politics and economics in pesticide registration.
 W.D.FITZWATER - Vertebrate pests and mythology.
 S.E.HYGSTROM - Evolution of vertebrate pest management.

PREDATORS

- M.W.FALL - R&D on coyote predation on livestock.
 R.L.PHILLIPS, F.S.BLOM, & R.E.Johnson - Breakaway snares for coyote control.
 F.S.BLOM, R.L.PHILLIPS, & R.M.Engeman - Response of captive coyotes to chemical attractants.
 M.Walton - Rancher use of protective collars in Texas.
 G.CONNOLLY - Efficacy of protective collars on sheep and goats.
 J.Green - APHIS Guard dog program.
 R.J.BURNS & P.Savarie - DAY-GLO fluorescent markers with the M-44.
 C.Coolahan - Use of dogs and calls to take coyotes around dens and resting areas.
 B.D.van't Woudt - Roaming, stray and feral cats and dogs as wildlife problems.
 J.P.Bellalti - Lamb predation in Patagonia.
 L.J.KILLGO & C.MULLIS - Buffer zones in coyote management in New Mexico.
 G.NOTAH & C.MULLIS - Golden eagle damage in New Mexico.
 T.Mansfield & E.Loft - Feral pigs in California.
 J.D.Peinc - Wild hogs and park

management.

- J.A.Glass - Status of steel trap in North America.
 R.J.Downward - Developing dingo management in South Australia.
 J.O'Brien & R.E.Marsh - Vertebrate pests and beekeeping.
 P.BUTCHKO - Predator control for protection of endangered species in California.

PUBLIC HEALTH

- A.M.Barnes - Plague in the U.S.
 R.S.Lane - Lyme disease.

NEW CONTROL METHODS & MATERIALS

- D.C.Dorman, A.J.Parker, & W.B.buck - Treatment of bromethalin poisoning in dogs.
 M.Balsubramanyam - Susceptibility of three Indian rodent species to new generation rodenticides.
 S.D.Palmateer - Registration status of 1080 and strychnine.
 A.P.Jain, M.Mathur, & R.J.Tripathi - Efficacy of flocoumafen against desert rodent pests.
 D.KAUKEINEN - Variations associated with laboratory testing.
 H.G.Alford - Role of IR-4 program for minor use rodenticides.
 W.W.Jacobs - Update on tamper-proof bait stations in the U.S.
 R.Smith, P.Cox, & M.Rampaud - Systems analysis and modeling of environmental hazards.
 D.S.deCallesta - Decision model for ADC programs.
 J.R.BACKHOLER et al - Management information system for control of pest animals and plants in Victoria, Australia.
 R.C.Kermeen - State-of-art telemetry in VPC research.
 D.G.Blaney - Development, use, and benefits of ADC management information system.
 T.Montague - Management of browsing animals in Australia eucalypt and pine plantations.
(It looks like another excellent program with input from a lot of NADCA members including three of our overseas friends.)

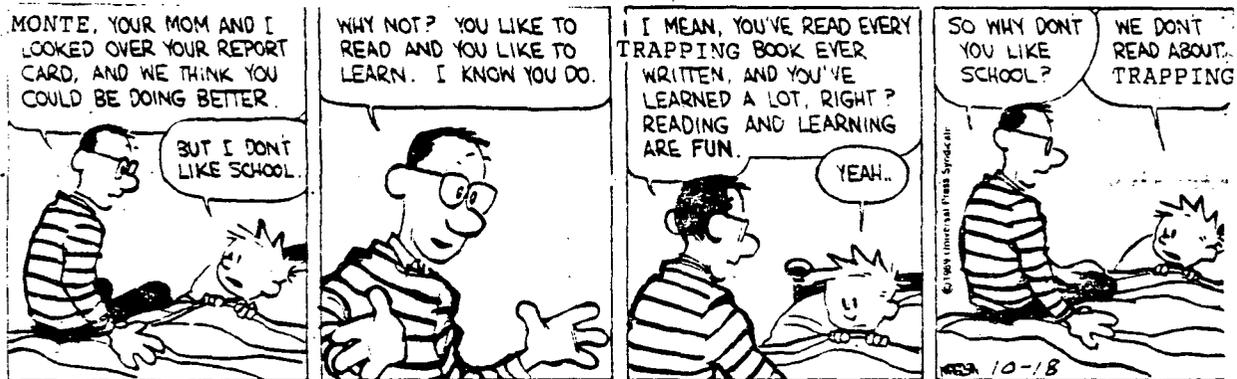
Where else but in Washington, D.C., would they call the department in charge of everything outdoors the Department of the Interior.

