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Biennial report of the State Conservation Commission of Wisconsin for the fiscal years ending June 30, 1925, and June 30, 1926. 1926

Wisconsin. State Conservation Committee (1915-27)

Madison, Wisconsin: [s.n.], 1926

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BIENNIAL REPORT

10th

OF THE

STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

OF WISCONSIN

FOR THE

Fiscal years ending June 30, 1925, and June 30, 1926

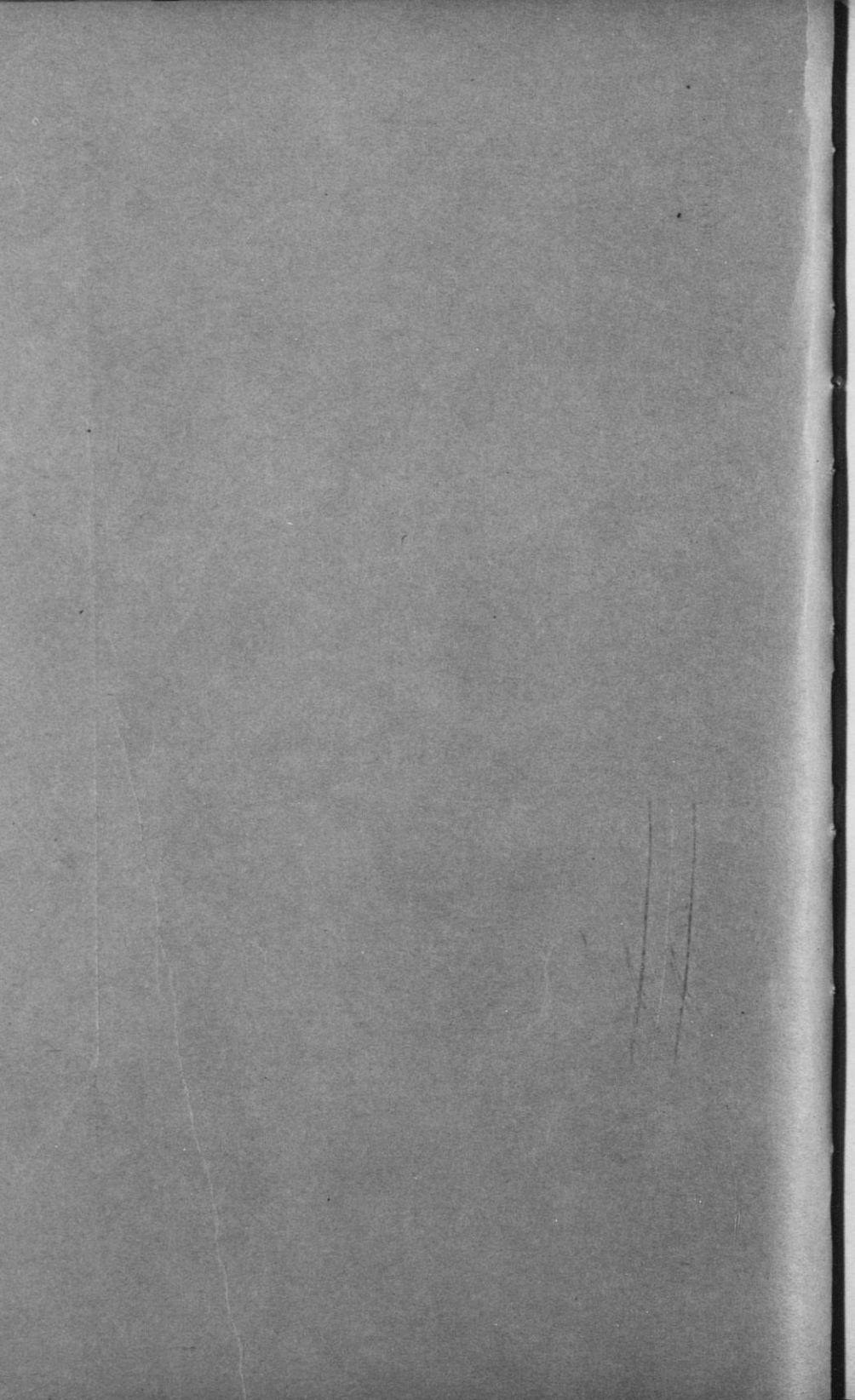
The Part of Good Citizens—

A people without children would face a hopeless future; a country without trees is almost as helpless; forests which are so used that they cannot renew themselves will soon vanish, and with them all their benefits. When you help to preserve our forests or plant new ones you are acting the part of good citizens.

—Theodore Roosevelt.

Madison, Wisconsin
1926

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BIENNIAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
OF WISCONSIN

FOR THE

Fiscal years ending June 30, 1925, and June 30, 1926



Madison, Wisconsin
1926

THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ELMER S. HALL
Commissioner of Conservation

C. L. HARRINGTON
*Superintendent of Forests
and Parks*

R. L. RIPPLE, Oshkosh
*Asst. Superintendent of
Fisheries*

B. O. WEBSTER
Superintendent of Fisheries

H. W. MAC KENZIE, Antigo
Chief Warden

MATT. PATTERSON
Secretary

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

HONORABLE JOHN J. BLAINE,

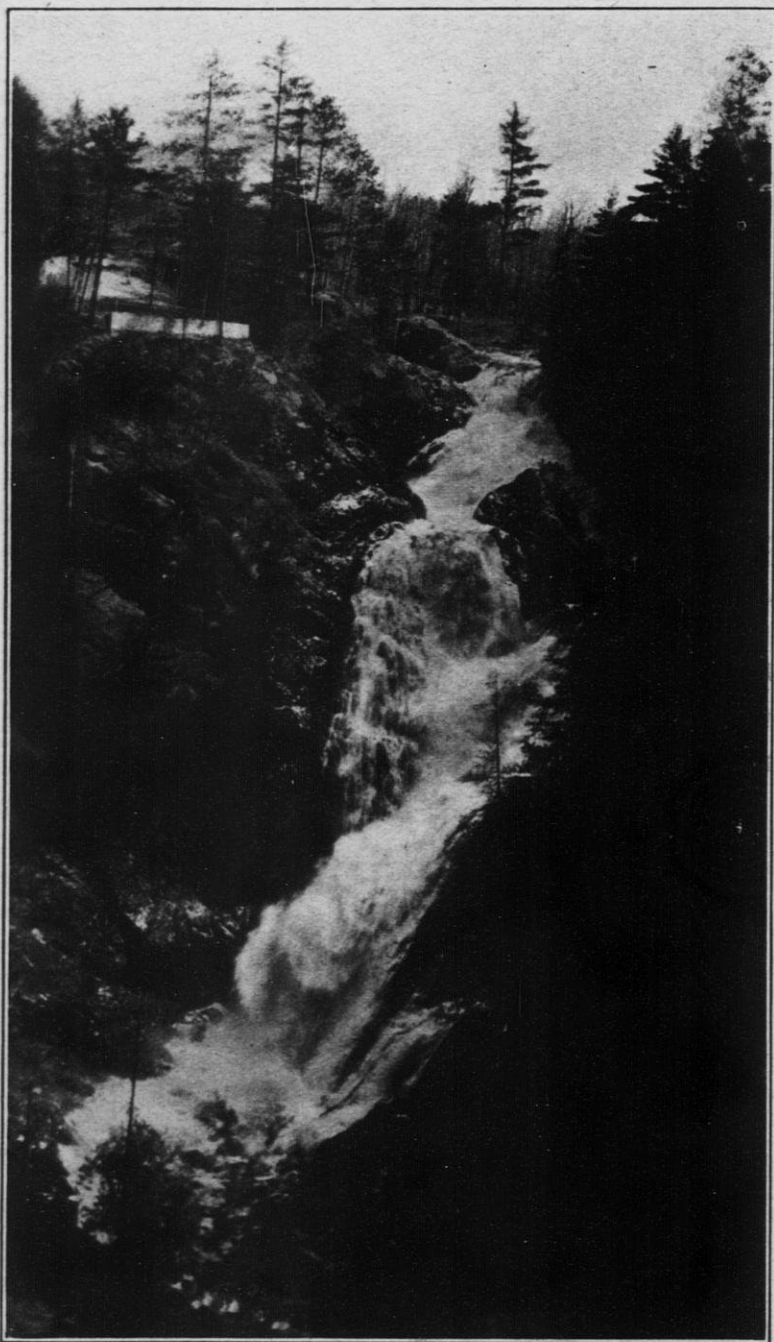
Governor of Wisconsin.

SIR: Agreeable to the provisions of law, we herewith submit a biennial report of the activities of the Conservation Commission of the State of Wisconsin; and trust that it will meet with your approval.

Respectfully submitted by

ELMER S. HALL,

Commissioner of Conservation.



Manitou Falls—Pattison State Park, 165 ft. High. Highest waterfall in the State.

FOREWORD

ELMER S. HALL, *Commissioner.*

The biennium just closing has been one of successful operation in each of the four divisions of the Commission. Conservation is today something more than a sentimental appeal, for it has large commercial and industrial phases and no community in Wisconsin, especially none in the upper half of the state, is devoid of an interest in the conservation program. The plans of the department for future growth carry an assurance to the citizens of Wisconsin that their needs in the conservation field will be fully taken care of and that Wisconsin will possess in this connection facilities as good as those offered by any state in the Union.

One hundred and sixty-seven million fish of all varieties were planted in the waters of the state by the Commission during 1926. Of this number eight million were brook trout, three million brown trout, one million rainbow trout. All of the trout planted were of fingerling size. This year's trout planting put Wisconsin in the lead in its efforts to restock the waters of the state and to keep our more than three thousand trout streams in first-class condition for the angler.

The inland lakes also received attention. Millions of bass fry, bass fingerlings from the hatcheries and the Mississippi river, muskellunge and pan fish were reared and distributed. The work with muskellunge was especially noteworthy. While the rearing of fingerling muskellunge is just emerging from the experimental stage, it was advanced to the point where sixteen hundred vigorous individuals from six to ten inches long were reared at the Woodruff hatchery and distributed to the inland lakes especially suited for their development.

New field hatcheries were started at Eau Claire, Brule, Marinette and Sparta. The fish rescue work along the Mis-

issippi bottoms was carried on vigorously, especially for bass fingerlings and the newly established bass ponds along this river furnished a good catch. Ridding the lakes of rough and predacious fish was further developed, both on the part of commercial fishermen as well as state directed crews, and the game fish in the streams and lakes in Wisconsin were never more numerous nor had a better chance to multiply than during and at the end of this biennium.

Realizing that the greatest enemy of new forests is the forest fire, the work of the Commission during the past year has been directed primarily toward the development of an adequate forest protection system. Eleven fire districts, comprising from one to one and one-half million acres, have been laid out. A forest ranger is in charge of each district and a system of lookouts, with telephone communication between them, has been established in most of these fire districts. Fire trucks with pumps and an assortment of fire fighting tools are ready during the fire season for immediate service. The headquarters for the respective fire districts are located at Brule, Webster, Park Falls, Trout Lake, Crandon, Dunbar, Rhinelander, Radisson, White Lake, Friendship and Tomah. Little trees seeded naturally by the billion over the millions of acres of cutover lands in the state will be given an opportunity to grow up and will not burn up as readily as they have in the past as the plans of the Commission for fire prevention and suppression mature. This activity is progressing, with the assistance of the counties concerned.

