# VOICE OF THE WATERFOWLER

# Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

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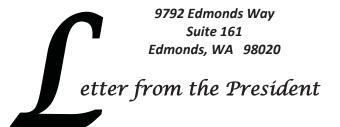
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October 16, 2013

Washington Waterfowl Association

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Whatcom Chapter

Chair Scott O'Day (360) 966-4112

Yakima Valley Chapter

Chair Abel Cortina (509) 786-9196

A new hunting season is upon us (woo hoo!). I'll be pulling decoys and gear out this weekend and all week long. Yesterday's evening stroll to put dogs in the kennel for the night was punctuated by the calls of snow geese heading south high above my home. Word from **Willapa Bay** is that widgeon are moving through in relatively large numbers. I hope to get out on **Skagit Bay** this week and do some scouting for the 2nd opener and see how the bird numbers look.

As we put out this last Newsletter of the year, I reflect on a very productive year for **WWA**. Our **WWA** youth events continued and even expanded noticeably this year in nearly every corner of the state. Thanks to the efforts of **WWA** and friends, residents of **Thurston County** can still hunt on **Eld and Henderson Inlets.** The **WDFW** private lands/quality hunt areas have expanded, notably on the **Kitsap Peninsula** thanks in part to **WWA** efforts there. Unfortunately, the federal government shutdown has kept some folks from hunting opening day on refuges across the country, but this should be temporary and **WWA** efforts and actions on refuges across Washington State have helped keep hunters hunting, hunting safely, and in nicely camouflaged blinds.

**WWA** chapters continue to push for opening new areas to hunt on these refuges. The **Whatcom Chapter** just finished a very nice blind for disabled hunters, and the **Moses Lake Chapter** planted habitat for an area to be flooded in the near future and made available for waterfowling. The **Whatcom Chapter** also increased the value of its college scholarship award, and the **Yakima Chapter** sponsored a youth shooting team... good show y'all.

(Continued on page 2)

#### **EVENTS CALENDAR**

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

Wednesday, Oct 23 Seattle Chapter Meeting; 7 p.m. @

Kenmore Gun Club, in Bothell.

Contact John Arrabito.

Tuesday, Oct 29 Southwest Chapter Meeting;

7 p.m. @ Tacoma Sportsman's Club.

Contact Terry Satre.

Thursday, Oct 30 Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting

7 p.m. @ Vancouver Trap Club.

Contact Rick Scott.

Thursday, Nov 7 WWA Corp Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 p.m., @ Canyon Park Denny's All WWA members always welcome.

Tuesday, Nov. 12 Northwest Chapter Meeting;

7 p.m. @ Conway Fire Hall. Contact Rone Brewer.

Tuesday, Jan. 7 Whatcom County Chapter Meeting

5-7 p.m. @ Tenant Lake Interpretive Center, Ferndale. Contact Scott O'Day.

Monday, Feb.3 Tri Cities Chapter Meeting;

7 p.m. @ Benton County PUD
Auditorium at the corner of 10th Ave.

and HWY 395 in Kennewick, WA.

Contact Tracy Miles.

Wednesday, Feb. 5 Kitsap Peninsula Chapter Meeting

6-8 p.m. @ Bremerton Trap & Skeet

Club. Contact Richard Bazzell

Thursday, Feb 6 Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting.

7 p.m. @ Evergreen Sportmen's Club, near Littlerock. Contact Kurt Snyder.

Thursday, Feb. 13 Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting; 6:30

p.m., @ Café Villa in Prosser.

Contact Abel Cortina.

I would like to encourage each chapter to work toward sponsoring a hunting or shooting-related group in the coming year, get our logo out into the community, and to help us invigorate the WA duck stamp/print program.

Over the coming season I and Vice **President Dave Farley** intend to visit each chapter to discuss plans for the coming year and find out how **WWA-Corporate** can best support the chapters. Hopefully we'll find the time to share a hunt, share an evening, and share some hunting stories.

For the Resource,

Rone Brewer

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# **Moses Lake Chapter News**

**By Dick Price** 

#### **Work Party**

On Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> we will have a work party at the Glovd Seeps Wildlife Area to replace shrubs and willows that did not survive our original plantings last Fall.

To reach the work site from Moses Lake take Stratford Road N.E. headed North; Turn Left on Road 16 N.E. and head West until you cross the creek; 100 yards past the creek turn **LEFT** onto a 2-track dirt road and go about 2 miles South to the work site.

From Ephrata take Road 20 N.E. East to Willow Lake Road N.E.; Turn Right on Willow Lake Road on go about 4 miles South; Just past a gravel road on the RIGHT look for the dirt 2-track and take it about 2 miles to the work site.

NOTE: The 2 track road is very rough and not suitable for travel in a low clearance vehicle.