LETTERS TO YE ED

MONTE DODSON, rtd. USFWS, Cookson, OK:

You have contributed as much to the Assn. as anyone could be expected to. I think it is very important that the Editor of THE PROBE be retired or not employed by the government. The publication must be untouchable to the "antis" and out of reach of influence in Washington. It would be ideal if all officers were currently employed ADC people, but then the entire effort would be vulnerable to the same things we saw in the past.

Years ago when I took Margie to the Natural History Museum in D.C., we walked by the California condor display. I said, "Margie, there's only a few of them left." She took one look and said, "Yuk! I hope so." This Calvin cartoon is a slice of my life:



DR. HARRY ROWSELL Exec. Dir. Canadian Counc. on Animal Care, Ottawa, Canada:

I enjoy receiving your newsletter and continue to appreciate your timely remarks. The attached (see BAD RED RIDING HOOD in ALL THE NEWS--) appeared in the GLOBE & MAIL 09/06/89. My immediate thoughts were of you and NADCA. This is Canada's only national newspaper, therefore this letter received considerable distribution. Although the wolf has been poorly treated in the literature, I believe that Mr. Lerman and others still fail to understand the life and habits of this creature.

ROSE L. MADISON, wife of "Pink" rtd. USFWS & NADCA RD, Florence, AZ:

Our latest wildlife experience happened when I saw a mouse in the trailer. Pink wouldn't believe me as the mouse wouldn't show itself to him. But that night was a sleepless one as the darn thing ran all over the place and Pink sat up trying to swat it. Next morning he dug out a few mouse traps and caught SIX that day. No wonder we thought that one moved around a lot the night before. Luckily I had a lid on my raisins and bran because it would be hard to tell where the raisins left off. We thought we had them, but caught two more the next day. Nothing since so we're sleeping better. Pink may be retired but he hasn't lost his trapping skills.

BERT BIVINGS, Stuttgart, AR:

I've accepted a job with the Arkansas Coop. Ext. Service as Ext. Wildl. Spec. replacing BOB PIERCE who retired. Shy as I am, I cannot leave APHIS without sharing some observations. There is strong movement in favor of cooperative programs in the East. I strongly agree that state and/or landowner should bear a significant portion of financial burden of control measures for resident mammals. Birds are clearly a federal responsibility but the morass we are in with depredation permits and threats of prosecution by USFWS Law Enforcement indicates how this will go.

Much has been said about professionalism. Like motherhood and apple pie I'm for it. The individuals placed into positions must be both qualified and the best available

candidates. There are no more Refuge Managers to blame like in USFWS. These people must have professional pride to produce or get out of the way. We need to establish clear career patterns, so quality individuals are rewarded for "getting a ticket punched" by serving in Washington or regional offices. These jobs must be meaningful and support the field rather than bureaucracy. Only then can we have a program to be proud of. I miss the people I've worked with on a daily basis. I'm including my last name so you do not insult me again by confusing me with the individual who chose that sorry APHIS fight song when he could have easily chosen my outstanding ditty.

BUDDY GOATCHER, Mandeville, LA:

Thank you for the feral hog information. Here's a design I have for a corral trap in case anyone is interested. The oil spill in Alaska is a sad situation. It is apparent we know nothing more about oil containment and clean-up than we did before. Exxon simply poured money on the situation just like another type of oil, hoping that placating a few oil spill workers would be enough to get the spill out of the media limelight. U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT sent up reporters who spent no more than two weeks in the area and yet came back saying it was not such a disaster after all. The articles were totally inaccurate and a great disservice to the public.

When I returned to Louisiana from Alaska, I visited a sugarcane grower in LaPlace (LA). Up until 1973, Louisiana had only the pot-bellied piney-wood rooster type of free-ranging feral hog. That year a truckload of European boar from Texas were released in the southeastern part of the State. These boars and their mixed breed offspring on their own (European studies show they move over 150 miles and are capable of swimming major rivers at points up to 700 yards wide) and with the help of hunters have made their way west to sugar cane country bordering the forested swamps near LaPlace. Damage estimates on this producer's crop were estimated at \$30,000 last season. Wild hogs are ignored - no game status or

management in Louisiana and no studies are being made in the mid-South. So look out, USA, the next Cajun cuisine rage will be blackened boar bellies served in crow sauce!

I found the PVC tube scent stations described in THE PROBE (#95) most interesting. I intend to try some variations here in Louisiana. Am interested too in speeding up the Aldrich leg snare as the standard ones are not terribly effective.

