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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE GAME AND FISH
COMMISSIONER

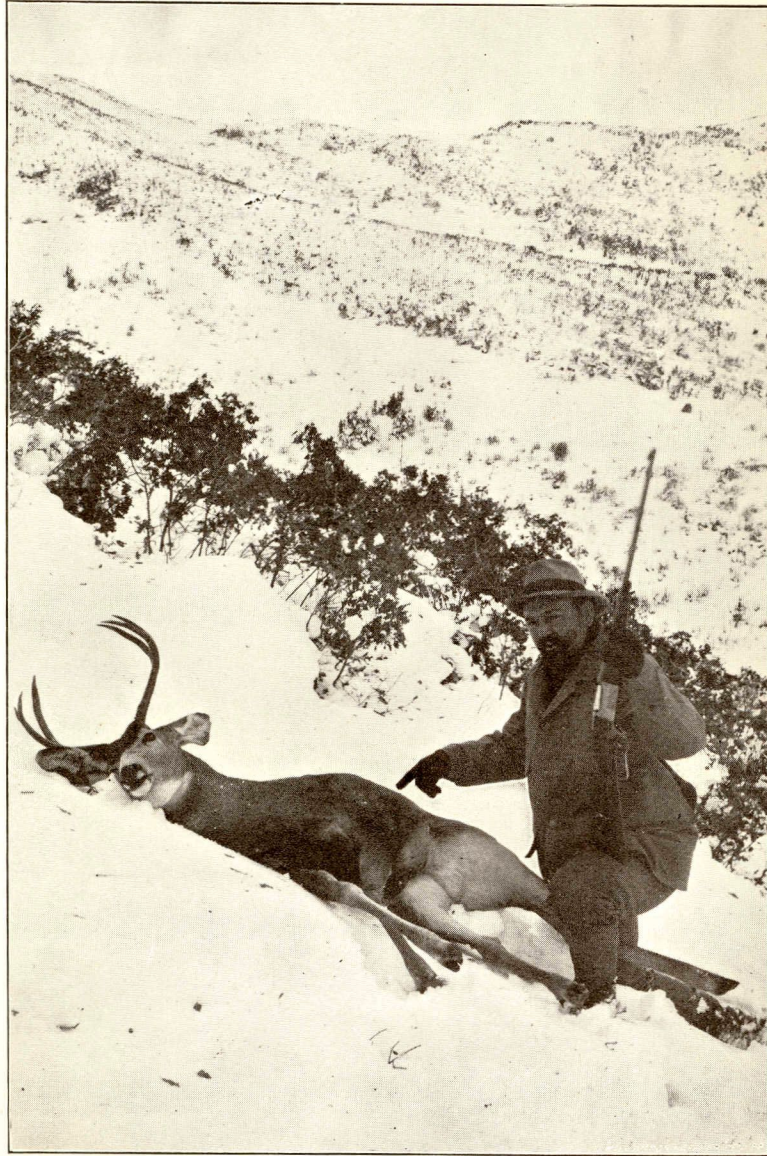
OF THE
STATE OF COLORADO

For the Years 1899 and 1900

T. H. JOHNSON,
COMMISSIONER.



DENVER, COLORADO
THE SMITH-BROOKS PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS
1901



THE FIRST SHOT.

Photo by Sumner W. Matteson.

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STATE OF COLORADO.
DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH.

T. H. Johason, Denver.....Commissioner
W. C. Baker, Denver.....Chief Clerk
T. J. Holland, Denver.....Superintendent State Fish Hatcheries
Frank Fenn, Denver.....Chief Game Warden, First District
James Lyttle, Meeker.....Chief Game Warden, Second District
W. R. Lee, Glenwood Springs.....Chief Game Warden, Third District
B. F. Jay, Grand Junction.....Chief Game Warden, Fourth District
E. H. Norton, Montrose.....Chief Game Warden, Fifth District
E. L. Hager, Denver.....Superintendent Denver Fish Hatchery
Charles Dowdell, Denver.....Assistant at Denver Fish Hatchery
W. H. Craine, Gunnison.....Superintendent Gunnison Fish Hatchery
H. S. Crooks, Gunnison.....Assistant at Gunnison Fish Hatchery
W. E. Patrick, Hermosa.....Superintendent La Plata Fish Hatchery
G. W. Smart, Hermosa.....Assistant at La Plata Fish Hatchery

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

Commissioner's Office,
Department of Game and Fish.
Denver, Colorado, December 1, 1900.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY,
CHARLES S. THOMAS,
GOVERNOR OF COLORADO.

Sir—In conformity with the requirements of the law, I have the honor to submit herewith the report of the transactions of this department, containing an account of the work done since my incumbency as commissioner, together with an account of all moneys received and expended for the two fiscal years, beginning December 1, 1898, and ending November 30, 1900, and recommendations for future work.

Respectfully submitted,

T. H. JOHNSON,
Commissioner.

BIENNIAL REPORT

OF THE

State Game and Fish Commissioner.

That the sentiment in favor of the protection of game and fish in Colorado has greatly increased during the past two years is one of the encouraging indications of the future. While sportsmen have long realized the necessity for protective measures, it is only recently that the ranchmen and residents of the game and fish sections of the state have learned to appreciate their full value. The rapid decrease of the game and fish in the past history of Colorado, owing to the disinclination on the part of the residents in the game and fish districts to prevent its unlawful slaughter and destruction, has demonstrated very clearly that unless they countenance the strict enforcement of the laws and support the wardens in enforcing these laws against all alike, the supply of game and fish for personal and domestic uses, as well as the revenue derived from the sojourn each season of sportsmen from all parts of the country, will be matters of history.

As a rule I have met with little difficulty in securing convictions upon proof of guilt. The prejudice formerly existing against laws for the protection of game and fish, if not entirely gone, is rapidly passing away, and with it the great handicap to the enforcement of these laws. In a number of cases tried before justices of the peace I have had occasion to complain of the reluctance on the part of the justices of the peace to sufficiently fine or punish the parties found guilty, but in most cases tried the result has been satisfactory. With but two exceptions all cases of violation of the game and fish laws tried before the higher courts have resulted in satisfac-

tory convictions. In the two exceptions mentioned the district attorneys, for reasons best known to themselves, arose in court when the cases were called and nolloed them, thus forcing the department out of the courts.

DYNAMITE.

The use of dynamite to kill fish is more common than is generally known, and of all the crimes against the game and fish laws is the most condemnable and should bring down on the person convicted of its use the full penalty of the law. It, like arson and poisoning, is one of the most difficult of crimes to prove. The dynamiter does his work in the most isolated places, making it difficult to obtain evidence sufficient even to warrant an arrest. I, however, succeeded in apprehending two persons against whom, I had reason to believe, sufficient evidence had been gathered to secure convictions. One of these cases was at Creede, where, when the case was called, the district attorney arose in court and stated in substance that he, as district attorney, had the power to use his judgment as to what cases he would or would not prosecute, and nolloed the case. Just why this action on the part of the district attorney was taken is mere conjecture, but evidently pressure was brought to bear to have the case dismissed. It is, however, a great satisfaction to know that disbarment proceedings are now pending against this district attorney for other professional delinquencies, and that his usefulness as a defender of dynamiters is likely to come to a speedy end. The other case referred to is still pending in the district court at Walsenburg and will be tried at the next term of court.

INDIANS.

