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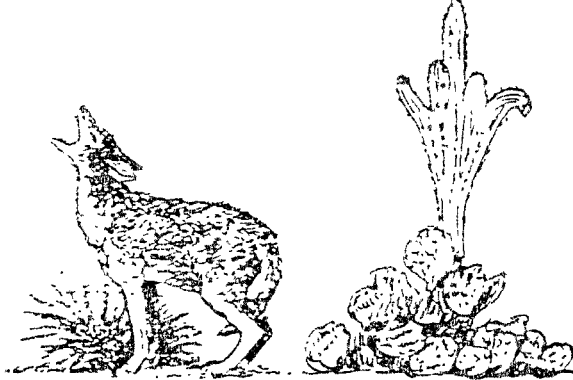


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THE PROBE



National Animal Damage Control Association

No. 2

October 1979

LAST CALL

We started out with a long mailing list of individuals and organizations who we felt had something to gain in supporting the objectives of MADCA and whose support we would like to have in this attempt to improve the professional status and public image of vertebrate pest control. The response has been very good, but as we haven't reached the Ford Foundation tax bracket yet, we do have to keep our expenses within limits, not being part of the Federal government anymore. Thus this is the last issue of the NEWSLETTER we can send to those of you who cannot spare the ten dollars to help the cause. We hope you will at least keep us in mind and pass the word along to others who might be able to help. Contributions are tax-deductible and there are no high salaried officers to dilute the effects of your contributions. For those of you working in the field, this is cheap job insurance. For those of you trying to raise lambs, apples, or whatever, a stronger, knowledgeable voice in this area will help to slow down the legislative erosion of the ability of the field to adequately cope with wildlife damage problems.

A consultant is one who borrows your watch to tell you what time it is.

WHEN IS A PELT NOT WORTH TAKING ?

An Arizona trapper and some friends went to east-central Arizona in late March where predator shooting was still legal. They shot 3 bobcats whose pelts later sold at an average of \$480 each and 9 coyotes which sold for \$47-80 each. These prices were in spite of the fact that shot pelts seldom bring as much as trapped pelts. This all occurred one month after the Arizona Game & Fish Commission had closed the trapping season, presumably on the argument furs would no longer be of value. Now - - it seems relative fur prices for all seasons should not be too difficult for the biologist of the Game and Fish Department to obtain, so it provokes speculation as to the recommendations and intentions of the game biologists in Arizona. Perhaps some of them would like to phase out trapping and hunting altogether - - maybe to just settle for some small damage claims. This isn't funny as there are biologists in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service who have suggested this for many years and brain defects may be catching (CRM).

The way some folks handle truth they should work for the weather reporting service.

NEWS FROM DISNEY WORLD, D.C.

EPA has concluded the RPAR on endrin and announced all its uses on ornamentals and unenclosed bird perch treatments are herein cancelled. However, they will graciously permit enclosed bird perches (like RID-A-BIRD) to be used if they will include warnings to female workers. Endrin can also still be used in the Eastern States to control meadow voles if further information is added to the label on application and equipment restrictions and on fish kill procedures.

Other chemicals used in vertebrate pest control that have been restricted by EPA for application only by certified pesticide applicators include:

Carbon disulfide - all formulations for indoor use or control of rats, ground squirrels, and prairie dogs in outside burrows.

Chloropicrin (LARVICIDE tm) all formulations greater than 2% for all uses.

Fenthion (BAYTEXtm) all formulations for bird control.

Phosacetim (GOPHACIDE tm) - baits of 0.1% or greater for all uses.

Zinc phosphide - all baits used for rodent control in outdoor use; all uses for 60% and greater formulations; and all dry formulations of 10% and greater for domestic use.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recently got an award for the gobbledygook of the week from the WASHINGTON STAR. Their prize winning entry was: "Depending on the outcome of research, information will be used to either 'fine-tune' (or perhaps eliminate) further preventive law enforcement measurements or to document and substantiate the principles demonstrated by the measures taken." Doesn't it make you feel secure to have policy set by such clear thinkers?

In youth we want to change the world. In old age we want to change youth.

