

Wildlife Crews Clear Openings For Game

BY JOE M. McFEE
Wildlife Management Tech.
 One Wildlife Management practice being carried out by the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission is the mowing of developed fields and log roads.

The Burnsville Wildlife Management crew is responsible for the management and development work on the Pisgah Game Lands in Buncombe, Haywood, Madison, Mitchell and Yancey Counties. Recently the Wildlife crew completed mowing 259.4 acres of fields and 83.5 miles of seeded log roads. These fields and roads are a result of several practices. Among these practices are completed logging operations, the old management area program, lands purchased or leased with fields or roads and fields cleared cooperatively with the U.S. Forest Service.

These openings are cleared and maintained for the benefit of all game and non-game species of wildlife.

The wild turkey uses these openings for nesting in the edges of fields or roads or at large grass clumps. They use openings extensively for brooding sites by bringing their young in these for sunlight and collecting insects which provide protein needed by these young birds at this time. In addition to sunlight and insects, other foods are taken such as young grasses, seeds and berries. Small gravels are picked up for the turkey's crop and bare spots of ground provide dusting sites.

Deer depend on such openings for food when seasonal or yearly food

shortages occur such as mast failure.
 Grouse pick clovers and grasses for green forage which they use heavily in the winter months. The hunter realizes shooting access and often finds grouse localized at these openings.

Bear, raccoon and foxes use these openings for seasonal foods such as blackberries, blueberries, pokeberries, sassafras berries, autumn olives, sumac, mountain ash, grasses and clovers. Usually these foods exist in the fields or along field edges and along log road edges.

Squirrels find dogwood berries abundant along field and log road-edges where the trees have been subject to more sunlight.

Other small game such as rabbits and quail use these

openings for cover and feeding on grasses, clovers and seeds.
 Non-game and even endangered species of wildlife use these openings for food and cover. Hawks and eagles catch rodents, snakes, rabbits and other prey. Box turtles and snakes catch insects and skunks catch insects, snakes and dig box turtle eggs. Songbirds are often found using these openings for

nesting, food and cover.
 Wildlife Management considers game as a crop which nature will grow if we provide the seed and a suitable environment. The mowing of fields and seeded log roads is one of many management practices carried out to enhance the environment for wildlife. The efforts of the commission are to provide more sport for more people.

[Cont'd from page 1]
 all or most of MTI general education courses for transfer credit are Western Carolina University, Campbell College, Elon College, Atlantic Christian College, St. Andrews College, and N.C. Wesleyan College.
 This expansion in MTI's program offerings means that residents of the tri-county area now may conveniently

MTI Credits Transferable

earn a substantial number of credits toward a Bachelor's degree while living at home. Agreements with other four-year colleges are being worked out, and further announcements will be made. Students wishing to transfer to colleges other than those listed above may make transfer arrangements on an individual basis. The Director

of General Education at MTI is prepared to assist such students in determining what course credit will transfer. General education courses being offered this fall at MTI include Introduction to Literature, Art Appreciation, Physical Science I, College Mathematics, Introduction to Psychology, and World Civilization I.

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To These Farewell

MRS. NORA HOPSON

Mrs. Nora Hopson, 70, of the Green Mountain Community of Yancey County, died Tuesday morning in an Asheville hospital from injuries received in an automobile accident August 2. A native of Yancey County, she was a daughter of the late Rev. James and Cora Hampton Dayton.

Surviving are the husband, Clifford Hopson; six daughters, Mrs. Orville Engle of Erwin, Tenn., Mrs. Fred Hensley and Mrs. Ronnie Peterson of Burnsville, Mrs. Dee Hensley of Green Mountain, Mrs. Marvin Rickman of Princeton, W. Va., and Mrs. Gerald Pendley of Spruce Pine; six sons, Harley Hopson of Jonesboro, Tenn., Herbert and Clifton Hopson Jr. of Green Mountain, Howard Hopson of Corpus Christi, Texas, Norman Hopson of Burnsville and Carl Hopson of Lakeland, Florida; four sisters Mrs. Clyde Engle, Mrs. Glenna Williams, Mrs. Stanley Parkey and Mrs. Avery Foster of Erwin, Tenn.; two brothers, Harvey and Fithew Dayton of Erwin; 33 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Thursday in North Bend Free Will Baptist Church of which she was a member. The Revs. Carmi Price and Stanley McMahan officiated and burial was in the Peterson Hill Cemetery.

TOMMY H. HARRIS

Tommy H. Harris, 22, of the Bolens Creek Community of Yancey County died Saturday night in an Asheville hospital from injuries received Friday night, August 13, in an automobile accident in Burnsville.

A native and lifelong resident of Yancey County, he was a 1972 graduate of East Yancey High School and was employed by Burnsville Veterinary Clinic.

Surviving are the parents, Harold L. and Wilma King Harris; a sister, Miss Christine Harris of the home; the maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Monroe King and the paternal grandmother, Mrs. Lena Harris, all of Burnsville.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday in Bolens Creek Baptist Church of which he was a member. Rev. C.W. Britt and Dr. Joseph Godwin officiated and burial was in the Carroway Cemetery.

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