The forest nursery at Trout Lake distributed one and one-quarter million little pine and spruce trees for planting in the state the past year. The facilities for raising and distributing these little trees were doubled. About ten acres of additional land was cleared, a water system installed and the work of putting desirable forest trees in the hands of the interested Wisconsin landowners at reasonable prices was increased. There are thousands of places on farms and on the lands of other classes of owners where the planting of several hundred or thousands of little pine or spruce or broad-leaved trees would be a distinct improvement and the effort of the state in producing these native trees in considerable numbers for such work is in

line with its desire to stimulate an interest in tree culture among all her citizens.

The success of the recently closed deer season bears evidence to the results of the activities of the Commission in game protection and development. Thousands of hunters sought the forest haunts of the white-tailed deer during the early part of December. While the early and heavy snows made hunting physically difficult, the consensus of opinion seems to be that the deer are plentiful and the buck law is still held in high regard. The alternate open and closed season for deer is producing good results.

The conditions of other small game is generally good. The duck shooting is not what it should be, but the supply of rabbits, squirrels, raccoon, foxes and other game is fairly good. The activities of the wardens during the year has lead to many arrests and convictions and the protection to the game birds and animals and furbearers afforded by the wardens, together with well considered closed seasons, has had great and beneficial results in keeping our wild creatures of the forest and marshes with us in pleasing and oftentimes commercially important numbers.

To keep up with the growing demand for park facilities, the Commission found it necessary to increase the sanitary conveniences in all of the major parks and to open up new areas for intensive public use. Camping and picnic areas were enlarged, drinking water supplies improved, new trails opened up and an effort made to develop the facilities and rough accommodations that the average person might expect to find on such public areas. A considerable amount of road work was completed, particularly at the Interstate, Devils Lake, Peninsula and Northern Forest Park areas, which was made possible from the fifty-thousand-dollar appropriation from the state highway fund. The Commission plans to develop certain areas, naturally sought out by the public, in a fairly intensive way, but to leave the greatest area of each park as a wild and native wilderness. Accessibility over good roads and trails, proper sanitation, a plentiful supply of pure drinking water and sufficient policing are some of the major items looked for on the state parks, as well as the opportunity to enjoy the natural assets they possess.



The Shore Line, Peninsula State Park.



Planted Pine, State Land, Star Lake, Northern Forest Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

FORESTRY

Complete the organization and equipping of the eleven forest protection districts that have been laid out, viz: the installation of lookouts, lines of communication, the necessary fire fighting apparatus, such as trucks, fire pumps, hand tools, etc.

Revision of laws relating to forest, marsh and field fires.

Develop a system of roads and fire lines over all lands owned by the state in large contiguous tracts, so that such areas will be more accessible and their protection made more feasible.

Establish an additional forest tree nursery. Expand activities concerned with the distribution of the native Wisconsin forest trees to farmers and other land owners for planting, and extend the work of education in proper forest practices among all owners of forest or prospective forest land.

Exempt all growing and non-merchantable trees from taxation, and define merchantable trees by diameter, both for hard and for soft woods.

Extend the areas of state-owned forest land by having the state buy title on tax delinquent lands in sizable tracts from the counties, reimbursing local government for loss of taxes because of state ownership for roads and schools.

FISH AND GAME

Purchase the Osceola Fish Hatchery. This hatchery has had over forty years of successful hatching experience, and its acquisition will give the state adequate facilities for brook trout propagation.

Purchase suitable areas of Mississippi bottom lands for bass hatcheries. This is an imperative need as a source of supply for fingerling fish to replenish our many lakes with bass, and other flat fish.

Provision for setting off the upper reaches of trout streams as fish refuges.

Purchase additional fish cars or a number of large trucks for the prompt and efficient distribution of fingerling fish.

Continue the present laws for hunting deer.

Establish four game bird hatchery farms at the Osceola fish hatchery, on the Nelson Dewey and Peninsula Parks, and on the state-owned lands in Dodge County. Many necessary buildings and suitable lands for this activity are already available. The special requirements are good agricultural lands of sufficient area to permit moving the site of the poultry yards each season to prevent congestion and disease.

Provide for the creation of wild life refuges on state-owned lands at the discretion of the Conservation Commission.

Make game refuges on all lands within the present boundaries of the state parks.

Advance the salaries and wages of all employees of the department, which will enable them to better support their families, and stimulate added interest in their work.

PARKS

Extend the system of state owned public park areas and include only the best of the naturally attractive areas in the state in this system, together with a number of large areas of woodland and waters, such as:

- (a) The lands around Copper and Tyler's Fork Falls in Ashland County.
- (b) The Northern Lakes Park area in Price and Sawyer counties.
- (c) The area in the Kettle-Morain district in southeastern Wisconsin.

Complete reasonable, sanitary, road and trail improvements in every state park, so that these public areas may be made accessible and safe for the health and comfort of visitors.

Acquire suitable sized areas of old growth timber along the Trunk Line highways, along well established trails between lakes and at other locations suitable for recreational use. Such timber to be preserved and the areas made available as roadside parks.

FORESTRY DIVISION

During the last biennium the major activities of the commission in forestry have been:

1. The improvement of the state owned forest lands.
2. The raising and distribution of forest trees.
3. The establishment of a forest protection program.

The customary work of protecting the state owned forest lands from fire and trespass has been continued during the past two years. An effort has been made to check up on all reported trespasses, and in spite of the extensive scattering of many descriptions of state owned land this work was reasonably well done. Emphasis has also been laid on the protection of all state owned lands from fire, and other improvement activities notably in the construction of roads and in the planting of trees on suitable areas, has been carried on. Financial tables on all these activities appear in the appendix.

The facilities for raising and distributing the native coniferous forest trees of the state has been doubled during the biennium. The demand for this planting stock has likewise increased. An effective working agreement now exists between the College of Agriculture and this commission by which a considerable number of these forest trees are, through the forester of the extension division, placed in the hands of interested farmers for planting. Many demonstrations in the proper handling of farm wood lots have been held, and the educational work of getting the thousands of landowners of Wisconsin, who are in possession of the soil best suited for the forests of the future, interested in forests and tree culture has been enlarged.

The most outstanding development, however, of the last biennium has been the enlargement of a general forest protection plan for those areas of the state which has a distinct risk from what are commonly called forest fires. This activity will be discussed in more detail, as it is the most important feature in the state's contribution toward an effective forestry policy.

PRIMARY CONSIDERATIONS IN FOREST PROTECTION PROGRAM

"A little fire is quickly
trodden out,
Which being suffered,
rivers cannot quench."
Shakespeare.

Land Conditions

Wisconsin has 35,000,000 acres within her borders. Generally speaking, the southern 15,000,000 acres is a region of farms. Open fields and cultivated areas are the rule, but there are numerous wood lots, some areas of virgin hardwood timber, and a few rather exten-



Forest Protection Fire Truck



Norway Pine Timber, Northern Forest Park

sive areas of soil of relatively low fertility. The region is primarily a hardwood region. The woods are generally open, and the risk from destructive fires is small. So far as forest perpetuation is concerned, the grazing of cattle is really a more destructive force than fire over the 15,000,000 acres of southern Wisconsin. It is not likely that any work will ever be done, except in mid-central Wisconsin, in protecting this region from fire except of a general educational nature.

The northern 20,000,000 acres are still primarily an undeveloped region. Here we find farm, forest and cut-over land inter-mixed. The farms for the most part skirt the railroads. The soils of this region are generally fertile, well watered and susceptible of as great a degree of development as has occurred in southern Wisconsin. A steady though slow progress is being made in an agricultural way in this northern region, but if the rate of settlement of the past two decades is any indication of future prospects in this connection it is quite apparent that it will take many years before even the better soils are settled. As a matter-of-fact, farm settlement of this region will be materially encouraged by the protection of the land itself from any devastating force. Farms and forests have always thrived together. It is a common understanding and observation that the farms of upper Wisconsin derive no small part of their income today from what would be called strictly forest or timber activities. It is, therefore, pretty generally agreed that the protection of the countryside from uncontrolled fires is an important part of any program that concerns itself with the development of Wisconsin, and particularly of the northern counties. No argument prevails when fire is used for a beneficial purpose, such as land clearing, but all such fires should be confined to the job or property of the owner. All other fires should be prevented or properly suppressed. Protection from fire is fundamental to any successful program of conservation. Great areas of land in this state, unfit for cultivation, will be available for production only in a conservation way, viz: timber, game, fur farming, recreation, water control, etc. These things will be of equal importance to the northern counties as any other form of development, and should be so considered. Uncontrolled fires are ruinous to any conservation program, and a serious menace to any other form of development.

It is also apparent that the protection of a region from fire is primarily a state undertaking. It is an exercise of the police power reposing in the state. No matter how earnest an owner of land may be to protect his property from fire, his individual efforts meet only with partial success for he is continually jeopardized by fire that may sweep in on him from points miles away. To function properly the protective system must cover the entire area subjected to the fire risk, including all landowners and all circumstances, and must operate consistently year in and year out.

There is, however, a large local responsibility that should be recognized in any fire prevention and suppression program. The sources and causes of fire are invariably local. While towns and even counties are generally too small in area to act independently, their direct participation in this work is not only desirable, but neces-

sary. It is important that the respective responsibilities of state, counties and towns be recognized not only in the law but in actual practice.

Review of Fire Risk

The number, extent and destructiveness of fires depends upon weather conditions primarily. It likewise depends upon the type of soil, the forest cover itself and other important factors. For instance, there is a greater risk in a pine region than there is in a hemlock and hardwood region. The normal fire season over this region opens about April 1st. The risk is light for the first fifteen days. Normally April showers cut down the risk from forest and cut-over land fires. With the approach of May, the risk rises and becomes most acute the second and third weeks of this month. The greening out of vegetation reduces the risk materially the latter part of May and through June, July and August the risk normally is light because of well distributed summer rains. However, it should be borne in mind that a very distinct summer fire risk may develop with any sort of a drought condition which not infrequently occurs. With the browning off of the vegetation in the fall the risk from fires rises sharply and the month of October is the month of greatest hazard. The warm days of Indian summer with frosty nights, browned off vegetation and strong warm mid-day winds create a situation of high hazard from all outdoor fires. All the highly destructive fires in the lake states, such as the Cloquet, Peshtigo, and others have occurred in October. The normal weather conditions of the state, therefore, indicate the hazard from outdoor fires in the spring and fall months. Of course, variations occur from season to season. For instance, the season of 1924 was relatively wet, and no material risk from fires all during the summer season developed. Again the prevalence of rains in the spring may reduce the fire risk to the vanishing point. It is evident that any program for the protection of forest and cut-over land from fire should align itself with these briefly explained land and weather conditions.