Work will start at 9:00 AM both days so you could get in an early morning duck hunt, and we'll try and stop early enough to get in an hour or so of Pheasant hunting. Work site is located in the middle of several Pheasant release sites. **WWA-Moses Lake** will furnish lunch and refreshments.

For questions contact call **Dick Price** @ (509) 762-9027 or Rich Finger @ the Ephrata WDFW office (509)-754-4624.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **Grays Harbor Chapter News**

By Kurt Snyder

#### Hi All:

Several huge flocks of newly arriving Canada Geese have been flying over my house for several days now. This can only mean one thing. That the hunting season is upon us!

It would be understated to say that this has been a great year for our Chapter. We have got a lot accomplished mostly in part because of our volunteers. There are a lot of you that I would like to thank personally, but there isn't enough room in this newsletter.

You all know who you are, and each of you has the satisfaction of knowing that you did MORE than your part for Waterfowl Conservation.

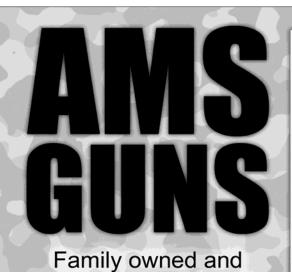
#### Call for Expanding WWA Membership

Looking ahead to the next year we have to concentrate on all things waterfowl. Expansion of the WWA will be foremost in our planning for the future. Why? Well, if you have kept up with the ongoing events in our government, it is evident that there are organizations that would eliminate our hunting in a second if we let them. I am not being paranoid with this. We all know it to be true, and we CAN do something about it. Your membership is a big first step. Volunteering is the next step. A close relative of mine just yesterday told me there is nothing we can do about it so why care. I say he is WRONG!!! We have done something and when the anti-hunters get strong, so must we. We can succeed in securing the sport of hunt for our children and their children simply by getting involved. Our voice can be heard. The more members we have the louder we will be!

I challenge each and every one of you to bring in a new member this next year. Sound easy? It is easy. Our grandchildren's hunting future depends upon it.

#### **Youth Shoot**

In this issue are some pictures of this years annual Youth Shooting event. We had eleven kids enter and all of them left with some very good memories — not to mention all the great prizes they won! They learned shooting safety, and experienced a few "close to real" hunting scenarios. I cannot thank our donors enough for the great prizes. A lot of effort goes into putting on this event and once again I will say that our volunteers' made it happen! (Continued on Page 4)



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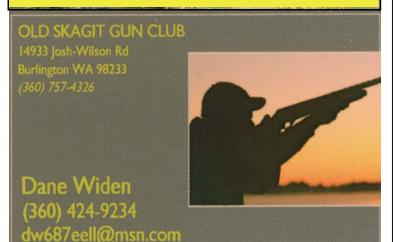
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I would like to wish all of you a fun and safe hunting season. I also urge you to take a kid out this season. The look on a youngster's face when they make contact with a bird is a memory that will last forever!





Two unidentified young boys enjoying the Grays Harbor WWA Chapter's 2013 youth shoot.



# **Kitsap Chapter News**

By Richard Bazzell

#### **Annual Blind Maintenance**

Kitsap Peninsula WWA joined District Wildlife
Biologist Jeff Skriletz at Lynch Cove on Hood Canal in midSeptember for some annual blind maintenance. The outing
provided a great opportunity to share the good work Jeff
does for our District, and also provided a preseason
scouting trip for the new member volunteers. Big thanks to
Jeff Skriletz, Justin Maggioli, and Justin Pauole for your
commitment.

More volunteers are needed in **Jefferson County** for the **Short Farm** and **Shine Creek** areas.

(Continued on Page 5)





WDFW Biologist, Jeff Skriletz (T) and one of the Kitsap WWA Chapter's Lynch Cove blind restoration projects (B).

(Continued from Page 4)

#### **Next Meeting**

The WWA Kitsap Peninsula Chapter will not meet again until Wednesday, February 5th, and the first Wednesday of each month thereafter at Bremerton Trap & Skeet Club. Please contact Richard Bazzell at <a href="mailto:rlbazzell@yahoo.com">rlbazzell@yahoo.com</a> or 360-509-7900 for further details and interest in projects. Also, be sure to check us out on Facebook at Kitsap Peninsula Waterfowlers.

# **Whatcom Chapter News**

By Scott O' Day

Here are the minutes from our October meeting:

#### **Handicap Blinds**

• The handicap blinds are finished and look very nice.

#### **Quality Hunt Information**

- The better quality blinds are at the Barrett and Harksell properties.
- Barrett has water and had been mowed for the opener
- 10 blinds not on the website, Brad Otto will mail list to Scott O'Day for sharing with the WWA-WH Chapter.
- There are 40 acres of barley at Old Guide and 25-30 at Harksell.
- Snow Geese are starting to show up.