The greatest barrier in the way of a strict enforcement of the game law, at the same time the greatest obstacle in the way of preserving our big game, lies in the yearly hunting excursions of the Uintah, Uncompahgre and White River Ute Indian tribes into our state from their reservations in Utah. The slaughter of game by this agency is appalling, and if measures are not instituted to force the federal authorities to



UTE INDIAN POLICE FROM WHITE RIVER AGENCY, UTAH.

Photo by Sumner W. Matteson.

prevent these annual expeditions, the extermination of our game is a matter of a few years only. Notwithstanding the efforts of the entire force of the game and fish department, these Indians make their raids each autumn as the deer come down in large herds from their summer ranges and slaughter hundreds of them regardless of sex, age and other provisions of the law.

I have found it impossible to prevent these raids entirely, owing to the lack of sufficient force and to the fact that upon the approach of game wardens, of which they seem to be advised, they either return to the reservation or gather their effects and move into another section of the country.

In the fall of 1899, upon learning that bands of Indians were coming into the state from several points along our border, I immediately communicated by wire with the interior department at Washington, stating that the Indians had come into Colorado from their reservation in Utah and were destroying game, and requested that they be returned. I received a reply that the Indian agent reported to the department that there were no Indians off the reservation. I thereupon went myself, together with Wardens Fenn, Lee and Jay, to the locality where the Indians were reported to be hunting, and, while I found no Indians, they having been informed of our coming, I observed all manner of evidences of their having been in the country and that they had destroyed great numbers of deer. As soon as we left the country, it seems the Indians were advised of it and returned in force to continue their depredations. Reports to that effect having reached this office, we again wired the interior department that the Indians were invading our state to kill game, were a menace to the property of our citizens, and unless the federal government speedily attended to returning them we would be compelled to resort to extreme measures to force them out of our state. This elicited the response that the Indian agent reported that the Indian police were out after the Indians and would return them to the reservations. I then went again to the hunting grounds, prepared, if the measures resorted to had not succeeded in removing them, to drive them out of the state at any cost, but found that, learning of the approach of the Indian police, the Indians, one and all, had immediately packed their effects and hastened back to the reservations. This hasty departure of the Indians convinced me that the federal authorities had them in perfect control and that the

Indian agent alone was responsible for their unlawful raids into Colorado.

From all information which can be gathered on the subject, I am forced to believe that these raids are permitted each season by the authorities in charge of the agency, in order to allow the Indians to procure what meat and hides they may require. It certainly seems obvious that rations are not issued during the time of the hunt, and, judging from the quantity of meat reported to be carried out by them each season, as a result of the hunt, the customary rations are not issued for some time thereafter.

Again, this year, the Indians returned to their usual haunts. Early in the fall I had instructed Chief Game Warden B. F. Jay, stationed at Grand Junction, to go quietly to where the Indians were likely to cross the border, and to report instantly by wire the moment any Indians were known to be coming into our state. Accordingly, in the fore-part of October, Mr. Jay wired a detailed report, showing that several hundred Indians, fully equipped for hunting, were on their way to the hunting grounds. Having determined, from our experience of the year before, that the United States government could at will have the Indians returned to the reservations, and being anxious to avoid the expense to the state, and, perhaps, serious loss to the settlers in that locality, which might be involved in an attempt by the state to remove them, we repeated our complaint and warning to the interior department. I started at once for the hunting ground, and upon my arrival found that the Indian police had arrived and were gathering the Indians and were taking them back to the reservations. The settlers reported to me that the Indian police had informed them that the Indian agent had given them ten days in which to return the Indians. The year before the Indian police were each accompanied by an extra saddle horse and succeeded in clearing the state of Indians inside of forty-eight hours. The dilatory method resorted to this year on the part of the federal authorities convinces me that there is truth in the report that the Indian agent lacks sincerity in his promises and agreements to assist in keeping the Indians out of the state, and that but a feeble effort is made to prevent them leaving the reservations.

Later, on November 19 of the present year, Warden Jay informed the office that the Indians were again in the country, and it was decided, in case the federal authorities failed

to act, to gather an armed force sufficient to arrest all Indians found violating the game laws. The game law empowers the commissioner with authority, in case of Indians violating the law in such numbers as to be beyond the power of the commissioner to control, to call to his assistance a sufficient number of persons to enforce the same promptly and effectually.

I went at once to Meeker, where I had arranged to meet the wardens, and called on the sheriff of Rio Blanco county for assistance. We scoured the country where it was reported the Indians were located and found a number of abandoned Indian camps. Information of the presence of game wardens had hastened their departure. One of these abandoned camps showed that it had contained all of fifty tepees. In scouring the country we found a number of Mormons from Utah with game in their possession, whom we arrested and caused to be fined. We also found other parties of Mormons coming into the state with ammunition and wagons, evidently bent upon hunting, which we turned back. These Mormons have been in the habit of coming into the state each year for hunting purposes and, I am satisfied, kill great numbers of game. Owing to the sparse settlement in that particular locality of the state, it is difficult to prevent these violations without great expense to the state. Frequent repetition of the steps taken on this occasion, however, to arrest and fine them, seems to be the required remedy.

I was told by settlers at Three Springs, a small settlement about sixty miles west of Meeker, that Indian Agent Myton himself frequents that locality for the purpose of hunting, and that in October, 1899, he, with an escort of colored soldiers, killed and carried out does and fawns. This year, it is reported, he again violated our game law by carrying game, killed in this state by him, into Utah without a permit. Certainly, if these accusations against the Indian agent himself are true, there is little hope in depending upon his declarations to assist in keeping the Indians out of our state.

The remedy for the better protection of our game against the raids of the Indians is the provision of a sufficient fund to keep wardens on duty in that region during the period when they are likely to occur.

WARDENS.

On account of the failure of justices of the peace, clerks of courts and special wardens to comply with the law, requiring them to report to the commissioner all cases brought for violations of the game and fish laws, I am unable to give a complete list of all cases tried. The failure to do this seems to be owing to the lack of familiarity with the law on the part of the justices of the peace, and principally oversight on the part of some of the special wardens, of whom I appointed 315 during my term of office.

The appointment of special wardens without pay has not been as effective in assisting the department in protecting the game and fish as I had hoped. While I have been as careful as possible to appoint as special wardens only those persons who, in my judgment, were genuine sportsmen and, on that account, firm supporters of the game law, I find that with but few exceptions they will not make arrests or permit themselves to become identified with prosecutions; in other words, with but few exceptions, they content themselves by reporting violations with the express understanding that their names be withheld. In such cases it is nearly always necessary to go myself or to send a warden to substantiate the charges made by the special warden. Such excursions, while expensive to the state, are not always productive of satisfactory results. I take pleasure in saying, however, that from a number of special wardens the department has received valuable assistance. Many of them are business men of means, who lend their services because they desire to see our game and fish protected, and whose personality has as strong an influence in working good to the cause as has the prosecution of offenders. For these reasons I favor the continuance of the system authorizing their appointment.

The present law provided for the appointment of five chief game wardens, who were assigned to five different districts in the state. The result of their work since the law took effect fully demonstrates that this system is entirely satisfactory and warrants the recommendation which I make that the system be continued. I am satisfied that an earnest and conscientious effort has been made by each of these gentlemen to enforce the game and fish laws, and that these efforts have met with greater success than ever before. Much of the work of these wardens is not apparent, because in a

great many cases many days of weary watching and waiting and much traveling and exposure are necessary before an offender is captured, and in a large number of investigations necessary to be made upon complaints or suspicion, sufficient proof is not always obtainable to warrant proceedings and the public generally is unaware of the work which has been done.