The Proposed Protection Plan

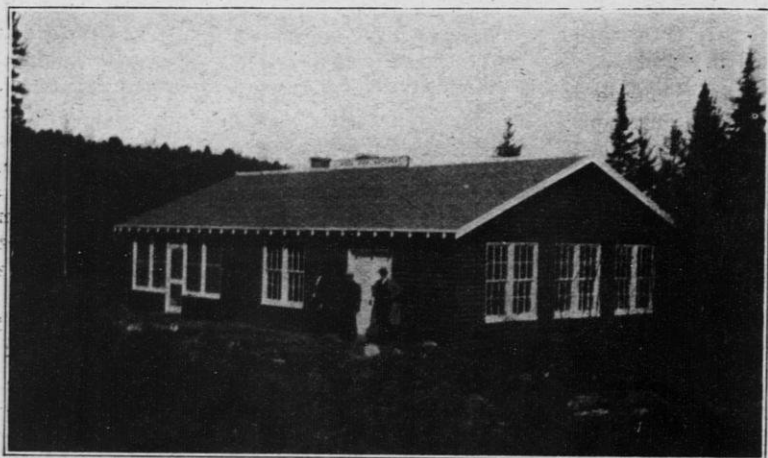
Approximately 14 million acres in Wisconsin are subject to a sufficient risk from uncontrolled fires to warrant protection. This area has been divided into eleven prospective forest protection districts, embracing from 1 million to 1¼ million acres each. Eight of these districts are established and organization work in them is proceeding. The state proposes to keep a year long man in each district to manage and carry on the protective activities during periods of ordinary risk. His salary and expenses will be paid by the state, but he will operate with the advice and assistance of a committee of the County Board in each county affected. To facilitate an early detection of fires, look-outs will be established on commanding points in each fire district and communication between them and with the district ranger's office will be provided by telephone. The state, with the assistance of the federal government, will supply, construct and own all primary fire detection and fire suppression equipment and take

care of and pay for the maintenance and functioning of the organization during periods of ordinary risk. The details, however, and all current information will be known to the County Board, representing, as they will, the local interest and responsibility in this undertaking. Of course, all available individual company, association or local public assistance will be welcomed. Part of the duties of each district forest ranger will be to organize all available local help. For instance, special additional measures for insuring better protection to the property of individuals or concerns will be encouraged but the main effort will be one of government of the state and the district forest ranger will enforce all laws relating to forest, field and marsh fires and take charge of the current functioning of the entire organization.

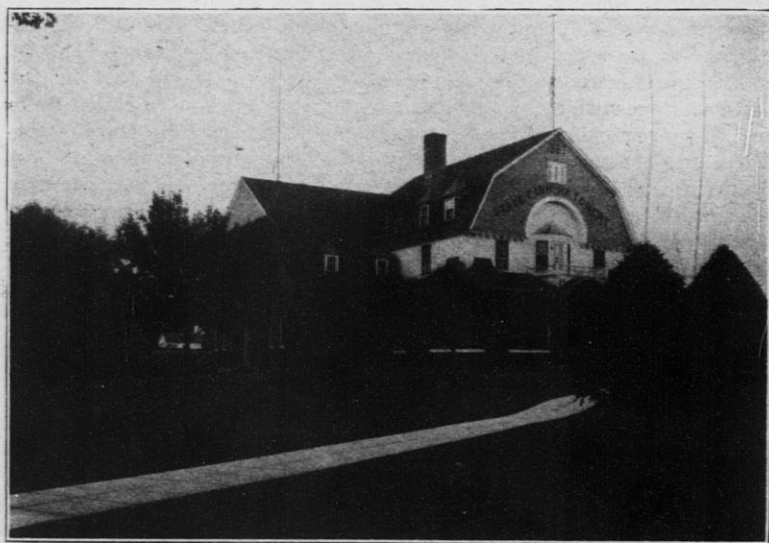
It is quite apparent, however, that during times of drought and emergency a special force of emergency fire wardens will be needed. The number of such men required will depend upon seasonal circumstances, and the field force of necessity must expand as the risk increases and shrink as the risk decreases. Each forest protection district will be in turn divided into patrol or special fire warden districts, and in each such area a special warden, he having received beforehand the recommendation of the town chairman or approval of the County Conservation Committee, will be deputized. He will be a man having a special interest in fire prevention and suppression, or peculiarly well located to be of service in the organization. An allotment of fire suppression tools will be issued to him and such supplies as he will need, and he will be ready to call out men to fight any fire that occurs. The Special fire warden, as well as any men he hires to fight fires, will be paid for the time actually served. He will act under orders from the district forest ranger and any expense incurred in the work of actual fire suppression will be paid one-half by the state and one-half by the county. The towns will not be called on to pay any fire fighting bills. As organization proceeds in the fire districts and the work is better understood, the actual number of fires occurring, as well as the acreage burned over, should decrease materially, resulting in a constantly lessening expense. The fire protection efforts will extend to all land outside of incorporated limits, whether cut-over or timbered, and irrespective of ownership, and of course the fire laws will apply to all persons and concerns in the district.

Forest Protection Districts

	<i>Counties</i>	<i>Headquarters</i>
Dist. 1—	Douglas and Bayfield -----	Brule
Dist. 2—	Washburn and Burnett -----	Webster
Dist. 3—	Vilas and Iron -----	Trout Lake
Dist. 4—	Forest and portion of Florence-----	Crandon
Dist. 5—	Marinette and portion of Florence--	Dunbar
Dist. 6—	Price and Ashland -----	Park Falls
Dist. 7—	Oneida and Lincoln -----	Rhineland
Dist. 8—	Sawyer and Rusk -----	Radisson
Dist. 9—	Oconto, Langlade and Shawano-----	White Lake
Dist. 10—	Wood, Juneau and Adams-----	Friendship
Dist. 11—	Jackson and Monroe -----	Tomah



The Brule River Trout Hatchery



The Bayfield Hatchery

Up to the present 39 lookout towers have been erected, about 400 miles of telephone line constructed and the fire districts are equipped with five one ton trucks, three runabouts, ten Evinrude fire pumps, 10,000 feet of hose, 150 four and five gallon fire extinguishers, 4,000 shovels and a small supply of axes, saws, pails, back firing torches and other hand tools used in fire suppression. In addition a complement of special fire wardens located in all parts of each organized fire district have been deputized as assistants to the district forest ranger. These deputies are appointed on recommendation of the respective town chairmen. The coming season each of these deputies will be issued tools for fire fighting sufficient to equip a crew of twelve men.

FISHERIES

The artificial propagation of fish as is practiced in this state has been going on in the world since long before the Christian Era. It is recorded that fish were artificially hatched and planted in China many thousands of years ago. The methods employed and success obtained has naturally improved as time has gone on. Today there are still vexing problems that fish culturists have to face and on account of the lack of scientific knowledge, many times disastrous losses occur. The fish culturist obtains fish culture knowledge from practical experience, and when trouble comes to his young fish he has to depend upon a few simple remedies to cure the trouble.

Fish culture work has been carried on in Wisconsin since 1873. Under Chap. 211 of the session laws of that year, the sum of five hundred dollars was appropriated to be expended under the direction of the U. S. Commissioner of Fisheries for the artificial propagation of fish for our lakes and streams. As near as can be estimated, twenty thousand salmon were hatched at a private hatching house located at Waterville in Waukesha County and planted in lakes around Madison and Lake Geneva.

The following year, under Chap. 253 of the session laws of 1874, there was appointed a Commission of Fisheries. The legislature appropriated three hundred and sixty dollars to carry on the fisheries work. Twelve other states named respectively as follows: Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Alabama, California and Michigan, had already been provided with fish commissioners.

The first appropriation asked for by the newly appointed commission was from eight to ten thousand dollars. From that small but well laid foundation one of the finest fish propagation organizations in the world has been developed.

The first hatchery in this state was established in the year 1875 and was located about five miles out of the city of Madison and was known for many years as the Nine Springs Hatchery. It is now

known as the Madison Hatchery and is still in operation. Millions of rainbow and brown trout eggs are collected each year from the fine stock of brood fish that are held in the ponds on the grounds.

From time to time in the past fifty years other hatcheries have been established as needs required and the money was available, until now the state is operating twenty-two fish hatcheries located in the following places: Madison, Bayfield, Wild Rose, Minocqua, Delafield, Oshkosh, St. Croix Falls, Sturgeon Bay, Sheboygan, Osceola, Lake-wood, Hayward, Westfield, Spooner, Eagle River, Tenney Park, Sparta, Eau Claire, Brule, Marinette, Haugen and Wisconsin Rapids. In these various hatcheries are hatched and distributed about one hundred and fifty million fish each year, the summary of which is given for each hatchery in this report.

The Osceola Hatchery, devoted to brook trout culture, was put in operation during the biennium. It is a well situated plant, and the quantity and quality of the water supply gives good assurance that it will be developed into one of the most productive hatcheries in the state. This hatchery is now operated on a rental basis and it is hoped that the coming legislature will see fit to appropriate sufficient money to purchase it.

Kinds of Fish

Nearly every kind of fresh water fish that are known as fine fish in Wisconsin are distributed by the Commission. In the twenty-two hatcheries brook, rainbow, brown and lake trout and whitefish are hatched for our cold water streams and Lake Superior, Green Bay and Lake Michigan; while bass, blue gills, pike, muskellunge, pickerel, white bass, perch, bullheads and many other kinds of pan fish belonging to the sunfish family are either hatched at the hatcheries or rescued from the overflowed lands of the Mississippi, Fox and Wisconsin rivers and planted in our inland lakes and rivers.

Muscallonge Culture

The artificial propagation of muscallonge was carried on in an experimental way during the past spring at the Minocqua Hatchery. The successful raising of two thousand musky fry to a nine inch size in five months warrants the development of the work as a regular part of the activities of the fish department.

Commercial Work

This state is the only one of the Great Lakes States that carries on a very extensive commercial fish propagation work. At least one-half of the fish work done at the Bayfield station is of the commercial kind as millions of fish are hatched there each year for planting in Lake Superior. We also receive for that station each year from the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries from one to two million lake trout that are hatched at their U. S. Duluth hatchery for planting in Wisconsin waters. The inland trout stream work is also well taken care of from that hatchery as millions of brook and brown trout eggs are taken every year from the stock of brood fish that are always

held there. The other commercial hatcheries are located at Sheboygan and Sturgeon Bay, each hatchery having a capacity of about sixteen million lake trout and fifty million whitefish eggs.

The Commission does not feel that any new kinds of fish need to be introduced into the waters of this state inasmuch as we have all of the finest varieties of the fresh water finny tribe native to our waters, but for the benefit of the commercial fisheries, experiment in the introduction of Pacific salmon for the waters of Lake Superior is being carried on at the Bayfield plant. Only two hundred thousand fish are planted each year, which is a very small amount for such a large body of water and in comparison to the millions of lake trout that are planted there each year. This experiment has been going on for about five years now, but only occasionally are the salmon caught by any of the fishermen.



Game Fish devoured by eight Lawyers. A sample of rough fish work done by the Commission in Lake Winnebago district waters.

Removal of Rough Fish

The legislature in 1925 appropriated ten thousand dollars for the removal of undesirable rough fish from the waters of the Lake Winnebago basin and fifteen thousand dollars for the same use in waters of the northern counties. This work of ridding these waters of rough fish has been efficiently carried on during the past year, and has resulted in clearing out of many tons of suckers, dogfish, eel pout and sheepshead. A small portion of these fish found a market from local residents and resulted in a small money return to the appropriations. These funds still contain money enough to prosecute the work during the coming year.