#### **Elk Hunting**

Unit 418 elk, highly recommended

The meeting was subsequently turned over to **Ryan Valentine** for *"Eyes in the Woods"* Presentation. **Ryan** had a nice turnout of 16 members. Thanks **Ryan!** 

# JOHN T. ARRABITO, P.C.

#### John T. Arrabito

**Attorney at Law** 

19303—44th Avenue W. Lynnwood, WA 98036 Phone: (425) 894-4080 Fax: (425) 775-8016

E-mail:

jarrabito@comcast.net

#### **Next Meeting**

The **WWA Whatcom** Chapter meets the first Tuesday of each month, **5-7** p.m., **@ Tenant Lake Interpretive Center, Ferndale,** and will next meet after the hunting season on Tuesday, February 7th. Contact **Scott O'Day for more details.** 

# **Southwest Chapter News**

**By Terry Satre** 

#### Alberta Hunt

Earlier this fall **Lance Kintrea**, **Bruce Burns** and myself recently went to Alberta, Canada on a duck and goose hunt. Here are some photos for you to enjoy.



Lance Kintrea, Bruce Burns, and Terre Satre (along with 2 unidentified people), during their recent successful Alberta waterfowl hunt



Successful results of part of a 2013 Alberta waterfowl hunt

(Continued on Page 6)

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Attendance was sparce for our September meeting — hope most of you were out hunting upland birds. Chapter members Lance Kintrea, Bruce Burns and I had pics and info from our recent waterfowl hunt in Alberta, Canada. If the photos can be believed there are a lot of ducks up north that will be coming on down. Member Roger Leonard was in the same area Two (2) weeks later and reported the same findings. Hope we get some weather to bring those ducks here in a hurry.

Plans were made and members **Howard Hicks**, **Bruce Burns**, **Bob Schwent**, **and Terry Satre** brushed up the blinds at **Rapjohn Lake** on Saturday, October 5th. Despite obstacles like a broken wheel bearing and balky motor, we succeeded!

#### **October 29th Meeting**

The October meeting will feature **WDFW's Don Kraege,** as our quest speaker. Got any questions for the Departments State Waterfowl Section Manager? Come on down to the meeting and ask them of **Don.** 

As usual the meeting is at the **Tacoma Sportsman Club** on Canyon Road at 7:00 PM in the Hunter-Ed building. Shotgun shooting is available at 5:30. Show your **WWA** card for member prices. Come early and support the restaurant in the Chalet. Good drinks and a variety of food.

WWA-Southwest Chapter won't be meeting again until 'Late January" to plan for our booth at the **Puyallup Sportsman's Expo.** Check with **Terry Satre** for the exact date and time

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Hope to see you at the meeting

# **Tri-Cities Chapter News**

**By Tracy Miles** 

#### **Chapter Meetings**

The **Tri-City Chapter** meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m., at the **Benton County PUD Building** in Kennewick. Our next meeting is not until Monday, February 3rd. Contact **Tracy Miles** for details.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **Spokane Chapter News**

# **CHAIRMAN NEEDED**

Hey there all you **Spokane duck hunters**...we need someone to step up and manage the Spokane Chapter and carry on all the good things **Thor Ostrom** had started there.

Please contact WWA if you know anyone in the Spokane Area interested in facilitating a WWA Chapter

# **Lower Columbia Chapter News**

By Doug Hargin

#### **Fundraising Banquet a Huge Success!**

Thank you to all who attended, supported and worked on our10th annual Lower **Columbia Fundraising Banquet** on September 14<sup>th</sup>. We had a record setting crowd and best fund raising results yet at just under \$14,000 net. Our chapter has a very dedicated, talented group of hard working members that make it happen each year. There are way too many people to thank and I fear leaving anyone out.... but am going to try and do it anyway.

First, thanks to chapter president **Rick Scott** for a masterful MC job for the evening. Thanks to our corporate sponsors: **Pioneer Pest Management** owned by members **Bruce Head** and **Mike Adams**, who donated our marque firearm for the auction as well as two field blinds. Their table also were huge raffle supporters. **Rick Scott's** Company, **Innovative Control Systems**, and **Dion Hess's** employer, **Wal-Mart**, both gave cash donations.

Our super star in donations acquired was the timid **Derrick Tackett**. He amassed an impressive collection of donations, came up with our successful raffle travel cup promotion [which sold out by the way], and donated a hosted river hunt. Hot on his heals was **Al O'Connor** with many donations and a ladies' raffle basket. **Chris Stalcup** donated a layout blind, generous ladies' raffle certificates and multiple kids raffle items.

**Ted Blade** donated the Ruger for our silent auction. **VP Arlan Hackett** gathered many donations and multiple well-appointed ladies' raffle baskets. **Gene** and **Jackie Teel** 

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again donated a river youth hunt. Isaac Eldred donated a great goose hunt. Terry Foltz donated his beautiful scroll saw art in the form of a framed piece and receiver insert.