The present law confers on government forest rangers the powers of game wardens, but they have never exercised them. Great assistance could be rendered by them if the Interior Department could be induced to instruct them to enforce the game laws in connection with their other duties, and it would be entirely germane to forest protection, as the more restrictions there are on lawless hunting the less likely it is that forest fires will be set.

Besides these five chief game wardens, the commissioner is authorized, with the approval of the governor, to appoint ten deputy game wardens for a limited time at a salary not exceeding one hundred dollars per month; but this I have avoided doing on account of the insufficiency of funds.

This insufficiency of funds comes from the fact of the omission on the part of the legislature to provide an appropriation to cover the increased salaries and traveling expenses of several of the employes of the department. The present law increased the salaries of several officers, besides increasing the number of paid wardens from three to five, but the legislature, probably through oversight, simply duplicated the appropriation made for this department under the old law. This, of course, left the finances of the department in such shape as to require constant economy and nursing.

I would recommend, therefore, in order to remedy the existing deficiency, that there be appropriated an amount in conformity with the increased salaries and traveling expenses provided for under the present law, for the maintenance of the department, as will appear under the head of recommendations.

As per detailed report appended, the amount of fees, fines, etc., collected by the department during the two fiscal years amounted to \$2,621.18, and constituted the game cash fund. On account of the deficient appropriation, it was necessary to use a considerable amount of this money for the payment of the salaries and expenses of the several officers

of the department, instead of retaining it and making it available for the general expenses which might be incurred in bringing prosecutions, engaging attorneys, etc. Besides the expenses of gathering witnesses, it is frequently necessary to engage the services of attorneys to bring about a strict enforcement of the law, and I consider it of great importance to retain a sufficient amount in the game cash fund to pay such expenses.

GAME.

It has been suggested that one person be permitted to kill one buck and one doe deer during the open season, instead of two buck deer, as is now permitted, on the ground that there is a scarcity of bucks. It is true that bucks, as well as does, are scarcer now than formerly, and it is also true that what bucks there are are more wary than formerly, made so by being hunted more. Instead of joining the migration bands of does they hang back, the older ones until compelled by the deepening snows to brave the dangers which they know await them in their winter range. This wariness has increased from year to year until it has worked a permanent change in their migration habits, where there is much hunting, and those who judge of their number by the number herding with does, judge superficially.

During the summer season one will report seeing does only, while another will see numerous bucks. In fact, this year there have been an unusual number of phenomenally large buck heads brought in. None of these reports amount to anything in the way of comparison. The apparent contradictions arise from the natural separation of the sexes prevailing during most of the year. This separation has become more marked as the bucks grow more wary. During the summer and fall season, before migration begins, does only will be found in one section or one mountain, while on another, but a few miles away, there will be bucks only, and in most cases the old bucks will be found in a secluded region, with few or no young bucks with them.

The fawnless does are not always barren does. The fawn from the day of its birth has to run the gauntlet of a score of enemies, among them the wolf, the coyote, the wild cat, the lynx, the mountain lion and the eagle, and the wonder is that any escape. No doubt, fifty per cent. of the fawns



INDIAN CAMP, SHOWING POLES WITH "JERKED" DEER MEAT.

Photo by Sumner W. Matteson.

born do not live to be two weeks old from these causes alone. A doe whose fawn lives but a few days cannot be distinguished from a barren doe until she is dead, and much of this cry of barren does is mere speculation. A very general observation, with careful and extended inquiries from guides and others, show that the proportion of bucks this year is about twenty-five per cent., certainly not less than twenty.

Maine is the only state having an open season on does, so far as I know, and complaints have been made this year that deer are growing scarce there.

However, I am satisfied that there is a strong sentiment favorable to the reduction of the number of deer that one person may kill, and I think that if the number were reduced to one, and one person permitted to kill but one buck deer during the season instead of two, as is now permitted, it would meet with the approval of all who have the real interests of deer protection at heart.

I also favor confining the open season for deer to the period from August 15th to September 30th. This would restrict the hunting to the higher regions and before the herding and migration began and when the deer are harder to find, and the hunting would be mostly by those in the field for fishing and other recreation, and the killing would be confined to that actually needed for immediate use. The residents of the game regions would then have at least equal chance with the general sportsmen. This is as much as the remaining deer can stand. The great slaughter is now late in October, when the deer are in or on their way to the winter range and it is merely a hunt for meat rather than sport.

The law permitting the killing of one elk having horns has not, in my opinion, decreased them materially within the past two years, and I desire to recommend the continuance of the short open season.

I am satisfied that since the going into effect of the new law making it a penitentiary offense to kill or attempt to kill buffalo, no violations of the law in this respect have occurred. There are at present twenty-one buffalo in the range of mountains between Egeria Park and Middle Park. These have been seen a number of times during the past two years. In Lost Park there are nine buffalo and two calves.

Antelope are holding their own. Investigation has satisfied me that they are quite as plentiful as at any time within the past few years.

The law forbidding the killing of mountain sheep should be continued. The slow increase of these highly prized animals makes it necessary that they be protected for some years to come.

A great many ducks breed within the border of the state, and our waters are visited by a great flight both fall and spring. It must be admitted, however, that the flight is less to-day than it was, and brings one to the conclusion that something must be done to check the inroads upon water fowl. If the right given by the present law to kill fifty ducks in one day, should be limited to twenty-five ducks in one day, and spring shooting be stopped entirely, ducks may hold their own for some time. The fact that ducks killed in the spring are found to contain eggs should be sufficient argument to confine the shooting to the autumn and winter months.

Quails not being indigenous to Colorado, their presence here being due to private enterprise. The bob whites were imported by citizens of Denver and have become quite plenty along the foot of the range. In Mesa county the topknot quails were imported about 1893 by the county commissioners and private citizens, with the understanding that they should not be disturbed for five years. They propagate so rapidly and are so numerous in localities along the Grand and Gunnison rivers and their tributaries in that country, as to be destructive to gardens.

The department has received many requests that an effort be made to introduce some of the topknot quails from our western counties on this side. An endeavor was made to do this, but the commissioner's right to remove the quails was questioned, and in view of the great objections made by the citizens of the western slope, it was deemed advisable to abandon the idea rather than risk the expenses of a law suit. The insufficiency of funds made it imperative that they be expended only in directions where the most good could be accomplished, and while I do not question that the commissioner is given authority under the law to transfer game from one portion of the state to another for propagation purposes, I did not think it advisable to make the transfer when objection was made by the parties who introduced the quail in Western Colorado.

The present open season on doves encroaches a little too much on the breeding season. I would therefore recom-

mend that the open season on doves be confined to the period from August 1st to September 30th.

FISH.

The two years covered by this report have been years of great activity on the part of the employes at the three state hatcheries, and I am glad to give hearty commendation to their faithful and efficient services, and especially to the superintendent of the state fish hatcheries, Mr. T. J. Holland, to whose energy and experience in matters pertaining to the artificial propagation of trout, the great increase of the output of the hatcheries is largely attributable. The work of taking and hatching trout spawn at our hatcheries now extends throughout the year and no sooner is the handling of one hatch completed than it is necessary to begin work upon another.

DENVER HATCHERY.