NADCA TAKES A STAND AT "SCOPE" HEARINGS

The ADC program of the USFWS recently spent two days undergoing an innovative procedure, "SCOPE" (more government gobbledygook) prescribed by the Council of Environmental Quality. Before preparing an EIS, an agency must now hold an open hearing on the specifics to be included. NADCA was invited to be a panel participant, along with about twenty other National organizations. Region IV Director John C. Jones represented the Association and presented our views on the coverage that should be included on this second ADC EIS which is to include all activities other than predator control, which has just been completed. [Incidentally, while not official, it appears the Secretary of the Interior will recommend the position NADCA took on the predator policy EIS - - No. 6 - the increased utilization of all current control techniques.]

Formal panel membership provided the opportunity to announce publicly the formation of the Association and its purposes. In his statement, Jones stressed the concern of the Association that animal damage control activities should be guided by highly-trained professionals. He asked each species causing significant damage be listed by kinds, amounts, and costs, and evaluated by effectiveness with and without professional leadership, and by all types of known effective techniques. [A copy of the full statement can be obtained by writing NADCA headquarters] (JCJ)

THERE'S A NEW KOOK ON THE BLOCK

If you really object to the ten bucks to join NADCA, we know an outfit you can join for only \$3 (as a starter). This is the DEFENDERS OF ANIMAL RIGHTS, INC. of Baltimore, MD. Did you realize that - -
 "...each year hunters destroy 65-70 million of our wildlife. These creatures belong to all citizens, yet hunters - comprising only 10 percent of the people in the U.S. - continue to shoot deer, rabbits, squirrels, etc. in the name of 'sport'".

They suggest you post your property against hunting and write to newspapers [you can buy a copy of the CASE AGAINST HUNTING for \$2 to give you ammunition... (wrong word)...information] to educate the public on the cruelty of hunting. They also want your donation to purchase "...a 35,8 acre site for a wildlife sanctuary where animals will be for-ever protected from hunters and trappers. It will also serve as a future home of our animal shelter...and a pet cemetery." (and probably a plush, tax-free residence for some lucky official of DAR - - I can remember when DAR stood for "Daughters of the American Revolution" - my how times have changed !)

Tain't funny. This is continually cropping up and unless we become better organized and more vocal, you might be looking for a job mowing the grass in that pet cemetery.

Our government now spends as much accidentally as it did on purpose 50 years ago.

ADC LOSES ANOTHER SHELL GAME

It was recently learned by accident the Salt Lake City office of ADC was officially informed that their secretary position of some fifty years duration had been withdrawn. ADC personnel were informed they would now be required to find a secretary who will agree to work without an appointment or position ceiling. I wonder what the Regional Office or the Area Office would say to a question of who initiated this position ceiling switch and where the position is now ? (CRM)

Why can't all life's problems hit us when we're 20 and know all the answers?

NADCA MEMBERSHIP IS A PRIZE

We think belonging to NADCA is a bargain for ranchers and trappers alike, but then we're prejudiced. However, Duane Rubink, State Supervisor for Arizona, literally made it a prize. During the annual State Hunter's Conference near Payson, AZ, Rubink, besides giving engraved plaques to the winners in the various skill contests, gave first place winners a year's membership to NADCA. Thus we welcome to NADCA - Jean Jaurequiberry (DFA-Arizona - rifle), Oscar Lalo (Hopi Reservation - pistol), Dick Rigby (USFWS Area Office - shotgun), and Kenny James (Navajo Fish & Wildlife - predator calling). We can always use "hot shots" in the organization. Other States could help trappers and themselves by copying this idea.

TRAP TIPS

We give credit to Alan R. Armistead of the New Mexico ADC field force for the following suggestions on improvement of trapping techniques:

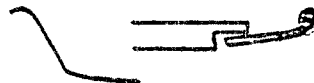
1] A 6-inch length of copper tubing slipped over the anchor end of the wire snare cable decreases the possibility of the coyote chewing and snapping the cable.



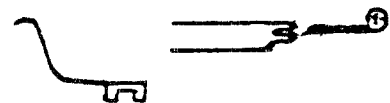
2] Aluminum screen wire trap pads are porous allowing moisture to pass through and will not rot out as do canvas trap pads. They can be made for about 3¢ a piece which is only a fraction of the cost of a good canvas trap pad.

3] The selectivity and effectiveness of the trap can be increased by the regulation of the trap spring so it will not release on lighter non-target species other than coyotes. While springs were developed for the Newhouse traps, most of the traps used in the West today are the 3N Victor. Mr. Armistead has modified these springs to fit the Victor. It is also necessary to sharpen the dog and file a notch in the back of the pan to reduce pan fall, preventing a quick-footed coyote from being toed and missed.

