

## "SERVING THE HUNTER WHO TRAVELS"

bel's. I suggest you concentrate on the western half of the reservation. A good friend of mine simply heads for Unit 12 on the reservation (ask for a map when you call or write the game and fish department), which is located northwest of Globe and east of Highway 288. Another good place to try is the area just east of Canyon Creek and north of the Salt River, along the reservation's south-

ern boundary. Finding quail on the San Carlos reservation isn't as difficult a proposition because most of this land is dominated by quality quail habitat. The hottest shooting is between Peridot and Bylas along Highway 70. During White Mountain's season (October 1 through January 1, 1995), the limit on Gambel's is 10 per day and 20 in possession. The season at San Carlos runs

October 7 through February 13, 1995. The limit there is 15 birds per day, 30 in possession. If you only hunt on reservation land, all you'll need is a permit from that reservation. A White Mountain permit costs \$5 per day. On San Carlos, a three-day pass runs \$30. Annual licenses (\$70 for White Mountain and \$100 for San Carlos) are also available. - *Burt Carey.*

### Briefly Noted

#### Things To Do, Places To Go, New Developments

■ South America continues to expand as a wingshooting destination, as witness the report elsewhere in this issue on Ecuador. Continuing subscribers will also remember our June, 1994 report on the possibility of Brazil opening to wingshooters. Well, hold on to your hat - still another South American country is apparently about to come on stream. That country is **Paraguay**. International Correspondent Stuart Williams tells us the company that is working on developing a program here is Outdoor Sports Consultants (PO Box 921352, Norcross, GA 30092. Tel. 800-992-5767. Fax 404-446-7313). He writes: "I recently spoke with manager Chuck Stankey, who has put together a mixed-bag program for which he has great expectations. The hunts take place about an hour and a half's drive north and east of the capital city of Asuncion on any of six to eight different *estancias*. Stankey says the program combines decoyed duck shooting in the mornings with pheasant shooting in the evenings. Ducks available here include Brazilian teal and muscovy, the latter of which should interest collectors, as few countries offer hunts for this species. As for the pheasants, Stankey couldn't tell me much about the birds except to say they are not the ringneck variety that North American hunters are familiar with. The shoots are organized by Argentinean

outfitter Luis Sier, who has many years of experience. Stankey says a shooter can realistically expect to fire about 15 boxes of shells a day here. Shells are made in Argentina and cost \$10 a box. Accommodations are at upscale ranch homes with excellent food and wines. The season runs September 15 to December 15, but Outdoor Sports Consultants will operate only until the end of October, as the rainy season begins in November. Weather in September and October should be clear, with daytime temperatures in



the 80's. The cost of an eight-day trip, including five full days of shooting, is \$2,650. Airfare, which runs about \$800 from Miami, tips and shotshells are extra. It should be noted that Outdoor Sports Consultants is not the only agency that is involved in Paraguay. The Detail Company (800-292-2213) also has an eye on this country and is conducting exploratory hunts. I will

have more on their findings in a future issue."

□

■ On another continent entirely - namely, Africa - correspondent Gary Kramer turned up some new information this month about the gunning prospects in **Mozambique**. Kramer was in neighboring South Africa last month, where he shot various species of birds and waterfowl with Mark Haldane of Bird Hunters Africa, based in South Africa. Haldane is the outfitter we have mentioned previously in connection with planned birdshoots to Mozambique. Kramer writes: "Mozambique is almost certainly not quite ready yet to receive international birdshooting clients. The problem is continuing turmoil within the country. A decades-long civil war has just come to an end and all the factions have not yet come to terms. There are returning refugees, too, who are further upsetting the balance of things, while adding to overall infrastructure demand. The country has not been officially closed to birdshooting or big game hunting at any point, but most parts of it have simply been too dangerous until recently to enter. Before he takes clients into Mozambique, Haldane says he is waiting for the outcome of the elections that will take place in late October. If things calm down, he says he will offer waterfowl shoots northeast of Maputo in the general area of Xai-Xai. The hunting will be for a

variety of African species including spur-wing, pygmy and Egyptian geese, redbilled teal, white-faced and fulvous whistling ducks, comb ducks and others. Pygmy geese will be of particular interest to collectors, as Mozambique is the only country where this species can be taken without a special permit. The hunts will take place in October/November/December, which is the dry season when the birds are concentrated. The only drawback to hunting at this time of year is the heat (it's the southern hemisphere's spring and summer). The area is a mixture of ricefields and thorn veldt interspersed with natural wetlands and pans. The birds will be hunted over decoys. Haldane says he plans to establish a tent camp and fly