At the Denver hatchery, situated nine miles from Denver, on the Brighton road, the spawn for the season's hatch is taken from the Eastern Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) during the months of November and December, and from the Rainbows (*Salmo irideus*) in January, February and March. Just as soon as the product of this hatch is shipped out for distribution in the streams the hatchery is supplied with fry from other sources. I find it necessary to hold a supply of fry here later in the season on account of the impassable condition of the roads in the northern counties, which are not open, owing to late snows, until some time after the hatch at this hatchery has matured, and also on account of the other numerous streams and lakes contiguous to this hatchery, which may be successfully supplied with fry from this point only. The product at this hatchery in 1899 was 378,000 fry, which was increased to 647,000 in 1900.

Considerable improvement was made in the way of new tiling and increasing the volume of water supply. The repairs made upon the ice house insures an ample supply of ice for the shipment of fry during the summer months, and places

the facilities of the hatchery in first-class shape generally. The water supply at this hatchery, on account of its even temperature, varying only about two degrees the year round, is especially adapted to the propagation of trout. While the flow of water has been considerably increased during the past two years, it is hardly sufficient to meet the requirements of an increased output. More ponds should be built and the number of stock fish increased. To do this it will be necessary to secure the land adjoining, upon which there are a number of fine, large springs, the supply of water from which is practically without limit. With this additional supply of water a large stock of adult trout could be safely and cheaply held for breeding purposes, and the production of ova much increased at this hatchery. This land, I understand, may be secured by the state on reasonable terms.

Before closing the remarks concerning this hatchery, I can not omit mention of the excellent qualifications and services of the assistant superintendent, Mr. E. L. Hager, whose practical knowledge of the breeding and propagation of trout eminently fits him for the position he now holds.

The services of Mr. Charles Dowdell, who has assisted Mr. Hager for several years, are also entirely satisfactory and a credit to the department.

LA PLATA HATCHERY.

The La Plata hatchery is situated two miles from Hermosa, in La Plata county. One end of the hatch house was used as living quarters by the assistant superintendent and his family, but on account of the insufficient number of troughs it was deemed advisable to use this space for additional hatching troughs, fourteen of which were added during this administration. A substantial dwelling house of five rooms was built upon the premises at a cost of \$550.00. The fry hatched and distributed from this hatchery in the season of 1899 was 439,000. The product this present season was 605,000. In addition to this a supply of 600,000 spawn was secured from Emerald lakes, about fifty miles from Hermosa, which were placed in the hatchery and duly hatched. Owing, however, to the unprecedented drouth in that section during

the past season, and the consequent low water in the streams and springs from which the water supply at this hatchery is obtained, the water flowing through the troughs no doubt became slightly impure. This was not discovered until the fry in the troughs began to exhibit signs of distress. To the practiced eye of the superintendent, Mr. E. W. Patrick, the failure of the yolk sac to become smaller as the fry grew older, indicated that all was not right. Within a few days they began dying at the rate of from 5,000 to 10,000 per day, and haste was made to transfer what remained alive to the Animas river, adjoining the hatchery. Subsequent investigation satisfied us that the trouble was due to the extremely low water, which, on that account, evidently became impregnated with an impurity. We immediately built additional box fluming, through which an increased volume of spring water is now brought to the hatchery. This, it is believed, will prevent a recurrence of the trouble.

Heretofore the water at this hatchery was excellent for hatching purposes and no difficulties were encountered. The good management of Mr. Patrick has increased the record of this establishment to twice the production of former years, and there is no reason why, with the present water facilities, next season's hatch should not reach the million mark.

GUNNISON HATCHERY.

This hatchery is located near the city of Gunnison. During the past season, under the able management of Messrs. W. H. Craine and H. S. Crooks, this hatchery has made a record unsurpassed in the history of fish culture in this state. The production of one million two hundred and fifty-six thousand fry in one season is the proud record of this hatchery. In 1899 it was 516,000. This great increase in production was brought about by taking ova from fish seined from the Gunnison river and Tomichi creek, in addition to stripping the stock fish in the ponds at the hatchery. Considerable work was involved in securing the fish from the streams and conveying the spawn to the troughs in the hatchery, but the excellent result obtained was well worth the trouble and small additional expense. The spawn from the Eastern

Brooks was obtained during the months of October, November and December, and that from the Rainbows during the following March and April.

It was necessary to add considerable new box fluming at this hatchery in order to keep up the water supply. The underground piping of galvanized iron, from which part of the water supply is at present obtained, has been in use about ten years and should be enlarged and renewed as soon as possible. Corrosion is taking place, and besides the risk incurred in using impure water, there is danger that it may collapse and shut off a necessary portion of the water supply at a time when the slightest variation in the supply might prove disastrous to the spawn in the hatching troughs. The cost of this improvement would not exceed \$800.00, and should be attended to this coming season. This, with a few minor improvements, will place this hatchery in fine working condition.

GRAND MESA LAKES.

(William Radcliffe, Proprietor.)

These lakes are situated on the Grand Mesa, in Delta county.

In 1895 hatcheries with facilities for rearing a million trout per annum were built and the product each year was planted in the lakes until 1899, when 210,000 fry were furnished for distribution in the public streams of the state. In the season of 1899 an allotment of 805,000 fry was made to this department by Mr. Radcliffe. Without expense to the state this allotment was placed in the United States hatchery near Leadville, from which point this department distributed them to the streams and lakes throughout the state, as will appear in the distribution of fry account included in this report.

I desire at this time to acknowledge the great courtesy of Mr. E. A. Tulian, superintendent of the United States fish hatchery near Leadville, who has always co-operated with us, and in this instance extended much aid.

EMERALD LAKES.

(W. T. Kirkpatrick, Proprietor.)

These lakes, two in number, are situated 42 miles from Durango, in La Plata county. The hatcheries, which have now been in operation some five years, are complete and modern, and the production of trout fry has reached a mark where it is possible for Mr. Kirkpatrick to turn over to the state, free of any cost except the transportation charges to the railroad depot, trout fry by the million for planting in our public streams and lakes. In the season of 1899 there were furnished to the state from this source 480,000 fry, and in 1900 we received 1,065,000 fry, all of which were placed in the streams and lakes of this state. The propagation and raising of trout in private lakes in this state for market purposes should develop into a profitable industry, and the fostering of that industry should be made an important part of the business of this department. Under proper conditions trout may be grown to weigh a pound or more in two years, and are worth on an average of 35 cents per pound in the market the year round. From all reports upon the subject, the demand for mountain trout in the markets of the larger cities is greater than the supply, and I know of no reason why Colorado should not supply the markets of the large cities east of us.

ARTIFICIAL PROPAGATION.

Colorado is the natural home of the trout, and is unsurpassed in the number and character of its trout streams. If our waters are to receive the attention and support that they merit, propagation of fry must be continued and our facilities maintained on a basis of the highest practicable efficiency. No matter how well a stream is stocked, if it is fished to any extent for two or three seasons, fry must be supplied from the hatcheries if it is to continue to produce good fishing. The money expended for this purpose is well spent. Besides coming back to the people in the supply of food fish, thousands of dollars are annually paid out by our own citizens, business and professional men, whose summer vacations include a few days' outing along the banks of our favorite

trout streams, and by many sportsmen from other states, who visit our state each year for the sport of angling and leave their money in exchange for health and pleasure.