Thanks to Michael Andriotti for donations, fantastic signage and staffed the raffle sales; Mark and Dave Weston brought in several donations; Dan Hafenbrack for a Leatherman donation and discounts; Dino Mastri for multiple kids raffle gift certificates. Thanks to Rick Wray and his brothers for refurbishing the raffle squirrel cage and bringing it to the party. Grays Harbor Chair Kurt Snyder again donated his highly sought sea duck hunt and traveled down to the banquet. Thanks to state VP Dave Farley who made the trip down to the banquet with his sons. New member Dave Herbenson of Dave's Gamebird Taxidermy brought the beautiful wood duck display and donated a mount to the auction. Most all of those mentioned also came early to help set up as well as Bob Taylor, Dale Venema, Dave Chavez and Cal Roberts

#### **Blustery Ridgefield NWR Work Party**

On Saturday September 28<sup>th</sup> we gathered to open up the blinds and give them some camouflage for the upcoming season. The weather conditions mimicked a mid-winter storm front without the cold temperatures. Our preseason hunting juices were primed by the weather and flocks of ducks traded back and forth between the ponds. Thanks to Arlan Hackett for rustling up the grub. Also thanks to these members for showing up: Derrick Tackett, Bob Taylor, Dale Venema, Isaac Eldred, Dino Mastri, Dave Chavez, Ted Blade, Dan Haffenbrack, Al O'Connor and Joe and son Joey Murphy. Thanks guys!



Photo of the the Lower Columbia WWA Chapter's booth at the 2013 "Birdfest."

Unidentified girl admires wood duck mount on wood duck nesting box at the 2013 "Birdfest."



#### **Refuge Hunt Area Note**

Hunters may be surprised to find the check station has been removed. In its place is an RV cover that is much too high to provide cover for hunters waiting to get their blinds. The station itself is apparently going to be replaced by a rental trailer for this season only. Our post work party BBQ was basically in the rain due to the inadequate cover. If the Refuge does not skin all four sides, hunters can expect to stand in the elements waiting for their blinds. I for one fail to see the logic in removing a functional office [and **WWA**-built] cover shelter for this new inadequate structure.

Make sure to bring the chest waders for the opener. We found the water at high late winter levels. With the continued rainfall through the weekend we may have a problem with too much water this year.

#### Ridgefield NW Refuge Youth Hunt 10/26

We will have decoys, calls and provide prizes for the young hunters. A BBQ for the young hunters and the adults accompanying them will be provided. Look for details on Page 12.

#### Birdfest October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>

Thanks to **Al O'Connor, Bob Taylor, John Stotka** and **Doug Hargin** for covering our booth at the event. **Al** printed up some very informative handouts to give out to visitors at our trailer booth. The 4"X5" leaflets covered our opposition

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very well organized and offered perspective as to what **WWA** and the stamp programs are all about.

We were able to talk to some prospective new members, load up on **Shillapoo** petition signatures and sell 83 Scroll Saw Art raffle tickets. The event afforded us a great vehicle to promote the efforts of our organization and goodwill to the non-consumptive bird enthusiasts. **Thanks guys!** 

#### Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Shutdown

Refuge Project Leader **Chris Lapp** has informed us that the Refuge is closed in conjunction with the US government shutdown in Washington DC. He further stated that the ultimate reopening of the refuge will be **delayed an additional two days** as the check station is not wired for power and will take that long to be up and running. Again an unnecessary delay and lost day of use as we had a perfectly good building ready to go prior to its removal late this summer.

# **Northwest Chapter News**

By Rick Skiba

#### **Youth Hunt**

The WWA Northwest Chapter just concluded another great youth waterfowl hunt. The hunt was conducted on The Nature Conservancy Port Susan Restoration Site, located south of Stanwood. A total of 13 youngsters participated on the Saturday (Sep. 21st ) and Sunday (Sep 22nd) hunts. There were plenty of ducks and a few geese to test the shotgun skills of these young hunters. All went home with birds, big smiles and a lot of "high fives"!

A special thanks goes to **WWA-NW Chapter** members **Reb Broker**, **Jan Sabin**, and **Rone Brewer** for their time, support and equipment donated for use. Also, **Joelene Boyd** and **Kevin Morse** of **The Nature Conservancy** for making these hunts possible.

#### **Second Youth Hunt in the Works**

The **NW** Chapter will be holding another youth only hunt on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Please contact **Rick Skiba** at 360.387. 2225 if you would like to schedule a hunt for a young hunter on one of these dates. These youth hunts are available on a first come/first served basis, so call early if you'd like to reserve a place. (*Continued on Page 9*)



"Reb Broker & the boys" picking up decoys at the end of one of the NW Chapter youth hunting days



"Joe, Reb (Broker) and his dog Stohoke"



"Ana & Cody with their Grandfather" on their first duck hunt. Grandfather was grateful for WWA-NW Chapter to make accommodation for him to be with his grandkids.