Students working on various research projects at the LSU deer pens came to work several mornings to find many dead and dying deer and fawns that had been mauled by dogs. Rather than call out the real experts in ADC (USDA-APHIS) which has an office right on campus, the intellectual giants in the ivory tower exercised the Ph.D. (pronounced "phid") prerogative which grants them the right to be experts in any field of their choice due to their having obtained a sheepskin on the study of cockroach lips at some institution of higher learning. The Phids found some rusty old leghold traps and instructed the erstwhile graduate students (aka Slaves) to set the traps in holes in the fences rather than fix the holes. This situation in essence used the remaining deer for bait. These same students were also instructed to sit up all night waiting for the dogs to return. The dogs returned several times to destroy about two dozen deer in spite of this ingenious plan. One of the Phid's most favored understudies came up with a plan of his own. He invented the "green-weinie" (known south of the border as the "wahine verde"). This child prodigy created piles of anti-freeze soaked hotdogs around the besieged deer pens without regard for effects on pets, wildlife, or the law. Eventually after a few weeks of dismal failure, they turned the job over to the local ADC (housed way, way over on the way to China in the next building). The ADC's M-44s removed one coyote, but by then the offending dogs were locked up by their owners or left the area. The point is contemporary wildlife education is severely lacking in the most basic principles of ADC. And quite obvious

to many, ADC is not considered "real" professional wildlife management by many schools. It is quite clear to me that ADC should be made a part of the wildlife curriculum at all institutions to prevent our future Phids from running around tripping over their green-weinies.

You're never alone with schizophrenia.

HUMANS GOT RIGHTS???
(This is confined to Fitzwater's personal vendetta against the Animal Rights (AR) movement so any purists should skip it.)

A judge ruled that a deer hunt on the U.S. Air Force Academy grounds could be held despite AR objections that the deer were too tame to hunt. He felt the impact of the 1,500 mule deer herd on the 18,000 acre Academy grounds was detrimental to the habitat and created a car accident problem. Robin Duxbury (who has the facility for getting her name in the papers with ridiculous quotes) said the humane society would not hold mass protests as in the past, but would "send a few people down to the academy to commemorate" the deer that are killed. (Why not with a venison dinner?)

Things happen first in California, but that doesn't mean they are always for the best. The freedom of choice of gastronomic pleasures enjoyed by various cultures has now been challenged by none other than august body - the State legislature. After a court case was dismissed when two Cambodian refugees were prosecuted for slaughtering a German shepard dog for food, the ARs (ALBUQUERQUE TRIBUNE 10/10/89) made it a misdemeanor to possess, sell or give away for the sole purpose of killing for food any animal "traditionally or commonly kept as a pet or companion." (Damn! Means I'll have to give up swallowing goldfish.) Starting 01/01/90 it carries up to six months jail and a \$1,000 fine. "Livestock, poultry, fish, and game are exempted."

So any Californians with pet snails better saute' them before next year.

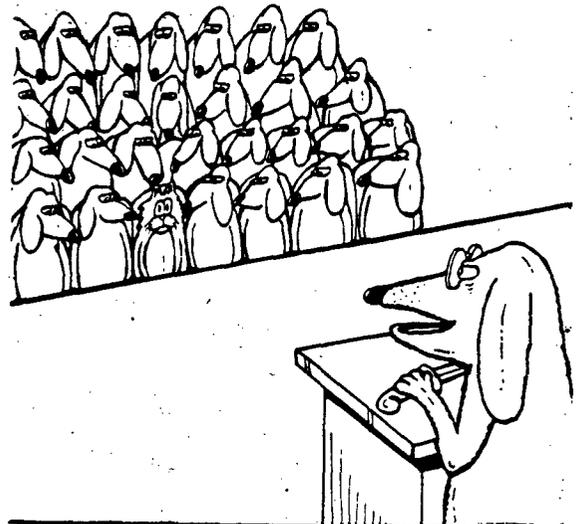
ARs are scoring steady gains in California (to reinforce the above article). Banding together under such names as the Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation and Committee for the Preservation of the Tule Elk and recruited from environmental groups like the Sierra Club and the more radical Fund for Animals, these are making progress against hunting in the State. They stopped scheduled lion hunts in 1987 & 1988, last year's elk hunt, and have a lawsuit which will probably force cancellation of this year's black bear hunt. Thank to GUY CONNOLLY DWRC & THE DENVER POST 09/03/89.

Living in the lap of luxury isn't bad, except that you never know when luxury is going to stand up.

KITTY LITTER

(If you can't say anything good about cats - this column is for you.)