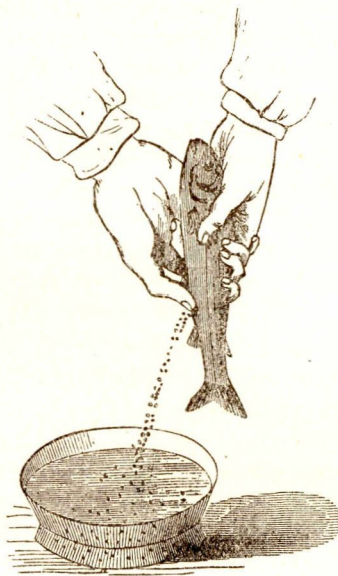
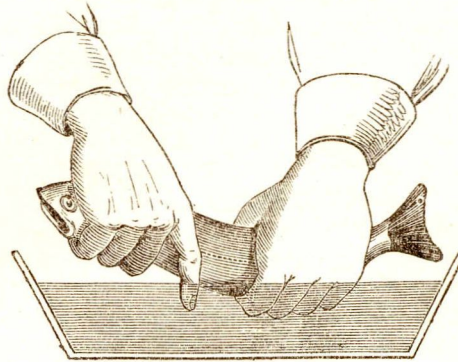
I believe that if the work of this department for the past few years can be continued, our streams will again teem with trout and thus delight the heart of the angler.

Artificial propagation of trout at our hatcheries has been attended with extremely gratifying results. The great increase in the output from year to year is sufficient evidence that it is a great success. Many people, and among them professional fishermen, know little about the habits of trout and are surprised to learn that nature is so lavish in the reproductive powers of trout and at the same time so wasteful in caring for the spawn and fry of the parent trout. Let it suffice to say that if all the trout eggs produced were hatched and the fry arrived at mature age, our streams would be so full that the trout would force each other over the banks, but, by exposing the spawn to numerous casualties in the stream where the parent fish deposits it, nature seems to have guarded against any such over-production. Floods, water rats, musk rats, minks, the cannibalistic tendencies of the large trout, and of the parent trout itself, and many other adverse contingencies, all assist in guarding against over-production. Even after having escaped these accidents, the fry, weighed down with its yolk sac, which it carries for thirty or forty days during its early stages, is exposed to many dangers in its natural haunts and it is conservative to say that not more than one in one hundred will arrive at mature fishhood.

By artificial propagation over ninety per cent. of the spawn taken is successfully hatched. The infant fish are kept in the hatchery until the yolk sac disappears, and then, being fully able to get out of harm's way and escape many of the dangers referred to, they are shipped and placed in the streams.

In stocking the streams, care should be taken not to plant the fry until the water in the cans has been gradually brought to the same temperature as that in the creek. The fish are very sensitive to sudden changes and the gradual changing of the temperature of the water in the cans to that of the creek is highly important. Care should also be taken,

where possible, to place the fry in small spring tributaries, or at the head of streams which it is desired to stock.



TAKING SPAWN FROM TROUT.

There are few things more interesting than the process of taking the spawn from trout. The manipulation is quickly and carefully performed as represented in the figure accompanying this report.

From fifty to five thousand eggs are taken from a single fish, the number procured depending upon the size of the

fish. When enough eggs have been taken to cover the bottom of the pan, the male fish are handled in the same manner and sufficient milt extracted to fertilize the eggs. The eggs, in a few minutes after receiving the milt, will adhere to the bottom of the pan and should not be disturbed until they are loose, which will be in the course of fifteen or thirty minutes. During this time impregnation takes place and as soon as possible thereafter they are placed in the hatchery troughs.

RAINBOW TROUT.

The reputation made by the rainbow trout in the popular esteem should make it the policy of the department to propagate this variety of trout on as large a scale as possible. The inclination to drop down stream and frequent or inhabit the deeper and warmer sections, where food is more abundant, probably accounts for the rainbow's hardiness and large size. Another advantage in planting rainbows is that they rarely frequent irrigation ditches, most trout destroyed through this agency being found to be brooks and natives. A specimen weighing over fifteen pounds was seined in my presence during the spawning season last spring from Beaver creek, a tributary of the Gunnison river. The next largest weighed nine pounds, while hundreds of them were stripped weighing from four to six pounds.

As will appear in detail in the report appended, the total number of trout fry planted by the department in the public streams during the past two years originated as follows:

Denver hatchery, 1899.....	378,000
Denver hatchery, 1900.....	647,000
La Plata hatchery, 1899.....	493,000
La Plata hatchery, 1900.....	605,000
Gunnison hatchery, 1899.....	516,000
Gunnison hatchery, 1900.....	1,256,000
Furnished by Wm. Radcliffe, 1899.....	210,000
Furnished by Wm. Radcliffe, 1900.....	805,000
Furnished by W. T. Kirkpatrick, 1899.....	480,000
Furnished by W. T. Kirkpatrick, 1900.....	1,065,000
Total	6,455,000

This does not include the 600,000 spawn donated by Mr. W. T. Kirkpatrick, which were placed in the La Plata hatchery, but on account of lack of water, were mostly lost.

I desire hereby to make acknowledgment of the many courtesies extended and the valuable assistance accorded the department by Wm. Radcliffe and W. T. Kirkpatrick. The sentiment which prompted the magnificent gift of over 2,500,000 fry to replenish the trout streams of our state displays a public spirit worthy of general recognition.

SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS.

While the present game and fish laws of our state are a decided improvement upon all previous laws on the subject, I am satisfied that great general benefits may be derived from pursuing this important question, and that its earnest discussion and consideration by the sportsmen of our state, who will assemble in state convention at Denver, on December 28 and 29 next, will materially benefit the game and fish interests.

Organization and united work on the part of the sportsmen is very important. Nearly all of the laws existing in Colorado, for the protection and preservation of game and fish, have come as a result of the agitation of sportsmen and the application of their influence.

The various sportsmen's clubs throughout the state have rendered great assistance to the department in enforcing the laws, and many of their ideas and suggestions have been acted upon during the administration. At Leadville, the Lake County Sportsmen's Association is composed of two hundred members, whose standing in the community assures an intelligent and well-directed effort to enforce the law in that section. Besides offering a reward of \$50.00 for the arrest and conviction of any person using explosives in fish streams and others rewards for the less damaging violations, this association has succeeded in prevailing upon ranchmen in that vicinity to place paddle-wheels at the head of irrigation ditches, thereby avoiding the destruction of many fish. It is to be regretted that the legislature did not include in the present law a provision requiring ranchmen to place paddle-wheels in the headgates of their ditches. Many fish are destroyed through this agency, and it is just a little remarkable that the destruction is permitted, when the fact is considered that a simple contrivance, costing only a few dollars and requiring but little care after being placed in position,

may prevent it. Such a contrivance may consist of an ordinary paddle-wheel, painted white or brightened with tin, which, while permitting refuse to flow under it, will at the same time frighten the fish and keep them from passing into the ditch.

Other sportsmen's associations have co-operated with the department, and the good work which has been accomplished has been made possible by virtue of their assistance.

Every county in the state should have a good club of this character, which in turn should form a state association, through which the desired changes in our laws for the protection and preservation of our game and fish should come.

RAILROADS.

The several railway companies of the state have assisted this department greatly by extending free transportation for the fish fry and to the employes and wardens of the department when engaged in the discharge of duties, and I desire to make acknowledgment of the great service rendered by them with so much courtesy and promptness.

ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATIONS REQUIRED

FOR MAINTENANCE OF GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT.

	1901.	1902.
Commissioner's salary.....	\$ 1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Commissioner's traveling expenses.....	600.00	600.00
Clerk's salary	1,000.00	1,000.00
Superintendent of hatcheries, salary.....	1,200.00	1,200.00
Superintendent of hatcheries, traveling expenses..	400.00	400.00
Five chief game wardens, salary, \$900 each.....	4,500.00	4,500.00
Five chief game wardens, traveling expenses.....	1,500.00	1,500.00
Distribution of fry from hatcheries.....	250.00	250.00

DENVER HATCHERY.