(Continued from Page 8)

#### **Northwest Chapter Work Party**

There will be a work party on Thursday, October 17th and 18th at **The Nature Conservancy (Port Susan Restoration Site)**, 9800 BOE Road., at the west end of the **Boe Road**.

We will meet at 9 a.m. at the green farmhouse to cut grass, trim bushes/shrubs, and board up the windows of the old green farm house. Please bring your chain saws, gas powered brush cutters and weed whackers.

Please note: Friday, October 18th, is scheduled for any work not completed on the 17th. For questions, please contact Rick Skiba at 360 387-2225 or reskiba@msn.com.

#### **Next Meeting**

The next **NW Chapter** meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, 2013 at the Conway Firehouse. We hope to see as many as possible of you there!

## Yakima Valley Chapter News

By Roger Bennett

#### **Update on Hen House Project**

The Yakima Valley Chapter of WWA continues its work on our Hen House Project. At this point, we have started work on the first batch of 20 hen houses. At least half of these are already spoken for and purchased by WWA -YV Chapter members. The rest will be available for purchase later this winter by other WWA members. We will also have several available for sale at the Yakima Valley Sportsman's Show in the Yakima Sun Dome in February.

These hen houses are being built by student volunteers in the tech/metal shop classes at Selah **High School**, which will help keep the cost down. And, unlike some hen houses, these are all metal construction (some prior versions had a wooden base). This should help these hen houses last for many years out in the weather. More information on the availability of these units will be coming in later newsletters.

#### **Youth Hunting**

The youth waterfowl weekend was successful for a number of **WWA-YV Chapter** members' kids. Reports came in from multiple sources that the ducks were plentiful in the Yakima Valley.

Youth Chapter Member **Carson Mackey** managed a quick limit of geese with a buddy, in which he managed two (2) bands (his friend also got a band), from our local June goose banding project, which he was a part of. **Carson** finished off his day shooting a number of ducks, one of which was a banded greenhead—not a bad day!

(Continued on Page 10)



Rylynn Carney with a Drake Wood Duck harvested on the Youth Hunt weekend—way to go!



Rylynn Carney, Finn Carney, Carson Mackey after a successful day on the Youth Hunt Weekend.

(Continued from Page 9)

YV Chapter member **Hugh Carney** took both of his kids out, and his son, **Finn**, bagged his first goose in the morning, and his first duck in the afternoon. His daughter **Rylynn**, who has hunted for several years, bagged her first drake woodduck, which was an excellent specimen!

A number of other groups reported that they bagged birds, and had a great time. Member **Tim Bennett** took his daughter, **Brooke**, out for her first duck hunt, and there were so many birds flying, at times she was too overwhelmed to shoot! All in all, it appears from all accounts that it was a very successful 2013 Youth Weekend in the Yakima Valley.

#### **Next Meeting**

Our next regular meeting will be at 6:30 on **February 13, 2014** at the El Ranchito restaurant in Zillah. For more information, contact **WWA-YV Chapter President Abel Cortina** at **abelcortina@gmail.com**.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **Seattle Chapter News**

By John Arrabito

I've been out of state [unfortunately not hunting] for three plus (3+) weeks and thus out of the **WWA**-loop. Hope your hunting opener went well last weekend, and that you're primed for the 2nd opener beginning this coming Saturday, October 19th. [See a one page Incomplete Summary of the 2013-2014 waterfowl hunting season in both the August and September **WWA** Newsletters. Carry it with you or pin it on your refrigerator to keep you updated on dates as well as bag and possession limits, which have changes this year].

#### **Upcoming Meeting**

For our program for our Wednesday, October 23, 2013, meeting at the **Kenmore Gun Ranges** [1031 – 228th Street SW, in Bothell], we are scrambling to try and round up some of the **SW Chapter** members who recently returned from their waterfowl hunting expeditions to Alberta, Canada this past September. [See the **SW Chapter News** and photos in this month's Newsletter].

If a hunting trip of this sort has been on your "Bucket List" for a while, come on out and learn how you can do it without the expense of a guided hunt in

a foreign country. Learn what you can bring over the US/ Canada border as far as firearms and ammo are concerned, and how you and several friends can "Git 'Er Done" on your

If you've already been out once or twice this season with mixed results, WWA-Seattle will once again offer a free round of trap or 5-stand to ALL WWA members of ALL Chapters to help get you tuned up for the remainder of the season. Remember we won't be having another Chapter meeting until Wednesday, January 22, 2014, though we will probably have a Christmas Dinner gathering once again on the first Thursday in December. Written and/or email notices [depending upon how you receive your WWA Newsletter] will be sent out to all Chapter members once the date and location are firmed up.

For October's meeting remember shotgun shooting is open all afternoon until 7 p.m.; followed by pizza and soft drinks; a brief business meeting; and hopefully the aforementioned program on waterfowl hunting in Canada.

Hope to see you there.