The Humane Society of the U.S. puts out the depressing news that ONE pair of unaltered cats will produce 80,399,780 offspring in ten years. They estimate there are 56 million cats in the U.S.A. and, even worse, the number is growing. The Denver metro area shelters killed 19,120 cats and 20,551 dogs five years ago. Last year they killed 21,696 cats and 14,893 dogs - a respective increase of 13.5% and a decrease of 28%. Society is no longer going to the "dogs". Thank to GUY CONNOLLY (DWRC) & THE DENVER POST 10/05/89.



"In order to adequately demonstrate just how many ways there are to skin a cat, I'll need a volunteer from the audience."

Louis Huffman

Don't be indispensable. If you can't be replaced, you can't be promoted.

PERSONNEL

Anyone interested in taking the Wyoming Game Warden Examination must submit a standard state application by January 1, 1990 to Wyoming Dept. of Administration & Fiscal Control, Personnel Div., Emerson Bldg., Cheyenne, WY 82002. You must submit proof of a bachelor's degree in wildlife management or a related field or evidence you will have one by August 15, 1990 as well as a transcript of college credits. A written exam will be held in Cheyenne February 3, 1990. For those passing this, the exam will continue on February 4th. Those passing will be placed on a waiting list for a position to open up.

GIL MARRUJO, State Director of Nevada ADC will retire on December 29, 1989 after 24 years of government service. Gil started out in San Antonio (TX) and worked in New Mexico before going to Nevada.

Only painters and lawyers can change white to black.

NOW HEAR THIS!!!

(This is practical tips from the field. If this column is missing it's YOUR fault.)

You know you're looking older when people are surprised to find that your parents are still alive.

NEW PRODUCTS

NO FREEZE DIRT is being offered by Lamoreaux Bros. (POB 543, St. Mary's, OH 45885) as trap bedding material for both the novice and professional. The brochure states this is actual dirt, presifted, odorless and ready for use. It cannot in any way absorb moisture and freeze. Packaged in convenient 50-lb. bags it is only being offered to dealers within a 50-mile radius of St. Mary's.

Most of us would be glad to pay as we go, if we could just finish paying for where we've been.

COYOTES ARE DANGEROUS

A fact that ADC detractors overlook is

the dedication the professionals have towards accomplishing the goal of reducing damage from wildlife sometimes with extreme risk to themselves. TOM HUTCHINSON, APHIS Regional Aircraft Mgr., gave me the details on a crash while hunting a depredating coyote. On November 8th about 50 miles southwest of Alamogordo (NM), Kelly Hobbs (training pilot) with backup pilot/gunner Alan Theobald were chasing a coyote in fairly flat terrain. They crippled it with the first shot and it holed up under a bush. They made several passes attempting to dislodge the animal and had turned around. Everything appeared normal until suddenly all they both saw was the ground coming up. The right wingtip of the Piper Supercub touched down briefly and 25 feet later they hit, wiping the landing gear out and skidding some 130 feet at the rate of 60 knots. The plane was a total wreck ending up looking like a pretzel, but fortunately neither was killed. They were injured and blacked out completely, however, without any idea of what happened. Tom said the theory is that the turbulence they had created on the previous passes (it was a still day) left vortices resulting in a downdraft. We wonder if the AR advocates believe as strongly in their philosophy as to put their lives on the line like that?

Money can't buy friends, but you do get a better class of enemy.

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S PRINT TO FIT

BAD RED RIDING HOOD A. Lerman in a "Letter to the Editor" (Thanx to Dr. H. ROWSELL & GLOBE & MAIL (CANADA) 09/26/89) refers to an anthropologist at UC-Berkeley who states the popular Grimm fairy tale is quite different from the original folk tales on which it is based. In these versions Little Red Riding Hood is never the naive little girl who has to be rescued. In a new book, FORBIDDEN TO GROW OLD by Izaak Mansk, the opening story, RED HOOD, has an entirely different slant. The wolf, called "Gentleman Tom", personifies all the qualities and virtues of humankind. He plays the hero to a spoiled and petulant princess who replaces him as the villain. Mr. Mansk believes, as do

many animal lovers, that the wolf has been unjustly vilified throughout a long history. Animals survive by instinct, while humans, with highly developed thought processes, are capable of behavior far worse than anything attributed to animals. (*Any wolf that talks to people has got to be rowing with one oar.*)

THIS IS A PET? A 26-year-old man died in five hours after being bitten on the fingers by a "pet" rattlesnake he had kept for three years. An allergic response to the antivenin he was given possibly hastened his death as he was sensitive to it. Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY (DWRC) & THE DENVER POST 10/12/89.