Assistant superintendent's salary.....	1,200.00	1,200.00
One assistant's salary.....	600.00	600.00
Maintenance	1,650.00	1,650.00

GUNNISON HATCHERY.

Assistant superintendent's salary.....	900.00	900.00
One assistant's salary.....	600.00	600.00
Maintenance	1,700.00	900.00

LA PLATA HATCHERY.

Assistant superintendent's salary.....	900.00	900.00
One assistant's salary.....	600.00	600.00
Maintenance	900.00	900.00

Total	\$20,300.00	\$19,500.00
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LEGISLATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That one person be permitted to kill but one buck deer during the open season, instead of two, and that the open season be restricted from August 15 to September 30.
2. That the right given to kill fifty ducks in one day be limited to twenty-five, and that spring shooting of ducks be stopped entirely.
3. That the open season on doves be confined to the period from August 1 to September 30.

HUNTING LICENSE.

4. There should be a provision added to the present law requiring every hunter to procure a hunting license. This feature was included in the original draft of the present law, but was stricken out by the legislature. On the theory that those who hunt should pay all or a large share of the cost of preserving the game, instead of burdening the general taxpayers, a great majority of whom derive no benefit from game protection, a uniform fee for a state license, regardless of residence, with a less fee for a county license, should be required from every person desiring to hunt. Such a provision should require every hunter to procure a license having coupons, one of which coupons must be attached to every game quadruped killed. By this means every animal is identified with and traceable to the person who killed it, and every animal without a coupon is contraband. Such hunting licenses should be issued by the commissioner or by the county clerk of the county on a blank furnished by the commissioner. By charging a small, nominal fee for such license, an additional source of revenue would be added to this department, besides aiding in the enforcement of the game law in restraining and identifying the market hunter.

TAXIDERMIST'S LICENSE.

5. The law should also provide for an examination of the stock and the tagging of the specimens now held by taxidermists, and thus prevent the hide and horn hunters from

passing their illegal acquisitions through the taxidermist's hands, as they can now do without the slightest danger of detection.

All professional taxidermists should be licensed. The fee should be small, but sufficient to keep the business in responsible hands and protect them and their patrons in their lawful possessions only.

The taxidermist should be willing to contribute a small amount in this direction. He reaps more clear profit from the killing of game than any other class, and should be interested in continuing its existence.

GUIDE LICENSE.

6. There should also be a provision requiring professional guides to procure licenses. The fee for a guide license should be in addition to the fee required for a hunting license, and every guide should have in his possession a state hunting license while so acting.

He should also be made ex officio deputy game warden, without pay. License should be required only in case of a professional guide, and not from a person who, as a member of a party, acts as guide temporarily. I find that the best professional guides are in favor of such a provision, as a protection against those who pretend to be guides and do injury to the tourist business.

GAME CASH ACCOUNT.

By receipts—		
May 1, 1899, to November 30, 1900.....		\$2,621.18
To salaries.....	\$1,593.12	
To traveling expense.....	730.27	
To C. H. Pierce, attorney's fees.....	85.00	
To distributing fry.....	124.00	
To balance.....	88.79	
		<hr/>
	\$2,621.18	\$2,621.18

STATE FISH HATCHERY ACCOUNT.

DENVER.

By appropriation for fiscal years 1899 and 1900.....		\$3,300.00
To maintenance	\$2,649.71	
Balance	650.29	
		<hr/>
	\$3,300.00	\$3,300.00

STATE FISH HATCHERY ACCOUNT.

LA PLATA.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....		\$ 900.00
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....		900.00
To maintenance	\$1,800.00	
		<hr/>
	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00

STATE FISH HATCHERY ACCOUNT.

GUNNISON.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....		\$ 900.00
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....		900.00
To maintenance	\$1,393.76	
Balance	406.24	
		<hr/>
	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FISH HATCHERY, DENVER.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 900.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	900.00	
By game cash fund.....	100.00	
By additional appropriation under S. B. 148.....	500.00	
To E. L. Hagar.....	\$2,400.00	
		<u> </u>
	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FISH HATCHERY, LA PLATA.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 900.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	900.00	
To W. E. Patrick.....	\$1,800.00	
		<u> </u>
	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FISH HATCHERY, GUNNISON.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 900.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	900.00	
To W. H. Craine.....	\$1,800.00	
		<u> </u>
	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00

TRAVELING EXPENSE ACCOUNTS, ASSISTANT
SUPERINTENDENTS.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 200.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	200.00	
Balance	\$ 400.00	
		<u> </u>
	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00

ASSISTANT AT DENVER HATCHERY.

SALARY.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 600.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	600.00	
To Charles Dowdell.....	\$1,200.00	
		<hr/>
	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00

ASSISTANT AT LA PLATA HATCHERY.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 600.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	600.00	
To G. W. Smart, F. L. Hahn and C. J. Swan.....	\$1,200.00	
		<hr/>
	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00

ASSISTANT AT GUNNISON HATCHERY.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 600.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	600.00	
To H. S. Crooks.....	\$1,200.00	
		<hr/>
	\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00

DISTRIBUTION OF FRY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 250.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	250.00	
By game cash fund.....	124.00	
To expense distribution.....	\$ 624.00	
		<hr/>
	\$ 624.00	\$ 624.00

STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSIONER.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$1,200.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	1,200.00	
By game cash fund.....	400.00	
By additional appropriation under S. B. 148.....	800.00	
To J. S. Swan.....	\$ 416.65	
To T. H. Johnson.....	3,183.35	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00

STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSIONER.

TRAVELING EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 500.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	500.00	
By game cash fund.....	81.75	
To J. S. Swan.....	\$ 140.80	
To T. H. Johnson.....	838.71	
Balance	102.24	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$1,081.75	\$1,081.75

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF FISH HATCHERIES.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$1,000.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	1,000.00	
By additional appropriation under S. B. 148.....	100.00	
By game cash fund.....	300.00	
To E. F. Campbell.....	\$ 408.04	
To T. J. Holland.....	1,991.96	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF FISH HATCHERIES.

TRAVELING EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 400.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	400.00	
By game cash fund.....	218.07	
To E. F. Campbell.....	\$ 150.55	
To T. J. Holland.....	867.52	
	<u>\$1,018.07</u>	<u>\$1,018.07</u>

CHIEF GAME WARDENS.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$2,700.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	2,700.00	
By additional appropriation under S. B. 148.....	3,600.00	
To salaries, five wardens at \$1,800.00.....	\$9,000.00	
	<u>\$9,000.00</u>	<u>\$9,000.00</u>

CHIEF GAME WARDENS.

TRAVELING EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 900.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	900.00	
By game cash fund.....	430.45	
To expenses of wardens.....	\$2,230.45	
	<u>\$2,230.45</u>	<u>\$2,230.45</u>

STATE GAME AND FISH COMMISSIONER'S CLERK.

SALARY ACCOUNT.

By appropriation for fiscal year 1899.....	\$ 600.00	
By appropriation for fiscal year 1900.....	600.00	
By game cash fund.....	800.00	
To salaries	\$2,000.00	
	<u>\$2,000.00</u>	<u>\$2,000.00</u>

TOTAL RECEIPTS OF GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

FROM MAY 1, 1899, TO NOVEMBER 30, 1900.

