

- b. Regardless of the activity, invite the Wildlife Officer to go along. This is necessary for good public relations as well as being a source of information for the officer. Remember, the officer will be questioned by the public concerning fisheries activities. It is entirely to his advantage to keep himself informed.
  - c. Get reports in promptly and send copies to the Wildlife Officers involved.
  - d. Volunteer to make talks to civic clubs or sportsman's groups in the officer's county in order to explain the fisheries program.
2. Lend assistance when and where possible in order to help the Wildlife Officer in his relations with his people. Remember, an informed public is a great asset.
  3. A Biologist should do his work with zeal and earnestness, and in a "professional manner" so that all concerned will realize that this is important work.

#### Responsibility of Wildlife Officer:

1. He must not consider the Biologist as his enemy, or his competitor. The Biologist should be accepted as a fellow member of the organization, one who also has a job to do.
2. Whenever possible he should accompany the Biologist on his rounds and become acquainted with the objectives of the Biologist's work.
3. When a particular fisheries recommendation is being planned do not oppose it simply because a few local uninformed friends may raise objections. That may be the convenient thing to do at the time, but it is not in the best interest of the organization. The field of biology has proven itself in conservation work, and opposing biology simply for the sake of opposing it is simply outdated.
4. Connected with the above statement, the Officer should support the Biologist publicly. If disagreements arise which can't be talked out, then the officer should say nothing. This is a courtesy which anyone should afford a fellow employee.
5. Don't call on the Biologist any more than is absolutely necessary. Remember, he too, has definite jobs and responsibilities which must be performed.

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## F. B. I. SERVICES AVAILABLE TO GAME AND FISH AGENCIES

BY ED BROWN  
*F. B. I. Agent*  
 Little Rock, Arkansas

I would like to talk briefly on some of the things we can do maybe to assist game and fish authorities.

First of all, maybe there is very little danger of us depleting the game and fish population — not because maybe we do not want to, but maybe it is because of our inability to do so.

Seriously, there are some functions the F. B. I. can participate with you in at your request. Everything we do is regulated and controlled by Federal Law. Our authority stems from a specific Federal Law.

One of the functions that we could possibly be of assistance to **you**

in is the matter of unlawful flight to avoid prosecution statutes. If you are not familiar with that it provides that anyone who flees a particular state to avoid prosecution for the commission of a felony also violates a federal law. The same thing applies to a situation where an individual, a witness, flees from one state to another state to avoid giving testimony. If the law enforcement officer requests the local authorities, usually a prosecuting attorney, and he requests the U. S. Attorney and the F. B. I., they will conduct a fugitive investigation trying to locate the individual or individuals. If the fugitive is charged with a game violation that constitutes a felony and flees the State, if you so desire we can utilize our forces and facilities in trying to locate him wherever he might be. Now, if that person or persons are located in a distant state they will need to be extradited. Usually the County Attorney, the prosecuting attorney, agrees to that. If we locate them they are placed in custody and the interested law enforcement agency or the prosecuting attorney or whoever is going to handle the matter is notified immediately. They can call for the subject there and upon their arrival when they take him into custody the federal charges are dismissed and he is turned over to local authorities. You may have situations where that arises on people who have fled. If you are particularly interested in getting them prosecuted, the same thing applies to people who flee to avoid giving testimony.

Another situation where we can be of assistance again by federal law is something we do not like to talk about, but it is a grim reality. That is the federal statute pertaining to assaulting a federal officer in the line of duty. That will not apply generally speaking to state game officers unless they are working in the capacity of a federal agent at that time. I understand that there may be instances where a state officer does act in the capacity of a federal officer. As long as he is performing a function in behalf of the U. S. Government, of course each and every case will have to be decided on its individual merits, and someone assaults him or there is a murder, that becomes a violation of federal law where we have investigative jurisdiction. We can and often do lend our services for whatever they are worth in these situations.

Another thing, we have more or less concurrent jurisdiction with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is the matter of the Migratory Bird Act violation. The Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, has primary responsibility or jurisdiction. But in some situations there are some instances where our services can be utilized to good advantage upon request of the Department of Interior and clearing on the Washington level we can utilize what we have at hand in connection with the type of investigation.

Another service or function we can and often do perform is utilization of the F. B. I. Laboratory. It is called the F. B. I. Laboratory for lack of a better name. It is your laboratory and it is everybody's laboratory just as much as it is the F. B. I.'s. Congress has seen fit to provide funds to operate it. It is available to any duly constituted law enforcement agency. All they have to do is submit the physical evidence that they care to submit there. As a matter of fact, the laboratory conducts far more investigations on a day-to-day or year-to-year basis for other enforcement agencies than it does for our own organization. Funds are provided for that, provisions are made by Federal Law that if any constituted law enforcement agency wishes to utilize the services of that laboratory they are perfectly welcome and are encouraged to do so.

I do not know how many of the Departments have individual laboratories, the chemists, the biologists, some do not have. I can think of a situation where a suspect is accosted coming out of the woods, is suspected of committing a game violation. He has blood on his clothing, blood in the trunk of his car, somewhere blood stains. When questioned concerning that as a suspect of illegally killing a deer he gives an excuse or explanation that the blood on his clothing or wherever else might be located was acquired when they butchered a beef a day or two ago or butchered a hog or killed a chicken. You and I as investigators cannot by looking at it tell what kind of blood it is. When it is submitted to the laboratory and it comes back with the analysis and written statement that it is deer blood or fowl blood it is pretty good

