

two years great advancement has been made in this department. The Commission has divided the State into six regional districts and named a Regional Deputy Game Warden for each district.

The Department has distributed more game from the State-owned game propagation plants and more fresh water fish and game fish from the fish hatcheries this past season than in any season heretofore. Some improvements have been made at the propagation plants in the way of repairs and new equipment but more work along this line is necessary as the capacity cannot be increased without increasing equipment. During the last fiscal year 32,784 pieces of game were distributed in the covers of the State, 124,654 game fish were planted in the streams and 615 wild turkeys distributed.

The program for the next two years will be to try to build up the propagation plants for game and fish and to keep covers as well supplied as possible. This, of course, means an expanded program in the way of new buildings.

The Department has entered into an agreement with the United States Soil Conservation Service and anticipates a very extensive program for the next two years in cooperating with the landowners and farmers in conserving soil, forests, and waters, and, if this can be done, beneficial results will be accomplished for wildlife.

In 1940 the Commission appointed an Advisory Council in each county of the State composed of five landowners or residents on farms, five from outdoor groups such as the Farm Bureau, Farm Grange, etc., and two at large. The Councils, therefore, are composed of twelve members who are cooperating in soil, forests, and wildlife conservation programs. These Councils cooperate in the distribution of game and advise properties on which same should be planted which must have the necessary cover producing natural food for wildlife. Sub-marginal lands are those lands which are not producing profitable crops and can be taken out of agriculture and reforested and developed as a forest area.

During the past year, 20,835 pounds of seed have been planted on privately-owned properties for the protection of soil, and with the understanding the growth would be left for cover and food for wildlife during the winter. This program will be greatly expanded in the next two years. These plantings are beneficial not only for wildlife but for the conservation of soil and when the soil is kept well covered with legumes, grasses, etc., silt is prevented from entering our streams and the waters in those streams is purified.

There has been an agreement made with the State Forestry Department of Maryland to establish on State forest areas nine inviolate wildlife sanctuaries, four in Worcester County and five in Garrett County.

There has also been effected a cooperative agreement with the United States National Park Service relating to a program in connection with soil, forest and wildlife restoration on the Catoctin Recreational Demonstration Area.

WATER RESOURCES COMMISSION

During the last two years the Water Resources Commission has:

Published and distributed a "Report of Operations 1933 to 1938" and "General Requirements and Regulations Relating to the Submission of Applications and Design of Dams and Other Waterway Obstructions."