Distribution

The methods of rearing fish for distribution were entirely changed in the last five years. Until very recently it was almost universally acknowledged that the best way to get results from all kinds of fish planting was to hatch and plant them while they were quite small, or what is known as the fry stage. That method today is universally taboo. Insofar as it is possible, all fish are raised in the hatcheries now until they have learned to feed and grown to a size that makes it reasonably sure that a large percentage of them will come to maturity. This method has made it necessary to increase our fish car rolling stock; consequently the Northwestern Railway Company was requested this year to furnish the Commission with two baggage cars, which they very kindly did. These cars were equipped with living quarters for the crews and a pumping system to enable each can of fish to have a fresh supply of oxygen from the time they were taken from the cool, live flowing water in the hatchery until they were delivered to the applicant at the railway station near where they were to be planted. By the use of plenty of ice during the hottest weather, many thousands of cans of fish are delivered each year with comparatively small loss.

Rescued Fish

The fisheries work is not all confined to the work done in the fifteen hatcheries in the state as there are several places in the state where millions of fish are rescued from overflowed lands and planted in lakes and rivers where they have a good chance of growing to a catchable size to fish.



Lifting a Commercial Fishing Net

Carp Fishing

Some thirty-five or forty years ago the state officials were besieged with applications from all over the state for young carp for planting in our inland waters. It was thought at that time that they were a very fine food fish. The federal government furnished the first supply and as the demand became more urgent, Wisconsin made an effort to raise their own and these operations were carried on until most of our southern waters were fairly well stocked. The introduction of these fish was a great mistake as has been proven as the years have gone by and in order to keep down the population of this species to a point where they will not entirely drive out the fine fish, the Commissioner issued permits to commercial fishermen to take them out with seines only and their catches last year were valued at about \$117,784.00. They furnish food to a large number of people.

Wisconsin has thousands of lakes and about ten thousand miles of trout streams that have a fine fish population that make the state an ideal place for sportsmen.

GAME

Acting under petition from the majority of the counties in which deer are numerous, the legislature of 1925 enacted a law for the alternate opening and closing of the shooting season for deer. Accordingly during 1926 there was a continuous closed season, and reports from all parts of the state indicate a surprising increase in the number of deer. As the open season of 1926 approaches all indications point to a numerous deer population, and the season should be one of satisfaction to the hunters of the state. The closed season, together with the buck law, has again demonstrated its merits as a practical means of replenishing the supply of game.

During the biennium the supply of game birds has been a reasonable one. The nesting seasons have been fair for the birds, but extensive fires in the spring of 1925, especially over the pine plains, was destructive of many nests and birds. The supply of birds during the early and middle part of 1926 was not what it should be, and considerable discussion is now going on to restrict the shooting this coming fall. Of course, the open season is fixed by law, and the most practical measure left to protect the birds, especially the partridge, is to appeal to the hunters to refrain from shooting this coming season. It is quite apparent at this time that additional protection must in the near future be given to the partridge, and the alternate open and closed season should prove its merits for partridge as it has done for deer.

Beaver have rapidly multiplied in the state during the last few years. Repeated complaints of damage caused by them reached this office. Sooner or later some plan for their reduction must be deter-

mined upon, as the loss of timber through flooding, the disturbance to trout fishing and spawning, the interference with roads, land lookers, railroads, hay meadows, etc. caused by the high water from their dams undoubtedly exceeds their value as fur bearers. While the policy of extermination, actively advocated by some people, may be extreme, it is equally certain that a reduction in their numbers is advisable and it is hoped that legislation to affect such reduction will be enacted by the coming legislature.

Generally speaking the game supply in the state may be said to be fair to good. The activities of the wardens have lead to many arrests and convictions. Under the system of district wardens now in vogue the general supervision and cooperation among the field force has been improved. General tables of arrests and fines appear in the appendix.

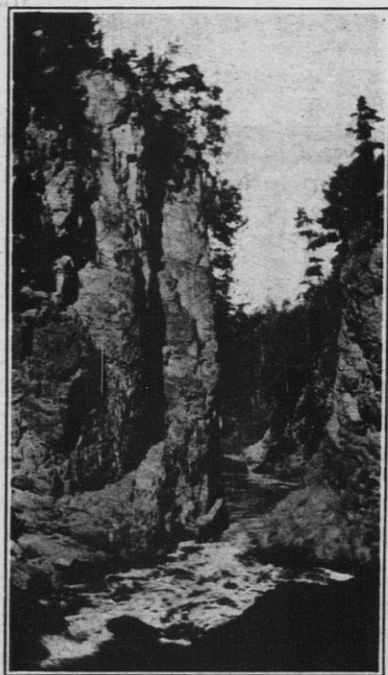
STATE PARKS

The eleven state parks, a list of which follows, were never in better condition to take care of the demands of the public than at the present time. During the past two years fairly extensive improvements in providing better sanitation and better drinking water supplies, as well as in the development of all other recreational facilities, have been made. This is particularly true at Devils Lake and in the Interstate, Peninsula, Pattison, and Nelson Dewey Parks. The legislative appropriation of \$50,000.00 annually for roads in and to state parks has enabled this commission to begin opening up and connecting these public areas with state trunk highways. Contracts are now let, for work in the Northern Forest Park and Nelson Dewey Park, and the road improvements at the Interstate and Peninsula Parks of the past season are completed. Altogether the work of this commission on the state parks during the past two years had added very materially to their public usefulness, and the patronage to these public areas is increasing from season to season. This patronage now numbers hundreds of thousands of visitors annually.

In addition to the present state parks it is becoming increasingly evident that sizeable areas of natural wilderness, embracing lakes, rivers, forests and wild life, are necessary in a well rounded state park program.

Wisconsin is well located and possesses the requisite advantages of climate and scenery, good roads and living accommodations to be the natural playground for the millions to the south of us. Our thousands of forested lakes and trout streams, the scenic and historic north and east shores washed by Lake Superior and Lake Michigan respectively, the bluffs of the Mississippi on our west, unexcelled hunting and fishing, a fall forest coloring unequalled anywhere, and a cool invigorating summer climate are some of the attractions

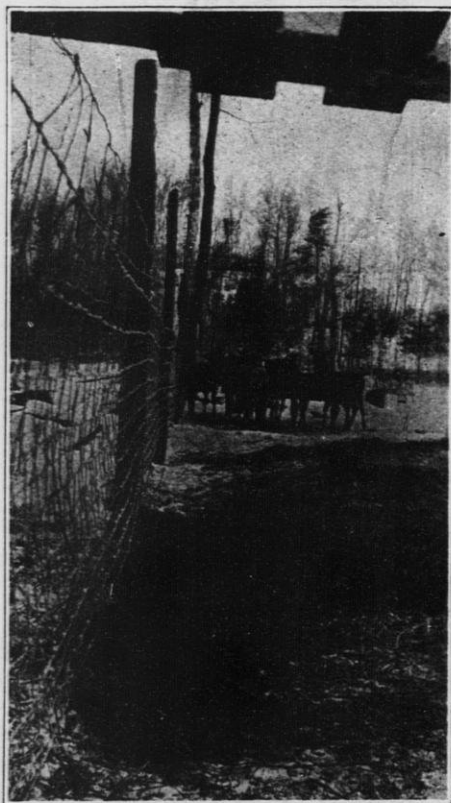
offered to the tourist, whether of our own or an adjoining state. But more than that there have been, and will continue to be, attractive public areas set aside at convenient places in the state, where these tourists may find good water, sanitary living conditions, and the rough comforts that one would expect on an outing. The tourist driving the Cadillac as well as the man driving a Ford will be provided for either at the regular hotels or resorts along the way or in his own tent, should he care to carry one. In this general plan the state parks will play an important part.



The Gorge at Copper Falls, Mellen—
Ashland County

It is the opinion of the Conservation Commission that only the most outstanding, the most unique or most historic areas in the state should be included in the state park system, and that these areas should be selected with the utmost care. Embracing so many attractive places for park purposes, it is obvious that the state cannot own and take care of them all. Therefore, it is felt that a series of county and township parks should eventually supplement the state park system, and that these areas should be owned and managed by local bodies. While they will primarily serve local needs they should nevertheless be public in their nature, so as to provide for the tourist and furnish him a spot where he knows he will be welcome.

<i>Name of Park</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Location</i>
Devils Lake -----	1,400 acres	Baraboo, Sauk County
Peninsula -----	4,000 acres	Fish Creek, Door County
Interstate -----	580 acres	St. Croix Falls, Polk County
Nelson-Dewey -----	1,500 acres	Wyalusing, Grant County
Pattison -----	660 acres	Superior, Douglas County
Perrot -----	910 acres	Trempealeau, Trempealeau Co.
Cushing -----	8 acres	Delafield, Waukesha County
Tower Hill -----	60 acres	Iowa County
Old Belmont (First State Capitol) -----	2 acres	Belmont, Lafayette County
Rib Hill -----	160 acres	Wausau, Marathon County
Brule -----	640 acres	Brule, Douglas County
Northern Forest -----	76,000 acres	Trout Lake Vilas County



A part of the Elk herd—State Game
Farm Northern Forest Park.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF STATE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Fiscal years of
July 1, 1924 to June 30, 1925
and
July 1, 1925 to June 30, 1926

July 1, 1924, to June 30, 1925

OPERATION

Appropriation	\$245,675.00	
Unexpended balance	14,266.95	
Refunds	61.68	
Total disbursements		\$251,930.12
Unexpended balance		8,073.51
	<u>\$260,003.63</u>	<u>\$260,003.63</u>

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Appropriation	\$21,725.00	
Unexpended balance	348.08	
Total disbursements		\$21,736.49
Unexpended balance		336.59
	<u>\$22,073.08</u>	<u>\$22,073.08</u>

PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS

Appropriation	\$24,950.00	
Unexpended balance	142.10	
Total disbursements		\$24,655.99
Unexpended balance		436.11
	<u>\$25,092.10</u>	<u>\$25,092.10</u>

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

Operation	\$251,930.12	
Repairs and maintenance	21,736.49	
Property and improvements	24,655.99	
		<u>\$298,322.60</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS

Administration	\$36,953.97	
Forestry	25,277.06	
Parks	20,178.11	
Fisheries	82,178.63	
Wardens	133,734.83	
		<u>\$298,322.60</u>

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ADMINISTRATION

Salaries	\$22,653.04	
Supplies	2,218.46	
Printing	3,605.64	
Postage	1,637.18	
Telephone and telegraph	808.79	
Express, freight and drayage	236.06	
State car expense	1,726.57	
Employees expenses	3,190.13	
Advertising	28.05	
Property	850.05	
		<u>\$36,953.97</u>

FORESTRY

Salaries and labor	\$8,824.61	
Supplies	3,659.24	
Employees expense	3,556.88	
Repairs	7,227.01	
Property and improvements	1,551.26	
Telephone	11.25	
Advertising	2.80	
Insurance	444.01	
		<u>\$25,277.06</u>

PARKS

Salaries and labor	\$9,856.05	
Supplies	1,812.00	
Repairs	4,106.30	
Property and improvements	3,400.14	
Employees expenses	200.69	
Telephone	41.88	
Advertising	9.11	
Insurance	751.94	
		<u>\$20,178.11</u>

PARKS

Peninsula	\$4,741.24	
Devil's Lake	9,236.10	
Interstate	1,197.60	
Nelson-Dewey	1,542.07	
Pattison	1,526.27	
Brule	175.79	
Belmont	25.00	
Tower Hill	1,734.04	
		<u>\$20,178.11</u>

