



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
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ENCOURAGING CONDITIONS  
PREVAIL IN ALASKA IN 1922

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A spirit of public cooperation in respect to the conservation of wild life in Alaska is more widely marked than ever before, says Governor Scott C. Bone in his second annual report to the Secretary of Agriculture on the Alaska Game Law. Respect for the law is the rule, and the schools of the Territory are cooperating by the use of a questionnaire on animals and birds.

Conditions touching animal and bird life in Alaska have been very favorable during the past year in the opinion of the governor. Game is said to be plentiful, and animal life of all varieties seems to be increasing.

Sentiment continues to favor removing the protection afforded the brown bear, which is a dangerous predatory animal. At Afognak last year three hunters met four ferocious Bald-faced Kodiak bears and one of the hunters was killed. There are few black bears on the Alaska Peninsula, though they are plentiful and increasing in the Kantishna, Fairbanks, McCarthy, and Ketchikan sections.

Ptarmigan and grouse have shown gains, and geese and ducks are reported in numbers in the region of Lake Minchumina, according to the governor's report. Many fur-bearing animals are increasing, including a variety known as the tundra mink. Arctic hares are reappearing by thousands, as well as rabbits, and are doing considerable damage to planted areas. The depredations on fur bearers and game animals by wolves, wolverenes, eagles, hawks, and coyotes, which also are increasing, seem to warrant stringent measures for their control. Fox farming on the islands of southeastern Alaska is proving profitable and popular.

One thousand dollars was paid to the Territory for hunting licenses during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and, in addition, \$300 was paid for special moose-shipping licenses and \$290 for other licenses.

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