

Information
1947



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release to the AM's of THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1947.

HUNTING LICENSE SALES HIT ALL TIME HIGH IN 1945-46

Thousands of war veterans released from military service increased the ranks of the ever-growing army of hunters by 20 percent during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1946, to reach an all-time high of 9,854,313 in numbers and to bring a revenue of \$19,805,444 to the 48 states, according to a report released today by Albert M. Day, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior.

A summary based on figures supplied to the Service by the various states shows that the increase in licenses sold during the 1945-46 season amounted to 1,660,017 while fees were increased by \$4,293,192, in comparison with the previous year when sportsmen spent \$15,512,252 for 8,194,296 hunting licenses.

The previous high record for hunting license sales was attained in the 1942 fiscal year when 8,532,354 licenses were sold.

Non-resident hunting licenses jumped from 154,363 in 1944-45 to 256,335 in 1945-46.

In revenue received South Dakota moved ahead of Pennsylvania and Michigan in 1945-46 to lead all other states with \$1,958,331. Pennsylvania was second with \$1,580,394, followed by Michigan with \$1,319,278; California, \$978,305; New York, \$930,553; Ohio, \$739,326; Illinois, \$678,575; Washington, \$667,162; Colorado, \$603,170; and Wisconsin, \$570,496.

Last year's order of states in revenue received was Pennsylvania with \$1,395,841; Michigan, \$1,198,437; South Dakota, \$1,087,122; California, \$913,307; New York, \$854,827; Ohio, \$669,256; Wisconsin, \$617,857; Washington, \$511,268; Colorado, \$510,888; and Illinois, \$473,339.

In number of licenses sold during 1945-46, Michigan again topped the list with 827,309 followed by Pennsylvania with 678,228; New York, 676,117; Ohio, 579,326; Indiana, 381,295; California, 380,634; Washington, 369,289; Minnesota, 355,997; Illinois, 326,016; and Missouri, 314,833.

During the 1946 fiscal year all states except Indiana showed increases in the sale of hunting licenses. The decrease in this state--17,608 under the 1944-45 season figure--is attributed to the fact that Indiana issues free licenses to all war veterans and that class of hunter accounts for most of the increase in the other states.

The states having the highest percentage increase in license sales are as follows: Arkansas, 121.74 per cent; Georgia, 51.51 per cent; South Dakota, 48.33 per cent; New Hampshire, 44.33 per cent; West Virginia, 42.03 per cent; Montana, 41.21 per cent; and Mississippi, 37.06 per cent.

Federal migratory-bird hunting stamps, commonly called "duck stamps", were issued to 1,725,505 sportsmen for use during the 1945-46 season. This is the highest figure on record to that date. During the 1944-45 season, 1,487,029 duck stamps were sold. The Federal stamps at \$1.00 each, in addition to state licenses, are required of all waterfowl hunters over 16 years of age.

The appended tabulation summarizes by states the number of hunting licenses and duck stamps issued and the revenue collected.

Hunting License and Federal Duck Stamp Sales
July 1, 1945 to June 30, 1946

13379

<u>State</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-resident</u>	<u>Total Licenses</u>	<u>Fees Paid by Hunters</u>	<u>Federal Duck Stamps</u>
Alabama	139,170	1,035	140,205	\$ 255,925.50	9,466
Arizona	45,385	1,422	46,807	123,126.00	6,203
Arkansas	139,295	3,832	143,127	268,652.50	45,538
California	376,345	4,289	380,634	978,305.00	131,009
Colorado	283,012	5,296	288,308	603,169.50	30,837
Connecticut	38,737	1,158	39,895	120,575.54	10,683
Delaware	16,916	240	17,156	22,892.75	4,648
Florida	75,230	1,087	76,317	362,542.00	21,788
Georgia	85,131	1,377	86,508	189,185.50	3,866
Idaho	168,217	1,725	169,942	302,053.00	34,590
Illinois	323,976	2,040	326,016	678,575.00	77,452
Indiana	380,436	859	381,295	296,708.75	28,159
Iowa	298,783	996	299,779	265,219.20	43,529
Kansas	138,298	434	138,732	145,966.50	42,016
Kentucky	104,979	931	105,910	209,583.50	8,390
Louisiana	160,985	2,087	163,072	175,480.00	56,876
Maine	107,724	11,641	119,365	295,864.30	14,731
Maryland	93,893	3,684	97,577	281,270.50	16,738
Massachusetts	114,308	1,561	115,869	216,982.00	25,165
Michigan	817,872	9,437	827,309	1,319,278.25	100,382
Minnesota	355,153	844	355,997	529,920.00	130,757
Mississippi	130,233	1,349	131,582	282,575.50	15,211
Missouri	313,625	1,208	314,833	547,807.47	44,962
Montana	139,964	1,665	141,629	238,003.50	30,605
Nebraska	162,805	6,074	168,879	288,880.13	37,535
Nevada	14,512	7,147	21,659	130,092.00	7,808
New Hampshire	88,926	9,998	98,924	204,893.40	4,708
New Jersey	154,994	2,094	157,088	311,211.50	29,356
New Mexico	36,945	3,580	40,525	208,397.00	7,018
New York	670,155	5,962	676,117	930,552.70	56,354
North Carolina	135,514	3,196	138,710	345,673.85	11,666
North Dakota	62,281	5,056	67,337	219,821.50	37,108
Ohio	578,258	1,068	579,326	739,325.50	27,777
Oklahoma	159,485	1,201	160,686	230,448.75	37,851
Oregon	156,106	3,086	159,192	528,668.50	47,511
Pennsylvania	661,002	17,226	678,228	1,580,394.00	41,185
Rhode Island	10,540	131	10,671	25,127.75	4,220
South Carolina	78,878	3,387	82,265	177,517.25	6,996
South Dakota	106,072	98,232	204,304	1,958,331.10	66,012
Tennessee	169,976	1,009	170,985	178,438.50	20,393
Texas	191,091	733	191,824	403,292.00	115,008
Utah	92,805	7,441	100,246	383,408.40	24,883
Vermont	51,939	4,913	53,852	118,155.05	4,303
Virginia	191,045	3,230	194,275	310,986.50	15,641
Washington	369,032	257	369,289	667,162.25	76,007
West Virginia	253,368	1,785	255,153	271,737.25	2,014
Wisconsin	304,615	1,172	305,787	570,495.70	83,681
Wyoming	49,967	8,160	58,127	312,771.26	9,599
Dist. of Columbia					12,646
United States	<u>9,597,978</u>	<u>256,335</u>	<u>9,854,313</u>	<u>\$19,805,443.60</u>	
Alaska					4,186
Hawaii					151
Puerto Rico					287
Totals					<u>1,725,505</u>