To park and lake licenses.....	\$1,222.95	
By private preserve licenses.....	325.00	
By importation certificates.....	166.00	
By transportation permits.....	636.00	
By storage permits.....	22.00	
By seining permits.....	35.00	
By scientific permits.....	9.00	
By capture permits.....	9.00	
By fines, seized game, etc.....	196.23	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, May 1899.....	\$ 414.50	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, June, 1899.....	133.25	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, July, 1899.....	198.20	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, August, 1899...	105.75	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, September, 1899	266.33	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, October, 1899...	166.20	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, November, 1899	180.60	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, December, 1899	105.65	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, January, 1900..	205.05	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, February, 1900.	137.00	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, March, 1900...	103.00	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, April, 1900.....	85.30	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, May, 1900.....	69.65	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, June, 1900.....	103.15	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, July, 1900.....	19.50	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, August, 1900...	136.15	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, September, 1900	44.20	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, October, 1900..	64.70	
To amount paid over to state treasurer, November, 1900	83.00	
	\$2,621.18	\$2,621.18

TROUT FRY DISTRIBUTION.

DENVER HATCHERY.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	ARAPAHOE COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
1899.	Republican river.....		6,000
—			
BOULDER COUNTY.			
1899.	St. Vrain, South and Middle Forks St. Vrain and Boulder creeks		50,000
1900.	St. Vrain, North Fork St. Vrain and Boulder creeks.....		65,000
—			
CHAFFEE COUNTY.			
1899.	Arkansas river		25,000
—			
CLEAR CREEK COUNTY.			
1899.	Chicago creek and Fall river.....		12,000
1900.	Vance, Bear, Upper Clear creek and Chicago creek.....		85,000
—			
CONEJOS COUNTY.			
1899.	Conejos river		15,000
—			
EAGLE COUNTY.			
1899.	Clear creek and South Boulder creek.....		20,000
1900.	Cross creek		20,000
—			
GILPIN COUNTY.			
1900.	South Boulder creek.....		20,000
—			
GRAND COUNTY.			
1900.	Elk and Hamilton creeks.....		20,000

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	<i>Number.</i>
JEFFERSON COUNTY.		
1899.	North Platte, Cascade, Bear and Elk creeks.....	35,000
—		
LAKE COUNTY.		
1899.	20,000
—		
LARIMER COUNTY.		
1899.	Black Cañon, Big Thompson, Fall river, North Fork Big Thompson, Miller's Fork and Poudre creeks.....	65,000
1900.	Buckhorn, South Poudre, Estes park, Larimer, North park, Upper Poudre, South Poudre, North Fork Big Thompson, South Fork Big Thompson.....	224,000
—		
LAS ANIMAS COUNTY.		
1899.	Picket Wire creek.....	15,000
1900.	North Fork Las Animas.....	20,000
—		
MINERAL COUNTY.		
1899.	Goose and Crooked creeks.....	30,000
—		
PARK COUNTY.		
1899.	Platte river, Deer and Clear creeks.....	19,000
1900.	Jefferson lake, Jefferson and Goose creeks.....	52,000
—		
PITKIN COUNTY.		
1899.	Frying Pan, North Fork and Lime creeks.....	12,000
1900.	Frying Pan creek.....	40,000
—		
PUEBLO COUNTY.		
1899.	St. Charles creek.....	20,000
1900.	St. Charles creek.....	40,000

BIENNIAL REPORT

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	RIO GRANDE COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
1900.	Rio Grande river and lake, Soldiers' Home.....		25,000
—			
TELLER COUNTY.			
1899.	Oil and Four Mile creeks.....		20,000
1900.	Four Mile creek.....		25,000
—			
YUMA COUNTY.			
1899.	Republican river.....		10,000
1900.	Chief creek.....		5,000
—			
STATE OF NEBRASKA.			
1899.	In exchange for pike.....		10,000
			—
Total			1,025,000

LA PLATA HATCHERY.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	ARCHULETA COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
1899.	Chama, Navajo, San Juan and Blanca creeks.....		75,000
1900.	San Juan river.....		30,000
—			
CHAFFEE COUNTY.			
1899.	Lakes and streams near Salida.....		45,000
—			
CONEJOS COUNTY.			
1899.	Los Pinos and Conejos rivers.....		45,000
1900.	Los Pinos and Conejos rivers.....		40,000
—			
COSTILLA COUNTY.			
1900.	San Luis lakes.....		15,000
—			
DOLORES COUNTY.			
1899.	Dolores, West Dolores river and Coal creek.....		40,000
1900.	Dolores river		45,000
—			
FREMONT COUNTY.			
1900.	Texas creek.....		10,000
—			
HUERFANO COUNTY.			
1900.	Indian creek		20,000
—			
JEFFERSON COUNTY.			
1899.	Bear creek.....		5,000
1900.	Platte river		15,000
—			
LAKE COUNTY.			
1899.	Lakes near Leadville.....		30,000

BIENNIAL REPORT

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	LA PLATA COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
1899.	La Plata, Pine, Animas and Dolores rivers, Hermosa, Junction, Florida, Vallecito and Bear creeks.....		145,000
1900.	La Plata, San Juan and Pine rivers, Hermosa, Vallecito, Florida, Junction and Bear creeks.....		260,000
—			
MINERAL COUNTY.			
1899.	Clear creek, South Fork and Rio Grande rivers.....		45,000
1900.	Rio Grande river.....		85,000
—			
MONTEZUMA COUNTY.			
1899.	Mancos creek		20,000
1900.	Mancos creek		20,000
—			
PUEBLO COUNTY.			
1899.	St. Charles river.....		20,000
—			
RIO GRANDE COUNTY.			
1899.	Rio Grande river.....		5,000
1900.	Rio Grande river.....		20,000
—			
SAGUACHE COUNTY.			
1899.	Streams near Villa Grove.....		3,000
1900.	Crestone, Cherry and Carnero creeks.....		45,000
—			
SAN MIGUEL COUNTY.			
1899.	Telluride lake		15,000
Total			1,098,000

GUNNISON HATCHERY.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	ARAPAHOE COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
1899.	Platte river		15,000
—			
CHAFFEE COUNTY.			
1899.	Silver creek and creeks at Mears Junction.....		16,000
1900.	Silver and Poncha creeks.....		55,000
—			
DELTA COUNTY.			
1900.	Laroux creek		10,000
—			
EAGLE COUNTY.			
1900.	Gypsum creek		15,000
—			
EL PASO COUNTY.			
1900.	Palmer lake		5,000
—			
GARFIELD COUNTY.			
1899.	Blank creek		10,000
1900.	Crystal and Grand rivers, Grizzly, East and West creeks, Cañon creek		95,000
—			
GUNNISON COUNTY.			
1899.	Ohio, Tomichi, Cebolla and Quartz creeks, Beaver Creek lake, Tin Cup lake, Gunnison river and tributaries....		410,000
1900.	Ohio, Pitkin, Parlins, Cebolla, Elk, Tin Cup, Taylor, East, North Beaver and Tomichi creeks and Gunnison river and tributaries		675,000
—			
HINSDALE COUNTY.			
1899.	Lake San Cristobal.....		25,000
1900.	Lake San Cristobal and head of Cebolla river.....		75,000