WARDENS

Salaries	\$85,705.16	
Railroad fares	1,615.45	
Hotel expense	15,116.93	
Livery expense	259.50	
Auto mileage	11,418.12	
Other expense	2,916.20	
State car expense	7,814.17	
Auto supplies	833.59	
Gas and oil	459.43	
Provisions and supplies	926.93	
Telephone	396.38	
Boat repairs	430.86	
Repairs	30.22	
Property and improvements	5,521.27	
Express, freight and drayage	65.00	
Insurance	225.62	
		<u>\$133,734.83</u>

BIENNIAL REPORT

27

FISHERIES

Madison Hatchery	\$8,709.56	
Bayfield Hatchery	15,637.44	
Oshkosh Hatchery	298.59	
Minocqua Hatchery	3,105.61	
Delafield Hatchery	3,622.85	
Wild Rose Hatchery	6,584.52	
Sturgeon Bay Hatchery	3,620.68	
Sheboygan Hatchery	3,571.76	
Spooner Hatchery	503.82	
Eagle River Hatchery	777.99	
St. Croix Falls Hatchery	16,520.64	
Tenny Park Hatchery	122.50	
Westfield Hatchery	872.33	
Hayward Hatchery	1,502.02	
Lakewood Hatchery	1,706.18	
Distribution of fish	8,833.54	
State Fair Exhibit	302.84	
Collection of fish spawn	5,885.76	
		<u>\$82,178.63</u>

FISHERIES

Salaries and labor	\$31,065.70	
Fish food	7,900.92	
Supplies	8,214.79	
Repairs	10,372.96	
Property and improvements	13,333.27	
Telephone	453.35	
Employees expenses	6,885.36	
Drayage	1,274.87	
Fish eggs	1,316.50	
Insurance	1,260.87	
		<u>\$82,178.63</u>

FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (WEEKS LAW)

Balance July 1, 1924	\$6,444.73	
Reimbursement by U. S. Government	12,132.93	
Refunds	527.68	
Disbursements		\$19,002.53
Unexpended balance		102.81
	<u>\$19,105.34</u>	<u>\$19,105.34</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—WEEKS LAW

Salaries and labor	\$13,436.97	
Supplies	2,630.04	
Automobiles	864.60	
Advertising	39.05	
Printing	104.51	
Employees expenses	1,927.36	
		<u>\$19,002.53</u>

FOREST NURSERY

Unexpended balance	\$3,469.39	
Appropriation	4,000.00	
Refund	17.50	
Disbursements		\$5,625.29
Unexpended balance		1,861.60
	<u>\$7,486.89</u>	<u>\$7,486.89</u>

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—FOREST NURSERY

Salaries and labor	\$2,447.74	
Printing	29.67	
Supplies	2,732.99	
Employees expenses	414.89	
		<u>\$5,625.29</u>

TWO NEW FISH HATCHERIES

*Lakewood & Hayward

Unexpended balance	\$4,765.47	
Disbursements		\$4,718.16
Unexpended balance		47.31
	<u>\$4,765.47</u>	<u>\$4,765.47</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—NEW HATCHERIES

Lakewood

Salaries and labor	\$1,008.50	
Supplies	1,300.98	
Employees expenses	70.60	
		<u>\$2,380.08</u>

Hayward

Salaries and labor	\$692.25	
Supplies	1,478.08	
Employees expenses	155.75	
Drayage	12.00	
		<u>\$2,338.08</u>

GOVERNMENT REFORESTATION FUND

Unexpended balance	\$2,753.25	
Receipts for year	2,747.50	
Disbursements		\$1,382.81
Unexpended balance		4,117.94
	<u>\$5,500.75</u>	<u>\$5,500.75</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—REFORESTATION

Salaries and labor	\$781.50	
Supplies	601.31	
		<u>\$1,382.81</u>

PARK ROADS FUND

Unexpended balance	\$24,154.72	
Appropriation	35,000.00	
Disbursements		\$24,603.61
Unexpended balance		34,551.21
	<u>\$59,154.72</u>	<u>\$59,154.72</u>

BIENNIAL REPORT

29

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—PARK ROADS

Salaries and labor.....	\$18,384.65	
Supplies	6,071.86	
Employees expenses	147.00	
	<u> </u>	<u>\$24,603.51</u>

DEVIL'S LAKE BOAT FUND

Unexpended balance	\$753.48	
Receipts for the year.....	1,458.25	
Disbursements		\$919.37
Unexpended balance		1,292.36
	<u>\$2,211.73</u>	<u>\$2,211.73</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—BOAT FUND

Salaries and labor	\$479.25	
Supplies	440.12	
	<u> </u>	<u>\$919.37</u>

PARK PURCHASE FUND

Unexpended balance	\$21,286.50	
Receipts for the year.....	6,559.37	
Disbursements		\$27,845.87
Unexpended balance		
	<u>\$27,845.87</u>	<u>\$27,845.87</u>

FURS ERRONEOUSLY TAKEN FROM A. L. DOMINITZ

Chapter 185—Laws of 1925

Appropriation	\$47.75	
Disbursement		\$47.75
	<u>\$47.75</u>	<u>\$47.75</u>

FIRE LOSS—AUTO

Insurance	\$57.21	
Disbursements		\$57.21
	<u>\$57.21</u>	<u>\$57.21</u>

FIRE LOSS—TOMAHAWK LAKE CABIN

Insurance	\$3,150.00	
Disbursements		\$3,150.00
Unexpended balance		
	<u>\$3,150.00</u>	<u>\$3,150.00</u>

CONSERVATION FUND

Balance in fund July 1, 1924.....	\$313,468.96	
Refunds of disbursements	61.68	
Receipts for year	481,513.89	
Refunds of receipts.....		\$1,074.10
Disbursements		303,145.72
Unexpended balance June 30, 1925.....		490,824.71
	<u>\$795,044.53</u>	<u>\$795,044.53</u>

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

ARRESTS

Number	Warden fees	Fines imposed
605	\$991.96	\$26,485.00

CONFISCATIONS

Number	Sold for
318	\$3,623.11

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM JULY 1, 1924 TO JUNE 30, 1925

Nonresident fishing licenses	\$156,869.80
Great Lakes fishing licenses	5,949.75
Mississippi River fishing licenses	3,301.00
Fish Dealer's licenses	1,200.00
Rough fish	53,895.03
Resident hunting licenses	158,771.80
Nonresident hunting licenses	19,300.00
Duplicate licenses	288.00
Settler's hunting licenses	227.00
Confiscations	3,623.11
Warden fees	991.96
Trapping licenses	19,729.40
Set line licenses	1,403.50
Guide licenses	554.00
Deer tags	25,106.60
Trap tags	21,994.60
Clamming licenses	965.00
Park leases and concessions	6,559.37
Island leases and nursery stock	2,747.50
Miscellaneous	7,422.52
Devils Lake boat receipts	1,458.25
Fire control (Weeks Law)	12,660.61
Insurance receipt	3,150.00
	<u>\$508,168.80</u>

July 1, 1925 to June 30, 1926

OPERATION

Appropriation	\$245,675.00	
Unexpended balance	8,073.43	
Refunds	569.00	
One half rough fish receipts	23,556.88	
Total disbursements		\$249,973.06
Unexpended balance		<u>27,901.25</u>
	<u>\$277,874.31</u>	<u>\$277,874.31</u>

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Appropriation	\$32,300.00	
Unexpended balance	336.59	
Total disbursements		\$31,959.76
Unexpended balance		<u>676.83</u>
	<u>\$32,636.59</u>	<u>\$32,636.59</u>

PROPERTY AND IMPROVEMENTS

Appropriation	\$39,250.00	
Unexpended balance	436.11	
Refunds	132.14	
Total disbursements		\$39,173.65
Unexpended balance		<u>644.60</u>
	<u>\$39,818.25</u>	<u>\$39,818.25</u>

BIENNIAL REPORT

31

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

Operation	\$249,973.06	
Repairs and maintenance	31,959.76	
Property and improvements.....	39,173.65	
		<u>\$321,106.47</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS

Administration	\$41,763.62	
Forestry	14,823.07	
Parks	23,256.64	
Fisheries	103,630.48	
Wardens	137,632.66	
		<u>\$321,106.47</u>

ADMINISTRATION

Salaries	\$23,241.64	
Supplies	1,602.04	
Printing	7,101.71	
Postage	2,151.44	
Telephone and telegraph	715.53	
Express, freight and drayage.....	205.77	
State car expense	1,626.22	
Employees expenses	3,164.33	
Advertising	23.25	
Property	1,924.22	
Insurance	7.47	
		<u>\$41,763.62</u>

FORESTRY

Salaries and labor	\$4,372.12	
Supplies	1,534.57	
Employees expenses	1,843.22	
Repairs	2,775.83	
Property and improvements	4,295.06	
Insurance	2.27	
		<u>\$14,823.07</u>

PARKS

Salaries and labor	\$5,766.20	
Supplies	3,100.83	
Repairs	7,090.24	
Property and improvements.....	5,235.09	
Employees expenses	599.16	
Telephone	74.94	
Printing	151.41	
Insurance	1,238.77	
		<u>\$23,256.64</u>

PARKS

Peninsula	\$4,303.13	
Devils Lake	7,362.65	
Northern Forest	4,853.09	
Interstate	3,255.55	
Nelson-Dewey	1,518.81	
Pattison	1,281.16	
Brule	6.48	
Belmont	73.20	
Tower Hill	419.33	
Cushing Memorial	183.24	
		<u>\$23,256.64</u>

WARDENS

Salaries	\$84,103.36	
Railroad fares	1,811.66	
Hotel	17,194.24	
Livery expense	327.83	
Auto mileage	9,972.26	
Other expense	2,879.02	
State car expense	10,394.34	
Auto supplies	2,356.97	
Gas and oil	917.66	
Provisions and supplies	2,037.52	
Telephone	461.84	
Repairs	215.27	
Property and improvements	3,495.48	
Insurance	325.21	
		<u>\$137,632.66</u>

FISHERIES

Madison Hatchery	\$10,550.52	
Bayfield Hatchery	11,917.10	
Oshkosh Hatchery	79.36	
Minocqua Hatchery	3,002.44	
Delafield Hatchery	3,261.31	
Wild Rose Hatchery	8,307.64	
Sturgeon Bay Hatchery	7,497.77	
Sheboygan Hatchery	4,213.66	
Spooner Hatchery	101.67	
Eagle River Hatchery	72.14	
St. Croix Falls Hatchery	17,135.85	
Tenny Park Hatchery	28.01	
Osceola Hatchery	11,652.35	
Hayward Hatchery	3,947.68	
Lakewood Hatchery	2,323.07	
Westfield Hatchery	1,535.00	
Distribution of fish	8,754.52	
State Fair exhibit	168.36	
Collection of fish spawn	9,082.03	
		<u>\$103,630.48</u>

FISHERIES

Salaries and labor	\$26,900.12	
Fish food	10,014.75	
Supplies	11,920.37	
Repairs	21,784.98	
Property and improvements	24,080.37	
Telephone	586.01	
Employees expenses	5,630.39	
Drayage	1,470.76	
Insurance	1,242.73	
		<u>\$103,630.49</u>