evidence. The matter of shell or cartridge identification fired from firearms or in firearms, bullet identification, firearms examinations, can and will be conducted. Situations might arise where a weapon is suspected of having been illegally used, empty hulls found at the scene of where the crime was committed. You will want to know if that particular gun fired those particular shells, the empty hulls, the empty shotgun shells, rifle shells or whatever they might be, they can be and are often identified by the indentation left by the firing pin or indentations left by the extractor pulling the empty out of the weapon even though the projectile may not be available for examination. The only requirement in that connection is that the evidence not be examined, or identical type of examination not be performed by another laboratory or examining facilities before it is submitted to the F. B. I. laboratory. You can see the reasons for that. If another laboratory has conducted firearms examinations or any examination on a piece of evidence that evidence will not be in its original condition as some of it is lost in the course of the examination. But any time you want that type of examination conducted all you have to do is send it to them. Now there are many local laboratories, State police have laboratories, maybe they are not quite as well equipped, maybe they do not have all of the variety of blood samples available for blood analysis, maybe your chemist can do it, maybe your biologist can do it if you have one. But in those cases where you cannot, use the FBI Laboratory.

Another kind of good examination that I could visualize, as far as a game enforcement officer is concerned, would be that of document examination, the use of forged documents such as hunting and fishing license. In some of these violations it may become pertinent or vital to know whether in the course of your investigation to know whether a particular individual actually signed or wrote a particular amount of writing on the license. Handwriting examinations, typewriting examinations, metal examinations, number restoration examinations can be and are conducted. It is available there, use it.

The other major services we could possibly perform would be the matter of identification and that is in connection with fingerprints in the F. B. I. Identification Division. Some 186 million fingerprints are deposited there as of now. They are growing each day in volume, in number. You might be interested in knowing in a particular case whether a particular person has a previous arrest record that has been furnished the Identification Division. All you have to do is send in his fingerprints and you can find that out. Sometimes a case of assumed identity or false identity can be established through that kind of service. Sometimes you may be conducting an investigation and on examination you find bloody fingerprints on a piece of paper, wrapping paper, in connection with game violations maybe it would be important to know that your suspect's fingerprints are on a piece of paper that you have become interested in. He has denied it but if his fingerprints are there you have a case pretty well made in many instances. It is worth-while information to have.

These services are free, the examinations conducted, I say they are free, they are performed at government cost, strictly at government cost. A written report of the examination will be furnished the person or agency submitting the evidence or the fingerprints or any kind of examination you have requested, and in the event of the trial the expert or the technician will come at government expense to appear before the trial at no expense to the State agency or the local agency. So avail yourself of those facilities wherever and whenever you see fit.

I can think of nothing else that can be of direct assistance to a game and fish enforcement officer as far as our organization is concerned but we stand ready and to the best of our ability, willing to cooperate in any respect. We have collected and accumulated a considerable amount of information, identification of people, background concerning people, over the years. Generally speaking, by federal law, it is confidential, it is not available to be divulged promiscuously; however, if any law enforcement officer wants some information from our files that we might have in connection with an official investigation

it is certainly available under those conditions and those circumstances. We firmly believe that cooperation is the backbone of good relationship between enforcement agencies.

Thank you very much.

## METHODS OF APPREHENDING ILLEGAL SCUBA DIVERS

BY ANDREW G. PURSLEY

*U. S. Game Management Agent*

It is lawful, in most states which have waters clear enough for diving, for underwater spear fishermen to take rough fish. Some of these states exclude taking rough fish of the catfish family and some exclude all spearing of fish in small streams and rivers.

Many underwater fishermen have gone to the depths to pursue these rough fish for sport; however, they usually find in short order that rough fish are afraid of the monstrous-looking diver with his spewing air bubbles, his large brightly colored air tanks, and his protruding face mask. This continuing phenomenon of fleeing fish and the return home with an empty fish stringer soon frustrates the once enthusiastic diver to the point of selling his entire heap of expensive diving gear. However, while reflecting in disgust, he remembers that during his search for these legal fish, he spent some time in brushing aside the illegal bass and sunfishes up to sizes that would make the fly and plug fisherman break out in goose bumps. He remembers some of the bass were so curious or hostile that they seemed to be inviting a shot with the speargun. It takes only one or two more trips to the favorite lake with its temptations to transform the budding diver into a regular and very serious violator.

Just how serious a problem is the scuba diver who takes illegal fish? We should answer this question before we go further. We have the responsibility, as caretakers of the public's game and fish, to give the fishermen and hunters the maximum without danger to the resource in question. If the resource is in danger we in enforcement must act in whatever ways are necessary to bring about the protection needed.

It has been the unanimous opinion of those speaking out who know the problem that unchecked spearing of bass could seriously deplete the total population in an impoundment and it could completely eradicate the large trophy bass sought by sport fishermen who invest most in our fishing programs. The danger to catfish and the sunfishes is a controversial question which I hope we may be able to discuss here today.

The danger to bass is clear. A diver can, on the average day, take five or ten bass in no more than thirty minutes. On good days when bass are easily found, the possibility of spearing bass is limited only by the desire and stamina of the diver. For example, one diver confided that his group had taken two hundred bass in one day. Another informed that his usual group of three would take sixty bass, more or less, weighing four pounds and up, on an average day of spearing. Those of us who dive do not question such seemingly fantastic statements.

Unscrupulous divers are most difficult to apprehend by the officer who is bound to the surface of the water even when he knows where and when the violations are taking place. Some divers have been so cunning in their methods that they have taken illegal fish right under the noses of officers and boat dock operators without arousing more than a little suspicion. Those who didn't know should bear no feeling of embarrassment because illegal divers tie the catch to the underside of boats, to lower units of motors, and to submerged rocks, stumps, and bushes. Some will rupture the floats of fish and leave them on the bottom until the coast is clear. Innocent looking fishing boats sometimes pick up the fish as they are speared and take them away from