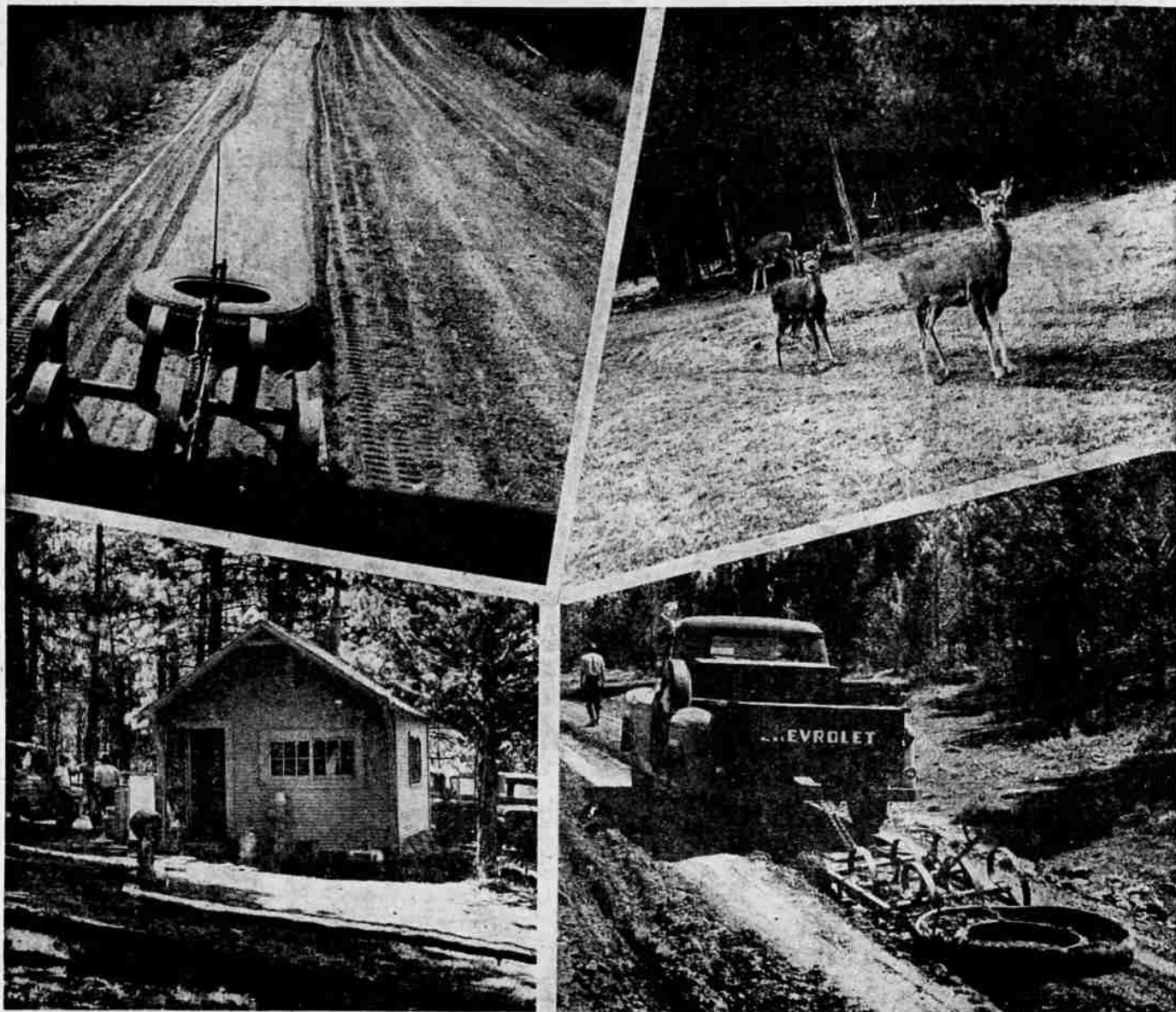


Interstate Deer Count In Final Stages



THE 1958 migration of the Oregon-California interstate deer herd is nearly complete, and biologists of the fish and game departments are putting the finishing touches on their annual counts. The upper left picture in the four series montage shows the road strip which is cleared daily along the state line road. The harrow and tire are pulled by jeep or pickup when the weather is right, and horse-dragged when the roads are impassable. The deer in the upper right inset don't know just what the biologists are doing, but from the intent expressions on their faces they would be interested in learning all about it. The forest service cabin from which the counting crews operate is pictured above. The cabin is located about midway down

the state line road and the two-man counting crews remain there for a week at a time on an alternating basis. The lower right picture in the upper set shows one of the biologists making his track count while walking in front of the pickup which is clearing the strip for the next count. In the single picture at lower left, the participating game biologists study some of the track information which has been assembled. From left to right are Vic Simpson of the California Department of Fish and Game, Vic Case of the Oregon Game Department, and Jim Mohr, Oregon game biologist, stationed in the Klamath County area.

—Photos by Don Kettler and the Oregon Game Department



Deer Herd Counted By Two Man Teams

By JOHN GUERNSEY

The state line track count of the interstate deer herd indicates that the migrating herd is larger this year than it has been in 1956 or 1957.

The count has been in progress about two months now, is in its final stages, and the fish and game officials have tabulated more than 13,000 deer making the northward migration from the Devil's Garden area of Modoc County in Northern California. The track counts of last year reflected 11,695 deer. Approximately 12,240 were tabulated during the 1956 track count.

The fish and game personnel are the first to tell you that the annual track count is not indicative of the actual number of deer in the herd. "However," the biologists explain, "the practice provides the best degree of accuracy we can obtain and definitely gives us information relative to whether the herd is getting larger, smaller, or staying about even with the prior year."

Two of the fish and game personnel who have been instrumental in making the count this year are Vic Simpson of the California department, and Vic Case of the Oregon game department.

The count began March 1 of this year after aerial observations indicated that the herd was close to the state line road and ready to begin migrating north.

The length of the track counting strip is approximately 23 miles. It extends from the Willow Reservoir in Klamath County to Young Valley in Lake County. Half of the 23 mile strip is counted each day.

The men are "provided with a jeep which pulls a spring toothed harrow and a tire behind it. Each day the jeep travels 11½ miles over half the road length, and the material being dragged behind it erases the old tracks and smoothes a 36-inch swath along the road."

The following morning one of the

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