# WDFW Ups Compensation for Livestock Losses to Wolves

OLYMPIA - The **Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission** amended several state wildlife interaction rules, including those addressing conflicts between wolves and livestock, during a public meeting October 4th in Olympia.

#### Those amendments include:

- Making permanent an emergency rule that permits ranchers, farmers, and other pet and livestock owners in the eastern third of the state to kill a wolf that is attacking their animals.
- Adding sheep, goats, swine, donkeys, mules, llamas and alpacas to the list of animals livestock owners could be compensated for if those animals are killed by wolves. The previous list only included cattle, sheep and horses.
- Permitting state compensation regardless of whether livestock owners were raising the animals for commercial purposes; and
- Compensating livestock owners for their losses at market value.

Amendments approved by the commission will be available by mid-October on WDFW's website at <a href="http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/">http://wdfw.wa.gov/about/regulations/</a>.



# **Consider Your Donation For**



# Heritage Lands

# FARMLAND AND PUBLIC ACCESS PRESERVATION

The WWA is launching a private land/public access program called *Heritage Lands*. The goal is farmland preservation and public outdoor recreation opportunity, with the initial implementation in the Skagit and Stillaguamish River valleys.

# DON'T let your Heritage Lands Turn from this into....





Our WWA Program will Purchase Farmland, Preserve it, Conserve it, Promote it, Maintain it, and use it for Educational Purposes for you and the Next Generation.

We need your personal, corporate, or in-kind commitment to help us exceed our goal of \$300,000! We currently have a benefactor that will match the first \$2,000. Contact Rone Brewer to donate (206) 595-7481.

# **Every Donation Helps!**

For additional information please contact:

Rone Brewer, (206) 595-7481 nwducks@frontier.com

Skagit Valley Photos Courtesy of Dave Honan www.davehonan.com

# RIDGEFIELD NWR - YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAY

Youth Hunt Day at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge Saturday, October 26th.

TO APPLY: Simply mail a postcard to Youth Hunt Day, POB 457 Ridgefield, WA 98642 - ordeliver it in person to Refuge Headquarters at 28908 NW Main Ave, Ridgefield, WA. *Postcards must be RECEIVED by close of business on October 10th*. On the post card please list your name, age, and a mailing address.

the Lower Columbia Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Association will again be hosting the event. More details will be coming about the day's activities. THOSE NEW TO HUNTING contact the Eric at (360) 887-4106 for guidance about requirements and potential assistance.

Only youth will be issued reservations to the morning hunt on this day. Therefore no adult reservations will be accepted for this day. Hunters 15 years of age or younger are eligible for this special hunting opportunity and must be accompanied by an supervising non-hunting adult at least 18 years old. Hunting fees will be waived for all youth and supervising adults. All other refuge hunting program regulations will apply. Also be careful to have appropriate small game license and free state (stamp) validation prior to the hunt. The Refuge has no ability to issue licenses or validations on the day of the hunt! Please also note, goose hunting will not be allowed during youth hunt day. Hunting on this day will be limited to ducks and coot. Supervising adults may not possess firearms in the blind until noon, when general public hunting resumes for the remainder of the hunting day.

At noon, unoccupied blinds will be assigned via a ping pong ball lottery for the general public. After the noon blind assignment, the remainder of the day will resume a typical first-come first -serve procedure to occupy vacant blinds. At noon, adults supervising youth hunters with valid licenses/stamps can hunt for the duration of the day.

APPLICATIONS ARE DUE OCTOBER 10TH, and applicants that apply by this date will receive reservations to pick first from the available hunting blinds. MISSED THE DEADLINE? If you arrive at the check station on the morning of Youth Hunt Day, at least 1 3/4 hours before shooting time, you will be able to choose from the blinds remaining after the reservation youth hunters. Given the typical number of applicants, there will likely be plenty of room on Youth Hunt Day. Please, consider joining the event.

If you have any questions, please contact Eric Anderson at (360) 887-4106.

**GOOD LUCK!** 

# PROPOSAL WOULD EXPANDING HUNTING AT WILLAPA REFUGE

A proposed expansion of hunting opportunities would give hunters access to an additional 3,800 acres at the **Willapa National Wildlife Refuge**. If approved by the U.S. Fish and wildlife Service this year, the changes would expand areas for waterfowl and big game hunting.

**Willapa** is just one of the 20 refugees where the service wants to increase existing hunting and fishing programs. The service is also proposing to open hunting on six (6) other refuges. Under the proposal, one section of the south **Willapa Bay** would be open for waterfowl hunting, while another would be open for big game hunting. The big game hunting expansion comes with a prohibition of the use of centerfire and rimfire rifles, guns typically used by hunters.

"This is a safety issue," said **Nancy Holman**, visitor services manager at the refuge near Long Beach. "The refuge boundaries are a slim piece of land on a point at the southern end of the bay, and there are some residences and some private timberlands nearby." If approved, the changes would take effect for the 2014-2015 hunting season.