EMERGENCY FIRE WARDENS

Total disbursements	\$4,828.38	
	<u>\$4,828.38</u>	

BOUNTIES

Total disbursements	\$67,437.00	
	<u>\$67,437.00</u>	

BIENNIAL REPORT

33

FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL (WEEKS LAW)

Balance July 1, 1925.....	\$102.81	
Reimbursement by U. S. Government.....	29,278.79	
Refunds	137.35	
Disbursements		\$22,634.74
Unexpended balance		6,884.21
	<u>\$29,518.95</u>	<u>\$29,518.95</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—WEEKS LAW

Salaries and labor	\$17,712.68	
Supplies	2,868.64	
Employees expenses	1,747.79	
Printing	305.63	
	<u>\$22,634.74</u>	<u>\$22,634.74</u>

PARK PURCHASE FUND

Unexpended balance	\$27,845.87	
Receipts for year	5,107.20	
Transferred to Land Exchange Fund.....		\$25,000.00
Disbursements		4,130.00
Transferred to Park Sanitation.....		1,800.00
Unexpended balance		2,023.07
	<u>\$32,953.07</u>	<u>\$32,953.07</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—PARK PURCHASE FUND

Supplies	\$4,130.00	
	<u>\$4,130.00</u>	<u>\$4,130.00</u>

SANITATION—INTERSTATE PARK

Transferred from Park Purchase Fund.....	\$1,800.00	
Disbursements		\$286.15
Unexpended balance		1,513.85
	<u>\$1,800.00</u>	<u>\$1,800.00</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—SANITATION

Salaries and labor	\$286.15	
	<u>\$286.15</u>	<u>\$286.15</u>

LAND EXCHANGE FUND

Transferred from Park Purchase Fund.....	\$25,000.00	
Disbursements		\$25,000.00
Unexpended balance		
	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>

FIRE PROTECTION

Appropriation	\$25,000.00	
Disbursements		\$24,978.07
Unexpended balance		21.93
	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—FIRE PROTECTION

Salaries and labor	\$10,933.09	
Supplies	10,822.99	
Employees expenses	3,221.99	
		<u>\$24,978.07</u>

DEVILS LAKE BOAT FUND

Unexpended balance	\$1,292.36	
Receipts for year	1,599.30	
Disbursements		\$761.30
Unexpended balance		2,130.36
	<u>\$2,891.66</u>	<u>\$2,891.66</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—BOAT FUND

Salaries and labor	\$523.35	
Supplies	232.95	
		<u>\$761.30</u>

FIRES ON STATE LANDS—NORTH OF TOWN NO. 33

Disbursements—labor	\$1,793.37	
		<u>\$1,793.37</u>

REMOVAL OF ROUGH FISH—NORTHERN WATERS

Appropriation	\$15,000.00	
Disbursements		\$5,879.84
Unexpended balance		9,120.16
	<u>\$15,000.00</u>	<u>\$15,000.00</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—R. F. NORTHERN WATERS

Salaries and labor	\$2,529.54	
Supplies	3,108.23	
Employees expenses	233.67	
Drayage	8.00	
		<u>\$5,879.84</u>

FOREST NURSERY

Appropriation	\$4,000.00	
Unexpended balance	1,861.60	
Disbursements		\$3,446.39
Unexpended balance		2,415.21
	<u>\$5,861.60</u>	<u>\$5,861.60</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—FOREST NURSERY

Salaries and labor	\$1,670.39	
Supplies	1,344.29	
Employees expenses	422.05	
Printing	9.66	
		<u>\$3,446.39</u>

REMOVAL OF ROUGH FISH—WINNEBAGO WATERS

Appropriation	\$10,000.00	
Rough fish receipts	222.35	
Disbursements		\$8,550.83
Unexpended balance		1,671.52
	<u>\$10,222.35</u>	<u>\$10,222.35</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—R. F. WINNEBAGO WATERS

Salaries and labor	\$4,848.00	
Supplies	2,933.03	
Employees expenses	684.30	
Drayage	85.50	
		<u>\$8,550.83</u>

MISSISSIPPI RIVER FISH RESCUE WORK

One half rough fish receipts	\$23,556.87	
Disbursements		\$18,532.49
Unexpended balance		5,024.38
	<u>\$23,556.87</u>	<u>\$23,556.87</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—FISH RESCUE WORK

Salaries and labor	\$7,153.60	
Supplies	9,447.66	
Employees expenses	1,731.38	
Drayage	169.00	
Telephone	30.85	
		<u>\$18,532.49</u>

POLLUTION OF STREAMS

Appropriation	\$10,000.00	
Disbursements		\$5,492.19
Unexpended balance		4,507.81
	<u>\$10,000.00</u>	<u>\$10,000.00</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—STREAM POLLUTION WORK

Salaries	\$3,917.18	
Employees expenses	1,544.64	
Supplies	30.37	
		<u>\$5,492.19</u>

PARK ROADS

Unexpended balance	\$34,551.21	
Appropriation	50,000.00	
Disbursements		\$21,651.93
Unexpended balance		62,899.28
	<u>\$84,551.21</u>	<u>\$84,551.21</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—PARK ROADS

Salaries and labor	\$13,308.22	
Supplies	8,191.00	
Employees expenses	152.71	
		<u>\$21,651.93</u>

WISCONSIN CONSERVATION COMMISSION

GOVERNMENT REFORESTATION FUND

Unexpended balance	\$4,117.94	
Receipts for year	3,503.31	
Refunds		\$23.00
Disbursements		3,476.96
Unexpended balance		4,121.29
	<u>\$7,621.25</u>	<u>\$7,621.25</u>

CLASSIFICATION OF DISBURSEMENTS—GOV'T REFORESTATION

Salaries and labor	\$1,407.25	
Supplies	1,849.00	
Employees expenses	220.71	
	<u></u>	<u>\$3,476.96</u>

FIRE LOSS

Building Minocqua Hatchery

Insurance	\$51.21	
Disbursements		\$51.21
	<u>\$51.21</u>	<u>\$51.21</u>

FIRE LOSS

Tomahawk Lake Cabin

Unexpended balance	\$3,150.00	
Disbursements		
Unexpended balance		\$3,150.00
	<u>\$3,150.00</u>	<u>\$3,150.00</u>

FIRE LOSS

Fish Car "Badger"

Insurance	\$300.00	
Disbursements		\$300.00
	<u>\$300.00</u>	<u>\$300.00</u>

FIRE LOSS

Vilas County House

Insurance	\$180.00	
Disbursements		
Unexpended balance		\$180.00
	<u>\$180.00</u>	<u>\$180.00</u>

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FROM CONSERVATION FUND
ADDITIONAL LAND FOR HATCHERY

Appropriation 5/11/26	\$5,900.00	
Disbursements		
Unexpended balance		\$5,900.00
	<u>\$5,900.00</u>	<u>\$5,900.00</u>

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FROM CONSERVATION FUND
EQUIPPING ADDITIONAL FIRE DISTRICTS

Appropriation 5/26/26	\$40,000.00	
Disbursements		
Unexpended balance		\$40,000.00
	<u>\$40,000.00</u>	<u>\$40,000.00</u>

BIENNIAL REPORT

37

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FROM CONSERVATION FUND MISSISSIPPI RIVER FISH HATCHERY SITES

Appropriation 5/26/26	\$20,000.00	
Disbursements		\$20,000.00
Unexpended balance		
	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	<u>\$20,000.00</u>

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION FROM CONSERVATION FUND ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION WARDENS

Appropriation 5/26/26	\$25,000.00	
Disbursements		\$25,000.00
Unexpended balance		
	<u>\$25,000.00</u>	<u>\$25,000.00</u>

CONSERVATION FUND

Balance in fund July 1, 1925.....	\$490,824.71	
Transferred from Park Purchase Fund.....	27,845.87	
Transferred from Weeks Law Fund.....	102.81	
Transferred from Boat Fund	1,292.36	
Transferred from Forest Nursery Fund.....	1,861.60	
Refunds of disbursements	701.14	
Receipts	492,519.87	
Refunds of receipts		\$2,451.48
Bounties		67,437.00
Disbursements		422,771.43
Unexpended balance June 30, 1926.....		522,488.45
	<u>\$1,015,148.36</u>	<u>\$1,015,148.36</u>

ARRESTS

Number	Warden fees	Fines imposed
1049	\$1,588.40	\$45,500.00

CONFISCATIONS

Number	Sold for
561	\$7,727.73

TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM JULY 1, 1925, TO JUNE 30, 1926

Nonresident fishing licenses	\$161,873.70
Great Lakes fishing licenses.....	7,502.75
Mississippi River fishing licenses.....	3,212.25
Fish shipping coupons	6,414.00
Rough fish	47,113.75
Resident hunting licenses	148,596.75
Nonresident hunting licenses	9,900.00
Duplicate licenses	179.50
Settler's hunting licenses	128.00
Confiscations	7,727.73
Warden fees	1,588.40
Trapping licenses	18,043.50
Set line licenses	1,564.55
Guide licenses	449.00
Deer tags	927.40
Trap tags	17,181.30
Fish dealer's licenses	1,150.00
Clamming licenses	975.00
Park leases and concessions.....	5,107.20
Island leases and nursery stock.....	3,503.31
Miscellaneous	21,520.69
Decoy bands	1,017.10
Fire control (Weeks Law)	29,416.14
Devils Lake Boat receipts.....	1,599.30
	<u>\$496,691.32</u>

MEMORANDUM IN CONNECTION WITH STATE TIMBER INVENTORY

The state timber inventory printed herewith was arrived at as follows:

Several men in the employ of the Conservation Commission who were familiar with general forest conditions of the state consulted with lumbermen, cruisers, assessors and others having a firsthand knowledge of timber conditions in the respective counties and made an effort to systematically cover each township by forty acre tracts, if possible, or at least by sections. These estimates were subsequently checked up, as far as possible, from office records of companies or individuals interviewed. The estimates were then summarized by townships, and blue prints of the respective species and amounts made for each township.

There was added to these township figures a general raise in the estimates of from 5 to 50%, depending upon conditions, to take care of the many small bunches of timber scattered here and there in each county that could not be otherwise satisfactorily accounted for, and to make corrections for the general tendency to overestimate in the preparation of such an inventory, these township figures were then referred to from two to five men familiar with timber conditions in each county and this review constituted the basis of final county figures.

It was found that many of the preliminary estimates had been low. In round numbers the first figures summarized by townships showed about nine billion feet of merchantable timber. The corrected figures based on the general raise and interview of township figures showed about 12½ billion feet, and it will be seen from the final inventory sheet, after accounting for the saw-mill overrun, that there is at least sufficient saw-log material in the state to produce 15½ billion feet of lumber, as of January 1, 1923.

In addition to the saw-log supplies, there were indicated on the reports received large quantities of forest supplies in the form of pulp wood, poles, ties, etc., and these figures are itemized in the summary. The estimates on pulp wood, given in cords, include principally jack pine, spruce and poplar, although they undoubtedly include a considerable quantity of hemlock also, but most of the hemlock is accounted for in the board foot column, although it is readily understood that a great quantity of this hemlock will really be utilized in pulp and paper mills, and to obtain a correct understanding of the available pulp wood supplies of the state, suitable conversion figures must be applied.