AND THEN AGAIN? A zoologist from Wyoming after a ten-year study claims rattlesnakes are getting a bad rap from the public. He claims people have opinions about politicians and rattlesnakes, which are usually wrong about the latter species. If you get right next to them and threaten them, the chance they will stick their fangs in you is less than 2%. (*Those statistics I will not test.*) Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY & ROCKY MTN. NEWS 08/28/89.

CAN'T THEY READ? A commuter airliner carrying 16 passengers crashed during takeoff in Redmond (OR) after it hit a small herd of deer walking single file across the municipal airport. While nobody was injured and the plane was a \$50,000 loss, the ARs objected to the news article in that it didn't release the names of the deer who were killed. Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY (DWRC) & THE DENVER POST 10/24/89.

CONGRESS IS FOR THE BIRDS A congressional investigation has found that military aircraft have run afowl of birds some 16,000 times from 1983 through 1987. This has resulted in the death of six crew members and equipment damage in excess of \$318 million (*that was before you got there, GENE?*). The birds bagged a B-1B bomber (a cool \$251 million of taxpayer loot) and with the emphasis on costlier aircraft this is expected to become more important. Thanx to LYN FIEDLER (DWRC) INSIGHT 08/21/89.

TRAPPING ISN'T ALL BAD The Wildlife Society (TWS) is considering issuing a policy statement on trapping. A draft statement (THE WILDLIFER 09-10/89 Thanx to MIKE FALL, DWRC) is encouraging. It finds trapping a versatile, safe, effective, and ecologically sound method of harvesting and managing various species of furbearers. The values of trapping lie in providing income, recreation, and an outdoor lifestyle for many citizens. It is often vital to the subsistence of peoples in remote regions and important in wildlife research and ADC programs. In some cases trapping is effective in reducing wildlife disease mortality. Despite its values a portion of the public opposes it with objections to certain methods, i.e., foothold traps, or moral objections to killing animals. Much of this opposition is from urban-oriented cultures as contrasted to rural viewpoints. TWS support of "regulated" trapping is stated in the policy draft.

NEW RACCOON CONTROL MEASURE? A 20-foot, 250-pound python was captured from under a Ft. Lauderdale (FL) home. The residents had complained about it for some time claiming they had seen it eat "30-pound raccoons like marshmallows". Understandably they had some difficulty getting anybody to tackle the monster who was finally dug out some eight feet underground. Thanx to GUY CONNOLLY & THE DENVER POST 08/18/89.

Living on a budget is the same as living beyond your means, except you have a record of it.

EDITORIAL

Apologies for the lateness of this issue. We started moving October 28th (all of two miles away) and still have a couple of loads in the outbuildings at the old hacienda as well as firmly packed cardboard boxes in the new living room. After all the moves around for Uncle, this seemed one of the hardest. After all I was a lot younger in those early moves. Am convinced my next move is feet first and I'm not taking a thing with me.

We haven't had the response I had hoped for to the questionnaire I mailed out in

the last issue. As WES is keeping track of the membership now, I'm not sure how many have replied as yet. It would be appreciated if those of you who have no intention of signing up, would write to him and tell him so as we do need to have some idea of the number of members we can expect next year.

HOMER FORD is having a difficult time getting candidates for the officers and directors. So get some nominations on warm bodies into him right now! I am starting to work on the DECEMBER issue of THE PROBE as soon as I get this in the mail so hopefully will make the first rush of the Xmas mail but will probably have to make an individual mailing of the ballot as I don't think the slate will be firmed up by that time. The election deadline will probably be in January, 1990.

- The questionnaire comments on NADCA objective advised us:
- to provide information from the field, legislatures, and ADC decision-makers on current events, political impacts, meetings, research, publications, organizational matters, editorial comments on significant actions, EPA/AR/environmentalist activities, and humor.
- to stick to the current by-laws.
- to advocate multiple use of our natural resources.
- to provide a forum for national ADC recommendations and regulations and to publish these in THE PROBE.
- to promote better understanding for ADC among public and decision-makers, both in terms of need and methodology.
- to facilitate communication and information exchange among interested ADC persons. (Act as a "clearing house").
- to represent NADCA at every trapper's meeting in a pitch for expanding the membership.
- to promote professionalism within ADC ranks.
- to establish a professional journal.

I had two requests to drop my tirade against cats against one strongly for its continuence. One more column and then the new editor will decide what stays and what goes. And that's been it so far, folks!

When you care enough to give the very best, give money.

EDITOR
WILLIAM D. FITZWATER
Adios,

**National
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