

California. Dept. of Fish and Game.
Biennial Report 1914-1916.

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FISH & GAME
COMMISSION
24th BIENNIAL REPORT**



1914-1916

California. Dept. of Fish and Game.
Biennial Report 1914-1916.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FISH AND GAME COMMISSION

TWENTY-FOURTH BIENNIAL REPORT

For the Years 1914-1916



CALIFORNIA
STATE PRINTING OFFICE
1916

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—From painting by Louis Agassiz Fuertes
MOUNTAIN QUAIL (*Oreortyx picta*)

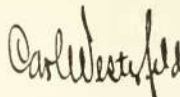
LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA,
June 30, 1916.

To His Excellency HIRAM W. JOHNSON,
Governor of the State of California.

SIR: In accordance with law, we submit for your consideration the twenty-fourth biennial report of the Fish and Game Commission, the same being a record of the work, receipts and expenditures for the biennial period July 1, 1914, to June 30, 1916. A summary of the work accomplished occupies the first pages, followed by the detailed reports of the department heads and district offices. The appendix contains the statistical reports. Heretofore the biennial report has been the only printed record of the commission. Current activities now are recorded in the quarterly, CALIFORNIA FISH AND GAME, published under our auspices. Further detailed accounts of the work of this board can be obtained, therefore, by referring to volumes 1 and 2 of this periodical.

Respectfully submitted.



Board of Fish and Game Commissioners.

By ERNEST SCHAEFFLE,
Executive Officer.



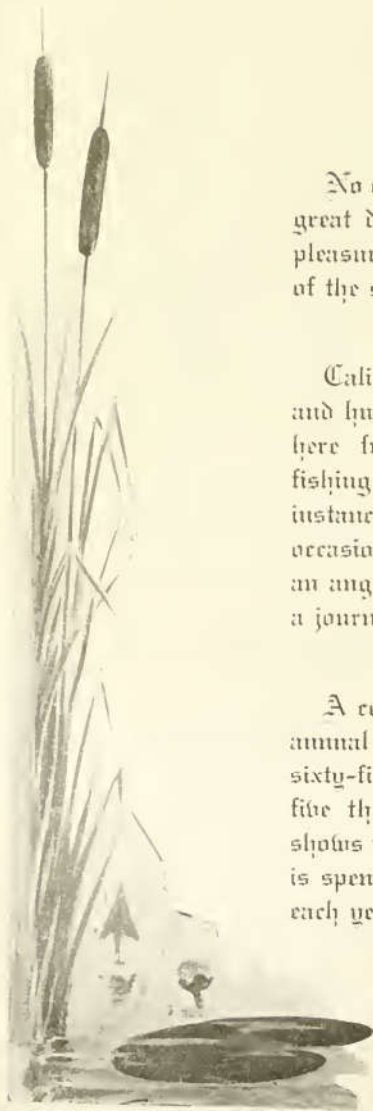
No other natural resource brings such great dividends in money, food, health, pleasure and happiness as does the asset of the state's fish and game resources.



California is a sportsman's paradise and hunters and fishermen are attracted here from all over the world. The fishing near Santa Catalina Island, for instance, has been on several different occasions of sufficient interest to bring an angler from South Africa, entailing a journey of thirteen thousand miles.



A computation based on the average annual expenditure of the one hundred sixty-five thousand hunters and eighty-five thousand anglers in California shows that at least twenty million dollars is spent in the pursuit of fish and game each year.





INTRODUCTION.

The past biennial period has been one of marked advance in the protection and preservation of wild life, the propagation of fish, the stocking of streams, the construction of fish ladders and screens, and above all in the accumulation of important data on fish and game and in the development of a public sentiment favoring wild life conservation. All of the duties of the commission as prescribed by law and above outlined have been performed as fully and faithfully as the financial and other resources have allowed.

The accomplishments here reported have been made possible through funds obtained by the sale of hunting licenses, commercial fishermen's licenses and anglers' licenses, and from fines received from violators. No appropriations have been made by the legislature. Although the larger burden of support rightly falls on the men who hunt and fish, yet, either no revenue, or revenue not in proportion to the benefit received, is derived from others having an interest in game resources. For instance, the fisherman who secures but a few fish each day which he sends to market, pays a larger license fee than the salmon cannery, which profits enormously by the fact that the fish supply is maintained. The market hunter who commercializes game pays the same license as the man who hunts but once a year. The trapper of fur-bearing mammals pays nothing towards the support of investigations needed to assure the conservation of the resources from which he draws profit. Could the license fees be made proportionate to the benefits secured, funds would be available for the further development of the game and fishery resources by the commission.

Many eastern fish and game commissions have the cooperation of numerous sportsmen's organizations, who hire attorneys and otherwise help in conserving game. There are few active organizations of this kind in California and the enforcement of the fish and game laws and efforts to conserve fish and game rest almost wholly with the commission. The problem is made still more complicated because of the lack of cooperation shown by the peace officers of the state and because

THE MEN WHO ADMINISTER CALIFORNIA'S WILD LIFE
RESOURCES.



F. M. NEWBERT,
President



M. J. CONNELL
Commissioner



CARL WESTERFELD,
Commissioner



ERNEST SCHAEFFLE,
Executive Officer

THE MEN WHO ADMINISTER CALIFORNIA'S WILD LIFE
RESOURCES.



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F. D. BOLT
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Attorney



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In Charge Los Angeles Dist. Office



A. D. SWANSON, Assistant
In Charge Fresno Dist. Office



J. E. COOPER, In Charge
Dept. Commercial Fisheries



G. W. SEAL, Assistant
In Charge Sacramento Dist. Office



W. H. TUCKER
Superintendent State Game Farm



H. C. SPYANT, In Charge
Burr. Education, Publicity and Research