These tables include only those counties having a merchantable stand of 30 million board feet or more per county. There are considerable quantities of forest products in the remaining forty-six counties mostly on farm wood lots which will provide great quantities

ESTIMATE OF STANDING TIMBER IN WISCONSIN, JANUARY 1, 1923 ALL COUNTIES IN STATE CONTAINING 30,000,000 FEET B. M. OR MORE ARE LISTED

SAW TIMBER IN M. FT. B. M.

SAW TIMBER IN M. FT. B. M.																		Cords		Total Area in Acres	Approximate Acres in Timber	Average stand Per Acre
County	Pine	Hemlock	Spruce	Cedar	Tamarack	Balsam	Birch	Maple	Basswood	Elm	Poplar	Oak	Beech	Ash	Mixed Hardwood	Total	% per County	Pulpwood	Fuelwood			
Ashland	14,976	412,951	6,579	16,475	15,085	3,378	160,286	71,111	33,996	25,798	xx	xx	—	5,137	1,500	767,272	6.15	xxx	1,250,000	692,480	109,610	7,000
Barron	14,700	—	—	—	—	—	120	15,009	20,405	11,980	xx	9,390	—	xx	xx	71,604	.57	40,000	1,250,000	566,400	14,320	5,000
Bayfield	200,024	117,650	400	150	xx	625	7,500	6,000	4,000	xx	xx	xx	—	xx	154,380	490,529	3.9	180,610	3,500,000	961,920	49,000	10,000
Burnett	8,050	—	x	x	700	xx	—	xx	xx	xx	xx	x	—	xx	33,000	41,750	.33	606,400	500,000	550,400	13,900	3,000
Clark	xx	x	—	—	—	xx	2,800	14,000	7,000	7,000	xx	2,000	—	xx	2,000	34,800	.28	xx	2,300,000	779,520	8,700	4,000
Douglas	20,201	5,000	173	325	715	1,980	16,692	7,815	3,360	4,140	720	24	—	2,000	26,040	89,185	.71	213,400	447,500	855,680	17,830	5,000
Florence	2,000	127,022	5,400	xx	500	xx	70,712	187,605	57,035	56,485	xx	xx	—	xx	xxx	506,759	4.06	xxx	1,000,000	318,080	63,345	8,000
Forest	33,823	473,107	14,397	9,662	51,260	8,312	339,632	513,917	319,992	388,086	xx	xx	—	xx	Fuel	2,152,188	17.27	xxx	3,250,000	650,880	269,023	8,000
Iron	37,000	1,073,000	18,500	37,000	55,500	18,500	370,000	74,000	55,000	74,000	xx	xx	—	37,000	11,430	1,860,930	14.9	xxx	2,000,000	506,880	177,063	7,000
Langlade	10,220	445,423	2,389	8,856	4,847	xx	62,159	173,420	50,312	40,706	xx	2,491	x	9,086	xxx	809,909	6.5	xxx	1,680,000	580,000	101,237	8,000
Lincoln	22,795	729,984	1,940	3,420	10,300	3,889	214,026	33,246	35,623	17,627	xx	xx	—	xx	8,044	1,020,894	8.74	xxx	750,000	577,280	154,411	7,000
Marathon	5,000	25,000	xx	x	x	xx	25,000	20,000	12,000	10,000	xx	xx	—	xx	5,000	102,000	.91	xx	2,000,000	994,550	20,400	5,000
Marinette	78,898	62,496	216	2,700	1,553	20	10,617	90,547	7,347	6,292	xx	2,421	1,481	402	xx	264,990	2.12	217,075	2,190,350	905,600	37,853	7,000
Oconto	43,995	152,993	193	2,909	4,019	xx	30,595	30,985	7,023	5,936	42	4,537	4,650	1,573	xx	289,450	2.32	84,047	1,430,000	715,520	41,350	7,000
Oneida	39,050	84,784	4,180	756	2,484	144	40,952	30,875	7,498	395	xx	329	—	440	xx	211,887	1.7	xxx	1,500,000	757,120	30,800	7,000
Polk	7,920	—	x	—	—	xx	x	20,410	29,640	11,766	480	3,250	—	xx	13,500	86,966	.68	52,700	750,000	598,400	17,393	5,000
Price	6,785	199,734	23,655	4,230	3,333	2,640	55,698	39,314	28,850	258	xx	xx	—	703	1,860	367,063	2.94	xxx	2,400,000	818,550	61,177	6,000
Richland	xx	x	—	—	—	—	x	21,587	20,460	xx	xx	29,056	—	xx	Fuel	71,113	.57	xx	1,596,000	377,600	14,223	5,000
Rusk	12,755	113,789	696	xx	2,714	881	40,419	4,852	17,267	19,089	xx	1,512	—	5,126	xx	219,100	1.75	xxx	1,184,000	592,000	36,516	6,000
Sawyer	28,462	521,400	4,050	2,288	2,314	640	155,610	45,100	77,750	43,120	xx	15,750	—	925	xxx	897,429	7.2	1,500,000	3,000,000	844,800	128,204	7,000
Shawano	133,427	592,007	328	4,364	5,369	198	72,212	423,204	72,944	58,034	xx	7,641	6,504	6,139	xxx	1,382,371	11.09	450,206	2,941,400	741,120	173,196	8,000
Taylor	4,996	71,281	304	xx	8,410	448	18,417	2,139	8,108	11,120	xx	1,720	—	2,826	217	129,986	1.04	xxx	1,000,000	634,240	18,570	7,000
Vernon	—	—	—	—	—	—	xx	15,000	12,000	xx	xx	3,000	—	xx	—	30,000	.24	xx	2,000,000	525,440	7,500	4,000
Vilas	50,730	183,552	2,045	1,156	8,500	3,972	84,968	81,340	20,260	444	—	625	—	1,080	—	428,672	3.44	xxx	1,200,000	597,760	61,238	7,000
Washburn	33,550	x	x	x	—	xx	x	x	x	xx	xx	xx	—	xx	40,320	73,870	.59	290,280	500,000	534,400	18,470	4,000
Total	809,357	5,391,173	85,445	94,291	177,603	45,627	1,778,415	1,921,476	897,870	792,276	1,242	83,756	12,635	72,460	297,291	12,460,917	100.00	3,634,718	41,619,250	15,655,640	1,545,640	
Correction figure #	995,509	6,631,142	105,097	115,977	218,451	56,121	2,187,450	2,363,415	1,104,380	974,499	1,527	103,019	15,541	89,125	365,667	15,326,920						
% by specie	6.49	43.26	.69	.76	1.43	.37	14.27	15.42	7.21	6.36	.01	.67	.10	.58	2.38							

Average sawmill overrun for Wisconsin mills is 23% which is basis for this overrun figure.
 —None xVery scattering. xxScattering. xxxConsiderable.
 Information collected indicates in addition to above supplies, at least 2,000,000 cords of mixed bolts; 3,000,000 cedar poles; 20,000,000 cedar posts; 15,000,000 mixed ties.

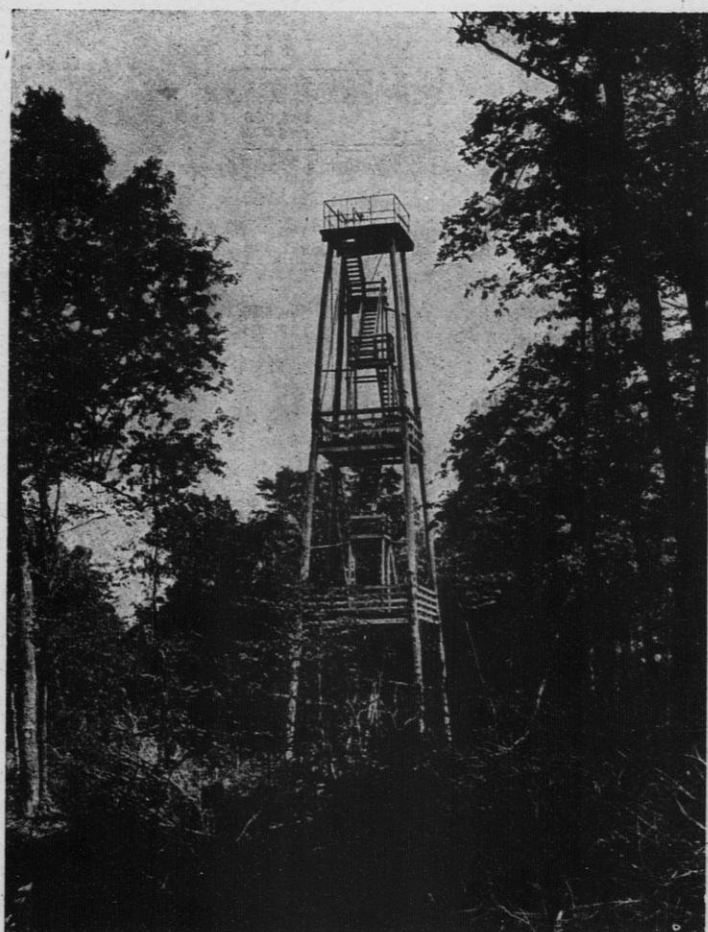
Compiled by Wisconsin Conservation Commission

of fuel wood, short bolt material for various uses and even considerable quantities of saw-logs, but these supplies are for the most part chiefly of local rather than general importance.

The twenty-five counties listed contain primarily the commercial timber supplies of the state.

It is felt that this inventory is sufficiently comprehensive and complete to furnish a sound basis for any calculations relating to the forest problem in the state. The figures on saw-log timber are particularly representative of the real situation.

The Commission made an earnest effort to show all there really was in the way of timber supplies and try particularly not to err on the side of an over-estimate.



The Lookout at the Peninsula State Park

DISTRIBUTION BY HATCHERIES, 1925

		Total Variety from each Hatchery	Total Number from each Hatchery
Madison Hatchery			
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	156,000		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 1..	300,000		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 3..	4,800	304,800	
Wall-eyed pike fry	14,480,000		14,940,800
Bayfield Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,512,900		
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	615,000	2,127,900	
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,496,400		
Silver trout fry.....	795,000		
Silver trout fingerling No. 2.....	117,500	912,500	
Lake trout fry	6,853,700		
Salmon fry	270,000		
Miscellaneous	5,928		11,666,428
Wild Rose Hatchery			
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	108,000		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 1..	865,000		973,000
St. Croix Falls Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 4.....	1,717,900		
Brown trout fingerling No. 4.....	318,500		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 2..	106,000		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 3..	107,800	213,800	2,250,200
Westfield Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	290,500		
Brown trout fingerling No. 2.....	196,800		487,300
Lakewood Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....			280,800
Hayward Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....			382,000
Minocqua Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry.....	42,274,000		
Black bass fry.....	348,000		
Muskellunge	270,000		42,892,000
Delafield Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry.....	10,962,000		
Black bass fingerling No. 1.....	411,000		
Sunfish and roach	240,000		11,613,000
Eagle River Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry.....			38,376,000
Spooner Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry.....			21,480,000
Sturgeon Bay Hatchery			
Lake trout fry			8,942,000
Sheboygan Hatchery			
Lake trout fry.....	5,632,000		
White fish fry	5,200,000		
Cisco fry	2,300,000		13,132,000
Gills Landing			
Black bass fingerling No. 2.....			87,000

	Total Variety from each Hatchery	Total Number from each Hatchery
Mississippi River		
Miscellaneous fish distributed....	135,750	
Miscell'n'ous fish returned to river	3,500,000	
Miscellaneous bull heads No. 3...	21,200	
		3,656,950
Neenah		
Perch and white bass.....		3,938,000