his hunters into Maputo, where they will be met and transported onward by car. Haldane admits that many gamebirds (such as francolin and guineafowl), as well as most big game animals, have been virtually wiped out in this area by local hunters. However, because waterfowl and presumably doves are difficult to shoot or trap, their populations remain very high. One last note - don't expect a wilderness experience if you eventually book one of Haldane's trip to Xai-Xai. Much of the surrounding area is farmed and grazed by cattle. More information can be obtained directly from Haldane at Bird Hunters Africa (PO Box 794, Hilton 3245, South Africa. Tel. 011-27-331-33100. Fax 011-27-331-431624), or by con-

tacting his US booking agent, Trek Safaris (PO 19065, Jacksonville, FL 32245. Tel. 800-654-9915)."

#### Information, Please

• Subscriber George H. Burroughs (G 3100 Miller Rd., #29B, Flint, MI 48507. Tel. 810-767-8207) would like to hear from fellow subscribers who have information on guided or self-guided upland bird hunts in Colorado, primarily for forest and prairie grouse. He has his own pointers. He is seeking outfitter contacts and/or fellow subscribers who have access to this kind of gunning. He is willing to exchange a hunt for a quail shoot in Georgia.

#### OUTFITTER CRITIQUES

### The Good, The Bad and The Ugly

*(This section of The Hunting Report is based entirely on subscriber-written Hunt Report Forms received in our Miami office. It is designed to provide accurate, reliable reports on what's actually happening in the field. Our policy on Hunt Reports is as follows: We publish excerpts in the newsletter of all Hunt Reports as received and exert no censorship except in cases when booking agents or outfitters submit reports on hunts they have a financial stake in, or when we have good reason to believe there are ulterior financial or personal motives on the part of the person submitting a report. It goes without saying that a single report in this section should not be taken as the final word on an outfitter's competence or incompetence. Many elements of a hunt are subjective. What's wrong for one hunter may be right for another. Moreover, personality conflicts often occur on hunts. It is obvious that hunters, as well as outfitters, can be the cause of a ruined hunt. We think all seasoned hunters can sort this out and make proper use of our Hunt Report Program. Our pages are open for rebuttal of equal length by any affected party. For details on how to order photocopies of Hunt Reports, see Hunt Report Service Box elsewhere in this section).*

■ Subscriber Bill Brown checked in last month with a report on the duck, pheasant and quail shooting he enjoyed at Burnt Pine Plantation (706-342-7202) in Georgia this past January and February. He says the plantation is conveniently located one hour from Atlanta, the birds are plentiful and the food is excellent. He gives the cost of the duck hunting as \$250 per day and the pheasant hunting as \$225 per day. (Editor Note: At press time, personnel at Burnt Pine told us they were not affected by the recent floods in Georgia and are planning to operate as scheduled this coming season.)

□

■ Moving to the southwest, subscriber Roy Elmore has good things to say about the duck and goose hunt he had in Wharton County, Texas, this past December with W.

S. Sherrill Waterfowl Hunting (409-532-1789). Among the ducks he hunted were shovelers, gadwalls, mottled ducks and pintails. Geese included snows, blues, Ross' and Canadas. He says there were "many" birds, and his party of three filled out by 8 am. He notes he stayed at the outfitter's lodge, Caney Creek Lodge, which he says has a sporting clays range and great food. He gives the cost of the hunt as \$125 per day, or \$200 per day with meals and lodging included.

□

■ Correspondent Gary Kramer just returned from South Africa with a rave review of the shooting on offer in that part of the world by Mark Haldane (Hunters and Guides Africa, PO Box 2081, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa). His report will appear in next month's issue. In the

meantime, two subscribers have beat him into print with good things to say about Haldane. The first report is from subscriber W. Carl Smith who hunted South Africa with Haldane this past May. He hunted waterfowl, greywing partridge, dove, pigeon, sandgrouse and guinea fowl, and calls Haldane "a rising star in Africa." He gives the cost of the May 18 to 28 trip as \$2,500 per week.... The second report is from subscriber Walter N. Alford who hunted the Durban area of South Africa with Mark Haldane, booking agent Trek International Safaris (800-654-9915). He writes: "Trek Safaris has hit the jackpot with its two-week, South African wingshooting/gameviewing safari. South Africa is an extremely modern country and I saw no evidence of unrest such as you see in some