

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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Walker 343-2463  
Carroll 343-5634

## NEWS BRIEFS FROM THE BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

### Hunter Safety Programs

Planning is underway by the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for new hunter safety programs and firing range construction. BSW is getting technical advisory assistance from the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, Wildlife Management Institute, National Wildlife Federation, National Rifle Association, and National Shooting Sports Foundation. Money for these programs, which will begin in 1972, will be from Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration funds of the Bureau, using one-half of receipts from pistol and revolver excise taxes, as was recently authorized by Public Law 91-503. BSW estimates its receipts from these taxes will be as much as \$7 million a year, money which formerly went into general funds of the U.S. Treasury.

### Fish for the Cochiti Pueblo Indians

Fishery management plans for Cochiti Reservoir in New Mexico to benefit Pueblo Indians in the area are being formulated by Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the New Mexico Department of Fish and Game. The flood control reservoir is under construction by the Corps of Engineers and should be completed

by 1975. Warm-water fish will be stocked in the 1,200 acre lake, and tailwaters will be managed for trout. Because Albuquerque is only 20 miles away, this fishery project should result in a profitable enterprise for the Cochiti Pueblo, which will charge fees for use by anglers.

#### "Gallinaceous Guzzlers"

Experiments by the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife with artificial water holes known as "gallinaceous guzzlers," which assist certain arid region game birds, show definite acceptance by chukar partridges in Utah. Reproduction and chick survival are definitely improved when such water holes are installed, and so the range of the chukar may be extended and existing populations enlarged in arid regions through use of the guzzlers.

#### Record Coho Catch

A record 33 lb. 3 oz. coho salmon has been taken in Michigan's Manistee River, the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife reports. The catch made in October eclipses the previous record of 31 pounds taken in 1947 in Cowichan Bay, British Columbia. In the first 9 months of 1970, sportsmen have taken about 700,000 pounds of coho in the Great Lakes.

#### Breeding Wildness Back Into Fish

A criticism of some hatchery-reared fish is that they are actually domesticated, with less than normal ability to survive in the wild after planting. But fishery scientists of the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife are conducting research aimed at establishing techniques for breeding wildness back into hatchery stock. The experimenters are working with "survival-bred" trout spawned from parents that had survived a stream test in relatively superior condition.

#### Another Victim of DDT

Include the sparrow hawk in the growing list of birds harmed by DDT. Using captive hawks in the laboratory, Interior Department scientists at the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife's Patuxent Wildlife Research Center have induced egg shell thinning under controlled conditions using DDE, a breakdown product of DDT commonly found in the environment. This hawk has also had such thinning of egg shells in the wild. The bird has ranged throughout much of the United States.