NEWHOUSE



VICTOR



So far Mr. Armistead has had fifteen of these modified traps in the ground for over a month and has caught nothing but coyotes. Two of them have been dug up and rolled on by kit fox but were not thrown.

After you get it all together - - don't forget where you put it.

WE TOLD YOU SO

Washington and South Dakota were the only two states to take advantage of ol' MassaUSDI's offer to sell ADC down the river. And one of these is in trouble which is what the field tried to tell the administration long ago. Federal auditors are now claiming the Washington Game Department owes USDI \$476,000 or proof the State actually spent the ADC money controlling coyotes and other predators.

We will be interested to know how these ADC funds will be plowed back into the ADC program. We intend to follow through on this with the Director and Regional Director Martenson to get their comments and keep you advised.

Talk is cheap because the supply always exceeds the demand.

FROM THE FBI'S MOST UNWANTED LIST

Vice-President Homer S. Ford

Homer was raised in central Washington, completing high school at Ellensburg,

WA. He was a leatherneck during World War II from February 1943 to June, 1946. After getting his B.S. from Utah State University in 1951 he went to work for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's PARC in Idaho. He continued this work with additional assignments in the States of Washington, Montana, Nevada, and back to Idaho - in that order. While in Nevada, he had an interim Department Training assignment in Washington, D.C. In 1966 he moved to the Portland Regional Office as Regional Supervisor for the Division of Wildlife Services. He served in this position until retiring from federal service in December, 1976. Mary and he have fixed up a beautiful home in Ridgefield.

Region I Director - Willard E. Nelson

Bill Nelson was born in a logging camp near Bend, OR on a cold day in January, 1920. His precollege years were spent in and around Bend working at a variety of jobs including pocket gopher control, pelting foxes on a silver fox farm, and trapping mink, muskrat, otter, and martin for their furs. He entered Oregon State University in 1938 in the School of Fish & Game Management. This was broken up when he joined the Navy in World War II to serve with the 4th Marine Division in such interesting places as Saipan and Iwo Jima. After the war he returned to OSU to get his B.S. degree in Fish & Game Management in 1947 and continued on for some graduate work.

He was employed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in June 1947 as a commensal and farm rodent control agent. In 1949 he became a rodent control supervisor in charge of rat control programs following the Van Port flood of the Columbia River. He progressed from there through the various supervisory ranks of the ADC program to the State Supervisor position in Oregon. He graduated from here to the ranks of the retired after 32.5 years of government service. Bill lives with his wife Alice in Tigard (just outside Portland). They are building a cabin on the coast which keeps them busy.

Region II Director - Clyde R. Madsen

Officially, he signs his name "C.R.Madsen", but he has always been known by friend and foe alike as "Pink" though the cause of that nickname has now faded to white (at least what's left). He was born in Brigham City, UT in 1912 (Number 5 in a family of 14 kids). After seven hectic years of hit and miss he earned a B.S. degree in Wildlife Management from Utah State University in 1937. Early employment included farm and ranch work, cowboying, camp attendant for a range sheep outfit and enrollee in one of the original Civilian Conservation Corps camps. He worked summers during college as a rodent control foreman for the Bureau of Biological Survey in Nevada. After graduation he was appointed as work and rodent control foreman in the Bureau of Land Management CCC camp.

In 1940, Pink received a civil service appointment as Asst. District Agent for PARC stationed in Elko, NV. During 1944 he served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific theatre including several months in Japan. At the end of the war, he returned to Elko, NV. In 1949 he transferred from Nevada to Arizona and then to Florida in 1958. There he was the State Supervisor for ADC in the Florida-Georgia district. In 1967 he transferred to Oklahoma as State Supervisor. During his stay here he spent a short time as acting State

Supervisor for Colorado. He retired from Oklahoma in 1969 and moved to Arizona.

In 1971 Pink had a two-year contract with US/AID to work in India as a Vertebrate Pest Control Advisor assisting the GOI to establish an operational type rodent control and training program. Presently, Pink and Rose live in a rural desert area, near Florence, AZ, but they gypsy up north during the hot summer months. They have two married sons and three grandchildren. The elder son is with the USFWS, Branch of Wildlife Refuges.