**Holman** said the refuge had submitted the proposal in January, anticipating they would be approved in time for this fall's seasons. But budget cuts slowed the process enough that approval would not come in time for this year.

The proposed expansion is consistent with the refuge's mission. "People sometimes confuse wildlife refuges with wildlife sanctuaries," **Holman** said. "Our mission is we manage for wildlife first, and then we are encouraged to support public use activities.."

Among the other proposals is expanding migratory bird hunting at **Bandon Marsh National Refuge** in Washington and Oregon. The refuge is already open to fishing.

This is one of the largest expansions of hunting and fishing opportunities on wildlife refuges in recent years, according to **Dan Ashe**, **Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**. Under the National Wildlife Refuge system Improvement Act of 1997, the service can allow hunting and fishing along with four (4) other types of wildlife-dependent recreation. Hunting in some form, is permitted on more than 329 wildlife refuges. Fishing is permitted on more than 271 wildlife refuges. The other permissible activities are wildlife photography, environmental education, wildlife observation and interpretation.

"Keeping our hunting and angling heritage strong by providing more opportunities on our refuges will not only help raise up a new generation of conversationalists, but also support local businesses and create jobs in local communities," **Interior Secretary Sally Jewell** said in a news release.

Visitation and use of national wildlife refuges also support the conservation of wildlife and habitat through spending and employment in local economies. According to the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, more than 90 million Americans, or 41 percent of the United States' population age 16 and older, pursued wildlife-related recreation in 2011. They spent more than \$144 billion that year.

#### **Proposed Hunting Expansion at Willipa NWR**

- Open an additional 2,600 acres for waterfowl hunting in south Willapa Bay.
- Open an additional 1,200 acres to deer and elk hunting in the **Lewis, Porter Point** and a portion of the **Riekkola** units. Hunters will not be able to use centerfire or rimfire rifles.
- Reopen the **Lewis Unit**, currently closed to public use, for waterfowl hunting.
- Would allow waterfowl hunting on the **Porter Point Unit** seven days a week, up from the current three days a week.

Source: Jeffrey P. Mayor / Tacoma News Tribune

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# POINTING LAB CLUB FORMING

There is an effort underway, with guidance from the American Pointing Labrador Association (APLA) to form a Pointing Labrador Retriever club in western Washington. If the effort is successful one of the club's goals will be to host APLA sanctioned hunt tests.

If you or anyone you know who owns a pointing Lab who live in western Washington or Oregon (from Seattle to Portland) that you think may be interested in joining such a club (to promote the breed, do group training, run fun gun dog trials, etc.), please contact Dr. Lily Lo at (360) 508-0022 or at <a href="mailto:ririro@gmail.com">ririro@gmail.com</a>. Visit their website at: <a href="http://www.nwpointinglabs.org">http://www.nwpointinglabs.org</a>



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# **RECIPE OF THE MONTH**

#### BRAISED SAUSAGE WITH PEPPERS

1 T canola oil
Four (4 oz) pork sausage links
One (12 oz) bottle amber beer
¼ C red wine vinegar
½ medium onion, thinly sliced
1 small red pepper, julienned

1 Jalapeno pepper, thinly sliced
2 garlic cloves, diced
2 T Creole (whole grain) mustard
4 rosemary sprigs
1 t salt
Perfect Steamed Rice

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- Heat the canola oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add the sausage and sear for 5
  minutes, turning as necessary until evenly browned.
- Add the beer and vinegar and cook for 1 minute, until slightly reduced.
- Add the onion, red pepper, Jalapeno, garlic, mustard, and rosemary, and salt and toss well to combine.
- Reduce the heat to low, cover, and simmer until the peppers are soft, the sausage is cooked through, and the sauce begins to reduce and thicken, 10-15 minutes.
- Serve over steamed rice, smothered with plenty of the sauce.

SEND US YOUR RECIPE TO WWA\_BULLETIN@COMCAST.NET, SEE IT PUBLISHED HERE

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# **Donations**

The **WWA** is based on volunteer efforts and donations from folks that care about the waterfowl hunting heritage. Our success rides on the shoulders of these volunteers and generous benefactors. Below is a listing of recent [since the September 12, 2013 Newsletter] contributions to four primary funds established by the **WWA**.