BIENNIAL REPORT

		JEFFERSON COUNTY.	
<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>		<i>Number.</i>
1899.	Platte river		75,000
—			
LAKE COUNTY.			
1900.	Eagle river and Snow Moss lake.....		45,000
—			
MESA COUNTY.			
1900.	Goldsbys lake and East creek.....		50,000
—			
MONTROSE COUNTY.			
1899.	Crystal creek		15,000
1900.	Little and Big Cimarron creeks.....		30,000
—			
OURAY COUNTY.			
1899.	Dallas creek		15,000
1900.	Cow creek and Public lake.....		25,000
—			
PARK COUNTY.			
1899.	Platte river		10,000
—			
PITKIN COUNTY.			
1900.	Castle creek and Snow lake.....		60,000
—			
RIO BLANCO COUNTY.			
1900.	White river		20,000
—			
ROUTT COUNTY.			
1900.	Rock creek		15,000
—			
SAGUACHE COUNTY.			
1900.	Needle creek		6,000
Total			1,772,000

GRAND MESA LAKES.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>		<i>Number.</i>
CHAFFEE COUNTY.			
1900.	Lakes and streams.....		30,000
—			
CUSTER COUNTY.			
1900.	Streams		20,000
—			
DELTA COUNTY.			
1899.	Streams		50,000
—			
EAGLE COUNTY.			
1899.	Eagle river and Homestake creek.....		40,000
1900.	Eagle river		200,000
—			
GARFIELD COUNTY.			
1899.	Crystal and Elk creeks, and streams near Glenwood.....		45,000
1900.	Streams		50,000
—			
GRAND COUNTY.			
1900.	Streams		20,000
—			
JEFFERSON COUNTY.			
1900.	Elk creek		20,000
—			
LAKE COUNTY.			
1900.	Streams		50,000
—			
MESA COUNTY.			
1899.	Roan river.....		20,000
1900.	Streams		50,000

BIENNIAL REPORT

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	MONTROSE COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
	Cimarron creek		50,000
—			
PARK COUNTY.			
1899.	Platte river		40,000
1900.	Platte river		275,000
—			
PITKIN COUNTY.			
1899.	Streams near Aspen.....		15,000
—			
SUMMIT COUNTY.			
1900.	Streams		40,000
	Total		<u>1,015,000</u>

EMERALD LAKES.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Disposition.</i>	CHAFFEE COUNTY.	<i>Number.</i>
1899.	Streams near Salida.....		10,000
—			
GRAND COUNTY.			
1900.	Lakes		60,000
—			
JEFFERSON COUNTY.			
1899.	Bear creek		40,000
—			
LAKE COUNTY.			
1899.	Lakes near Leadville.....		30,000
—			
LA PLATA COUNTY.			
1899.	Pine river		400,000
1900.	Public lakes and Upper Pine river, Lake Fork and tributaries Pine river.....		800,000
—			
OTERO COUNTY.			
1900.	Lakes		20,000
—			
OURAY COUNTY.			
1900.	Streams		20,000
—			
PARK COUNTY.			
1900.	Streams and lakes.....		20,000
—			
SAN MIGUEL COUNTY.			
1900.	Lakes		145,000
	Total		<u>1,545,000</u>

CIRCULARS

ISSUED BY THE

**DEPARTMENT OF GAME
AND FISH.**

CIRCULARS

ISSUED BY THE

Department of Game and Fish.

STATE OF COLORADO.

DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH.

Circular No. 5—Importation, Transportation, Etc., of Game and Fish.

Denver May 1, 1899.

To All Importers of Game and Fish:

Your attention is called to the requirements of Division D of the enclosed copy of the Game and Fish Laws.

The word "game," as used in this act, includes bison, buffalo, elk, deer, antelope, mountain sheep, beaver, and the following wild birds: Turkey, prairie chicken, sage chicken, grouse, quail, pheasant, partridge, ptarmigan, duck, goose, brant, swan, crane, water fowl, pigeon, dove, snipe or curlew.

The word "fish," as used in this act, includes trout, whitefish, grayling, sunfish, bass, catfish and wall-eyed pike.

The word "trout" is construed to mean all the kinds of trout found in Colorado waters, including those native to such waters, as well as those planted therein. The word "whitefish" is construed to mean the Williamson whitefish found in the White river and elsewhere in Colorado, and

sometimes locally called grayling, but neither of these, as used in the law, is construed to include the trout and whitefish common to Lake Michigan and the other great lakes.

Very respectfully,

T. H. JOHNSON,
Commissioner.

STATE OF COLORADO.
DEPARTMENT OF GAME AND FISH.

Circular No. 1—Obstructions to Streams, Etc.

Denver, May 20, 1899.

To All Chief, Deputy and Special Wardens:

The Game Law of 1899 prohibits obstructions and pollution by dams, mills, placer mines and floating of ties and timber in fish streams. The general law heretofore permitted the floating of ties and timbers on giving bond to the county commissioners. The Game Law also gives the district courts authority to suspend or modify its prohibitions in certain cases where equitable circumstances require it.

It might be deemed inequitable to prevent the floating of ties or timber which were cut prior to the passage of the Game Law and in ignorance of it, with no other means of transportation possible.

In view of these facts, and to prevent the incurring of unnecessary expense by the state or by the parties concerned in the various industries, you are instructed not to commence any prosecutions or incur expense on account of the obstruction or pollution of or floating of ties or timber in streams, except by special authority from this office.

In all such cases coming under your notice you will simply report the facts to this office, where they will be considered and acted on accordingly.

T. H. JOHNSON,
Commissioner.

PARKS, LAKES, ETC.

Denver, May 25, 1899.

Sir—Your attention is called to the requirement of the Game Law as to licenses for parks, lakes and shooting or fishing privileges.

Licenses for those now existing must in any event be procured within three (3) months after the taking effect of the law (April 27, 1899), but if it is desired to take or sell game or fish therefrom before that time, a license must be procured before doing so.

T. H. JOHNSON,
Commissioner.

REVENUES AND EXPENSES.

Denver, May 26, 1899.

To All Wardens:

The appropriation for the enforcement of the Game Law is likely to prove insufficient, and it is therefore important that close attention be given to prosecuting violations and collecting fines, and to requiring owners of parks, lakes, shooting and fishing privileges to comply with the law in relation to procuring licenses therefor.

One-third of all fines and all the license fees go into the game fund, and, by exercising the utmost diligence (consistent with proper economy) in these respects, the deficiency in the appropriation can be supplied and the full number of chief wardens can be kept in service the entire year, and deputy wardens appointed during the most important part of the season.

Except in cases of unusual importance, extraordinary expenses should not be incurred without special authority from this office.

All expense accounts must be fully itemized and show the date and occasion of each item, so as to be self-explanatory. The law requires chief wardens to devote their entire time to the performance of their duties, and they will be expected to do so. Reports must be made by them on the first day of each month (or as soon thereafter as practicable), showing their operations each day of the preceding month.

T. H. JOHNSON,
Commissioner.

REPORTS OF JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND
CLERKS OF COURTS, ETC.

Denver, May 1, 1899.

To Justices of the Peace and Clerks of Courts :

Your attention is called to the requirements of the Game and Fish Laws, as follows :

Section 2, Division G. The failure of any person or officer to perform any act, duty or obligation enjoined upon him by this act shall be deemed a violation thereof.

Section 3, Division G. It shall be the duty of every justice of the peace and clerk of a court, before whom any prosecution under this act is commenced or shall go on appeal, and within twenty days after the trial or dismissal thereof, to report in writing the result thereof and the amount of fine collected, if any, and the disposition thereof to the commissioner at Denver.

Very respectfully,

T. H. JOHNSON,
State Game and Fish Commissioner.

N. B.—County Clerks will please post conspicuously.