Region III Director - Wesley R. Jones

Wes Jones was born and raised in Connecticut. He got his B.S. in Wildlife Management from the University of Connecticut in 1948. He was a teaching fellow at the University of Massachusetts while getting his M.S. degree in 1950. While in the University he carried on studies of squirrel damage to cables for Ma Bell and did his thesis on the white-tailed deer. He went to work fulltime with the USFWS in 1950 in Westboro, MA. Later he was sent to the Rodent Control Fund station in Amherst to supervise bait mixing. Eventually he became Asst. District Agent for Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.

He shifted to the USFWS' refuge system in 1958 when he served as refuge mgr. at the Bombay Hook (Delaware) and Moosehorn (Maine) National Wildlife Refuges. He returned to ADC in 1966 as State Supervisor in Pierre, SD in charge of ADC activities for the states of South Dakota and Nebraska. From there he was sent to Washington, D.C. as Asst. Chief, Branch of Animal Damage Control in 1969.

He returned to the field in 1971 as Regional Supervisor of ADC programs in Region III's eleven mid-western states. He held this position in the Twin Cities (MN) [though they changed the title on him through several reorganizations] until his retirement in August 1978.

Region IV Director - John C. Jones

John was born in Washington, D.C. in 1913. He received his B.A. in Zoology from the University of Minnesota in 1934 and an M.A. in Economic Ornithology and Mammalogy from the George Washington University in 1937. He subsequently completed two years of doctoral research in Economic Biology at GWU. In 1940 he established a Food Habits Research Laboratory for the Bureau of Game, NY State Conservation Department in Albany, NY. He married Wilma Aho, of Eveleth, MN in 1941. During World War II, as an insect and rodent control specialist, he served as Sanitation Section Chief for the NY Port of Embarkation in Brooklyn.

After the war he was put in charge of ADC activities for the USFWS in the Middle Atlantic States, furnishing technical guidance, assistance, and developing operational programs. His next assignment was in the Central Office of PARC where he spent much time preparing educational and training materials, manualizing Division programs, and reviewing field activities in all parts of the country. In 1966, John organized the Office of Safety for the USFWS and served as its Chief until his retirement in 1975.

John is now a consultant in the fields of wildlife management and safety [he is a certified hazard control manager], with special interests in administrative organization and visual education. He and Wilma have been long-time residents at the Glen Mar Park address, where they expect to stay in their retirement when not traveling all over the world.

Region V Director - Howard A. Merrill

Howard was born in Lyndon Center, VT in 1911. He graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1933 and started working for the government as a Fish & Game Specialist with the Land Utilization Division of the Resettlement Administration in Pennsylvania. Howard joined the Bureau of Biological Survey (predecessor of the USFWS) in 1938 as an Asst. District Agent in rodent control for Connecticut.

During World War II, he entered the army as a Rodent Control Officer and attained the rank of Major. After the war he returned to Connecticut before being transferred to the Denver Wildlife Research Center in 1946. Then back to Boston to be District Agent and later Regional Supervisor (Region V) for Wildlife Services.

In 1958 he was transferred to Washington, D.C. to be Asst. Chief in Wildlife Services. In 1963 he returned to the Denver Wildlife Research Center, headquartered at the University of California-Riverside where he headed up the bird depredation control research program. A restless soul, he jumped back across the country to Washington, D.C. in 1970 to become Research Staff Specialist in charge of ADC research. He retired from the USFWS in 1970 to complete a total of 34 years of government service. In 1971 he worked as a rodent control consultant in Pakistan [just in time for the fireworks] for the UN Food & Agriculture Organization.

Sure I want to go to Heaven - - but not in the group that's leaving right now.

THEY'RE FOR THE BIRDS

Walter Weber, paid-up member of MADCA, has just published (Thomson Publications, PO Box 9335 Fresno, CA 93791) a book entitled HEALTH HAZARDS FROM PIGEONS, STARLINGS AND ENGLISH SPARROWS. This is a comprehensive treatise on diseases and parasites of these birds and their implication in human health problems. There are also sections on bird control methods. The cost is \$13.75 postpaid.

Bill Fitzwater (Ye Ed) is also peddling a leaflet BIRD PROBLEMS ? WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT THEM. This details bird control methods in a variety of situations along with a complete listing of sources of supplies for specialized bird control devices. This you can get by writing headquarters and sending \$2.41 for a postpaid copy.

We all work for the government. Politicians are smarter - they get paid for it.

National
Animal
Damage
Control

Association 3919 Alta Monte, NE Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