DISTRIBUTION OF FISH BY SPECIES, 1925

Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,512,900	
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	1,568,300	
Brook trout fingerling No. 4.....	1,717,900	
		4,799,100
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,760,400	
Brown trout fingerling No. 2.....	196,800	
Brown trout fingerling No. 4.....	318,500	
		2,275,700
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,165,000	
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 2.....	106,000	
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 3.....	112,600	
		1,383,600
Wall-eyed pike		127,572,000
Black bass fry	348,000	
Black bass fingerling No. 1.....	411,000	
Black bass fingerling No. 2.....	87,000	
		846,000
Muskellunge		270,000
Lake trout fry.....		21,427,700
Silver trout fry	795,000	
Silver trout fingerling No. 2.....	117,500	
		912,500
White fish fry.....		5,200,000
Salmon fry		270,000
Cisco fry		2,300,000
Sunfish and roach.....		240,000
Perch and white bass.....		3,938,000
Miscellaneous		3,641,678
Miscellaneous bull heads No. 3.....		21,200
		175,097,478

DISTRIBUTION BY HATCHERIES, 1926

		Total Variety from each Hatchery	Total Number From each Hatchery
Madison Hatchery			
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	342,500		
Miscellaneous	120		
			342,620
Bayfield Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....	289,800		
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	1,407,600	1,697,400	
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	844,800		
Brown trout fingerling No. 2.....	344,000	1,188,800	
Lake trout fry	3,561,355		
Salmon fry	285,000		
			6,732,555
Wild Rose Hatchery			
Brown trout fingerling No. 1....	232,800		
Brown trout fingerling No. 2.....	244,000	476,800	
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 1..	168,000		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 2..	287,000		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 3..	46,400	501,400	
			978,200
St. Croix Falls Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,191,600		
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	1,693,125		
Brook trout fingerling No. 3.....	737,200		
Brook trout fingerling No. 4.....	603,800	4,225,725	
Brown trout fingerling No. 2.....	179,200		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 1..	97,500		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 2..	9,200		
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 4..	54,000		
Rainbow trout yearling	400	161,100	
			4,566,025
Osceola Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	964,800		
Brook trout fingerling No. 3.....	335,300		
Brook trout fingerling No. 4.....	39,375		
			1,339,475
Westfield Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....	168,525		
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	300,750		
			469,275
Lakewood Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....			375,700
Hayward Hatchery			
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	28,000		
Brown trout fingerling No. 3....	112,000		
			140,000
Wisconsin Rapids Hatchery			
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 3..			198,000
Minocqua Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry	31,494,000		
Black bass fry	162,000		
Muskellunge	1,697		
			31,657,697
Delafield Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry	21,571,000		
Black bass fingerling No. 1.....	344,000		
Black bass fingerling No. 2.....	65,500	419,500	
			21,980,500
Eagle River Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry			32,108,000
Spooner Hatchery			
Wall-eyed pike fry			13,950,000

	Total Variety from each Hatchery	Total Number From each Hatchery
Tenney Park Hatchery		
Wall-eyed pike fry.....		15,264,000
Sturgeon Bay Hatchery		
Lake trout fry planted.....	12,000,000	
White fish fry	2,000,000	14,000,000
Sheboygan Hatchery		
Whitefish fry	2,300,000	
Lake trout fry	9,544,000	11,844,000
Gills Landing		
Pickereel fingerling No. 3.....		86,775
Mississippi River		
Miscellaneous fish distributed....	259,925	
Miscellaneous fish ret'r'd to river	10,250,000	10,509,925
Neenah		
Perch and white bass.....		569,450

DISTRIBUTION OF FISH BY SPECIES, 1926

Brook trout fingerling No. 1.....	2,025,625	
Brook trout fingerling No. 2.....	4,093,525	
Brook trout fingerling No. 3.....	1,072,500	
Brook trout fingerling No. 4.....	643,175	7,834,825
Brown trout fingerling No. 1.....	1,720,850	
Brown trout fingerling No. 2.....	767,200	
Brown trout fingerling No. 3.....	112,000	2,600,050
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 1.....	265,500	
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 2.....	296,200	
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 3.....	244,400	
Rainbow trout fingerling No. 4.....	54,000	
Rainbow trout yearling	400	860,500
Wall-eyed pike fry		114,387,000
Black bass fry	162,000	
Black bass fingerling No. 1.....	344,000	
Black bass fingerling No. 2.....	65,500	571,500
Pickereel fingerling No. 3.....		86,775
Muskellunge		1,697
Lake trout fry		25,105,355
White fish fry		4,300,000
Salmon fry		285,000
Perch and white bass.....		569,450
Miscellaneous		10,510,045
		167,112,197

TREES SHIPPED FROM TROUT LAKE NURSERY IN 1925

Species	For Private Plantings	For State Plantings
White Pine.....	111,060	67,500
Norway Pine.....	31,325	29,000
Jack Pine.....	39,250	15,500
Scotch Pine.....	84,527	48,500
White Spruce.....	23,081	-----
Norway Spruce.....	36,183	-----
Blue Spruce.....	11,528	-----
Arbor Vitae.....	6,000	-----
White Elm.....	1,823	200
White Ash.....	61	-----
Basswood.....	700	-----
Totals.....	350,538	160,700
Grand Total.....	-----	511,238

TREES SHIPPED FROM TROUT LAKE NURSERY IN 1926

Species	For Private Plantings	For State Plantings
Scotch Pine.....	47,700	-----
Norway Pine.....	242,150	419,500
White Pine.....	223,250	-----
Jack Pine.....	-----	4,700
Norway Spruce.....	169,940	-----
White Spruce.....	46,180	-----
White Elm.....	14,835	-----
White Ash.....	5,105	-----
Black Ash.....	585	-----
Red Oak.....	4,100	-----
Totals.....	753,845	424,200
Grand Total.....	-----	1,178,045

SUMMARY OF FOREST, MARSH AND SWAMP FIRES DURING 1924, AS REPORTED BY 438 TOWN CHAIR- MEN OUT OF 544 NORTHERN COUNTIES

248 fires were reported as having burned over 76,466 acres. Nine counties out of 28 from which reports were received had 80% of the fires reported.

In addition to the 984 men employed on these fires 407 others volunteered.

The total damage listed was \$29,056.00 which does not include young growth, damage to wild life and other indirect losses. It cost the towns \$5,222.80 for fire fighting bills.

Name of County	No. of Fires	Percentage	Damage	Cost	No. Men Employed	Acres Burned
Adams	3	1.2	\$220.00	\$59.10	30	360
Ashland	4	1.6		47.60	10	160
Barron	0					
Bayfield	33	13.3	550.00	269.60	35	3,600
Burnett	29	11.7	800.00	383.55	87	18,337
Chippewa	1	0.4				60
Clark	0					
Douglas	28	11.3		417.66	42	5,133
Florence	3	1.2	200.00	132.50	32	47
Forest	22	8.9		2,058.99	291	21,213
Iron	3	1.2	300.00	131.92	30	131
Jackson						
Juneau	1	0.4				7
Langlade	3	1.2		32.50	6	203
Lincoln	5	2.0	2,000.00	37.60	15	324
Marathon	6	2.4	500.00	10.00	3	635
Marinette	22	8.9	406.00	245.25	68	6,190
Oconto	5	2.0	950.00	13.10	10	517
Oneida	8	3.3	950.00	146.80	40	665
Portage	3	1.2	350.00	10.55	7	46
Price	1	0.4		1.00	1	1,800
Rusk	1	0.4		39.00	1	200
Sawyer	2	0.8		55.55	19	6,900
Shawano	2	0.8	100.00	14.75	7	55
Taylor	1	0.4		3.00	1	300
Vilas	31	12.5	20,630.00	941.94	208	4,649
Washburn	26	10.5	1,100.00	170.84	41	4,440
Wood	5	2.0				494
Total	248	100.0	\$29,056.00	\$5,222.80	984	76,466

Causes of Fires	No.	Percentage	Fires by Months	No.	Percentage
Lightning		0.0	April	2	0.8
Railroad	22	8.9	May	65	26.2
Land Clearing	83	33.5	June	30	12.3
Logging	4	1.6	July	5	2.0
Camp Fires	21	8.5	August	2	0.8
Smokers	29	11.7	September	9	3.6
Incendiary	1	0.4	October	39	15.7
Miscellaneous	1	0.4	November	9	3.6
Unknown	87	35.0	No record	87	35.0
Total	248	100.0	Total	248	100.0

SUMMARY OF FOREST AND MARSH FIRES FOR THE YEAR 1925 AS REPORTED BY DISTRICT FOREST RANGERS AND TOWN CHAIRMEN

During the year 415 fires burned over 355,584 acres, causing a reported damage of \$702,843.00. During the spring months of this year a severe and prolonged dry spell occurred in the state, resulting in an unusual number and relatively large forest fires. Extreme measures, including the ordering out of several companies of the National Guard by the governor, were taken to control the fires that broke out in many of the northern counties. The average fire burned over 666 acres, and resulted in damage of \$1,310.00.

District	No. of Fires	% of Fires	Acres Burned	Damage
1-----	57	10.6	17,515	\$14,199.00
2-----	98	18.4	21,872	48,970.00
3-----	63	11.8	23,328	15,156.00
4-----	101	18.9	161,949	299,477.00
5-----	49	9.2	43,335	5,640.00
6-----	47	8.8	5,085	20,118.00
Total-----	415		273,084	\$403,560.00
Unprotected-----	119	22.3	82,500	299,283.00
Total-----	534	100%	355,584	702,834.00

FIRES BY CAUSES

District	Light- ning	R.R.	Clear- ing	Log- ging	Camp- fire	Smok- ers	Incend- iary	Misc.	Un- known
1-----	2	15	10	0	0	13	1	3	13
2-----	1	6	37	1	2	13	0	0	38
3-----	1	24	7	0	7	5	1	0	18
4-----	0	23	23	13	1	4	0	1	36
5-----	0	3	0	2	5	8	1	0	30
6-----	0	3	16	0	6	8	0	0	14
Total-----	4	74	93	16	21	51	3	4	149
%-----	10	17.8	22.4	3.8	5.1	12.3	0.7	1.0	35.9

FIRES BY MONTHS

District	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
1-----	0	24	28	2	1	1	1	0	0
2-----	3	50	36	2	0	6	0	0	1
3-----	0	12	32	1	10	3	0	0	0
4-----	1	28	68	0	4	0	0	0	0
5-----	0	25	22	0	2	0	0	0	0
6-----	0	7	25	0	0	15	0	0	0
Total-----	4	146	211	5	17	30	1	0	1
%-----	1.0	50.9	35.2	1.2	4.1	7.2	0.2	0	0.2

FIRES BY AREA CLASSES

District	A	B	C	D	E
	Under $\frac{1}{4}$ acre	$\frac{1}{4}$ to 10 acres	11 to 100 acres	101-1000 acres	Over 1000 acres
1-----	1	17	17	18	4
2-----	6	28	40	17	7
3-----	3	19	22	16	3
4-----	0	2	13	47	39
5-----	0	0	14	26	9
6-----	0	13	20	14	0
Total-----	10	79	126	132	62
%-----	2.4	19.0	30.4	33.2	15.0