

DDT THREATENS EAGLES

A probable cause of reproductive failure in bald eagles is seen in the finding of DDT residues in the organs of eagles found in various parts of the United States.

Drs. John L. Buckley and James B. DeWitt of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife reported findings on 25 bald eagles and two golden eagles. Traces of DDT ranged from light to heavy in all eagles examined, except one that was shot in Alaska.

Eggs of bald eagles were also found to contain DDT. Two of the eggs contained partially developed embryos; the third appeared to be infertile.

Laboratory tests with captive pheasants and quail have shown that their reproduction may be impaired by exposure to sublethal quantities of DDT or other chlorinated insecticides. This leads to the supposition that other birds would be similarly affected.

TROUT PLANTING

Last week the Department of Game and Fish planted 29,545 rainbow trout. They weighed 2,834 pounds, and included 14,525 that measured $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 8 inches. The catchables were released in the Rio Grande (upper and middle); Bear Canyon Reservoir; Bottomless Lakes; and Sabinal, Corrales and Albuquerque-Riverside drains.

The Fish and Wildlife Service planted fingerlings in Upper Railroad Reservoir: 3,000 bluegill and 2,000 largemouth bass.

FORESTERS WEIGH NEW TECHNIQUES

The Southwestern Section of the Society of American Foresters met in Albuquerque last Friday. Sam Lamb, assistant director of the Department of Game and Fish, attended.

Regeneration of ponderosa pine stands in the Southwest was one subject of discussion. The question arose as to the possible need for artificial regeneration by direct seeding or by setting out young trees where natural regeneration by natural seeding is inadequate.

Of still greater interest to Lamb as well as to others at the meeting was the idea of changing the harvest system from "sanitation and selective" cutting system to a system that might be called "block clear cutting." The latter system Lamb considers much more advantageous to game management. All stages of succession will be present on a given watershed.

Newly cut areas, which allow grass to flourish, will be helpful to elk. Areas in the brushy stage will benefit deer. Fully mature stands will harbor turkey.

GOLDEN EAGLE NOW PROTECTED

The golden eagle has come under federal protection with amendment of the "Bald Eagle Act."

Where the golden eagle is known to be damaging agricultural interests, the rancher may apply to the Governor of his state for permission to take the bird causing damage. The Governor in turn must apply to the Secretary of the Interior and obtain the permission before any golden eagle may be legally destroyed.