WWA Youth Fund — \$1,305

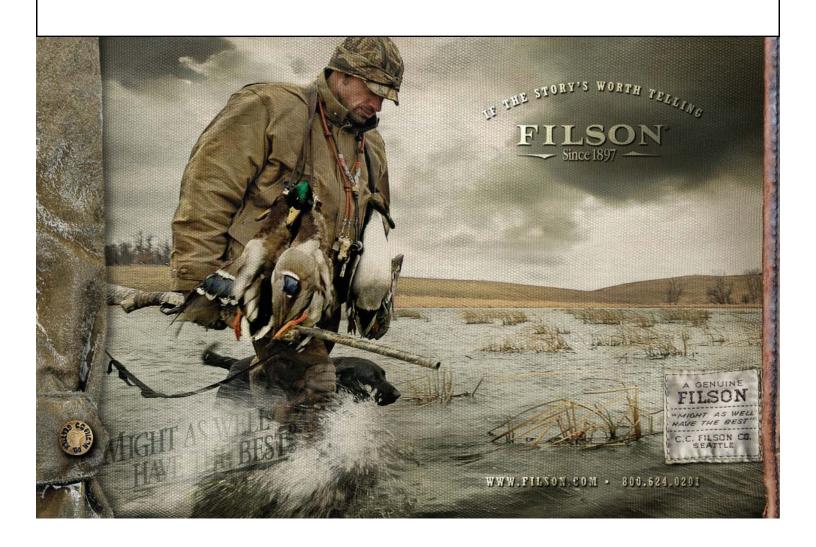
**WWA Legal Fund** — \$15,407

WWA Habitat Fund — \$285

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$1,766

WWA General Non Specific Donations —\$123

You can contribute in so many ways to the **WWA**, from locally to statewide, helping the **WWA** carry on! The **WWA** wishes to thank you for your generous contribution to the Waterfowler's Heritage.



#### 

Corporate Checking \$ 9,304.63

Chapter (LC, ML & SEA]
Trust Monies for Goose
Satellite Transmitters

For WDFW \$ 8,250.00 Corporate C.D. \$ 17,568.59 Corporate Total \$ 35,123.28

#### **CHAPTER FINANCES**

**GH Checking** \$ 2,081.38 **Kitsap Chapter** (To Be Funded) \$ 24,050.67 LC Checking \$ 8,333.69 **ML Checking** \$ 2,731.12 **NW Checking OP Checking** \$ closed 3/25/13 **SEA Checking** \$ 28,808.44 SEA CD Amount \$ 9,738.56 SEA Robert Hickok Fund \$ 1,316.37 **SPO Checking** 170.50 \$ 4,539.37 **SW Checking Tri-Cities Checking** 300.00 WH Checking \$ 6,789.27 **YV Checking** \$ 2,038.34

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	bership Type:				
	Family (immediate family up to age 18) — \$ 35.00  Regular — \$ 30.00  Life — \$ 500.00  Sustaining Life — \$ 750.00  Senior (65 or over) - \$ 15.00  Junior (under age 18) \$ 15.00				
<u>Char</u>	oter & Newsletter: (Please specify your preferences)  Newsletter by [ ] email or [ ] hard copy				
[ ]	meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Feb – Oct) at the <b>Evergreen Sportsmen's</b>				
[ ]	Club, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.  Kitsap County Chapter meets the 1st Wednesday of the month (Feb – Oct) at Bremerton Skeet & Trap Club.				
[ ]	<b>Lower Columbia Chapter</b> meets the last Thursday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the <b>Vancouver Trap</b>				
[ ]	Club, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.  Moses Lake Chapter – Dates and places TBD.				
į j	Northwest Chapter meets the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday				
[ ]	of the month at the <b>Conway Fire Hall. Seattle Chapter</b> meets the 4 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the				
	month (Jan - Oct) at Kenmore Shotgun Range, 1031 -				
[ ]	228 <sup>th</sup> Street SW, Bothell. <b>Southwest Chapter</b> meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the <b>Tacoma Sportsman's</b>				
г 1	Club, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.				

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Tri Cities Chapter meets the 2nd Monday of the

10th Avenue & HWY 395, Kennewick.

the Tenant Lake Interpretive Center.

month (Feb - Oct) at El Ranchito, in Zillah.

Whatcom County Chapter meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at

month (Feb - Oct) at the PUD Auditorium, corner of

Yakima Valley Chapter meets the 2nd Thursday of the

or

Mail with a check to: **WWA**.

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#### A few facts about the WWA:

- Established in 1945
- Non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization
- 10 chapters throughout Washington
- We spend all of our resources within Washington State

#### Our projects include:

- Working on behalf of Hunter's Rights issues to keep public access open and available
- Administration of the WA Migratory Bird Stamp and Print Program
- Hosting and sponsoring the Washington State Duck Calling Championships
- Wood Duck Nest Box & Mallard Nest Tube, Goose Nest Pot & platform construction, installation, & maintenance
- Working with the Boy Scouts of America on Eagle Scout projects
- Hosting Youth Mentor shotgun shooting one-on-one instruction events
- Conducting NRA sanctioned Hunter Education classes for Youth & donation of funds to offset WDFW printing costs for youth gun safety classes
- Donation of funds to support high school shooting teams in Washington
- Teaching adults and youth decoy carving arts
- Working with thousands of children at Sportsman's Show painting decoys, and with seriously ill youngsters on a decoy painting project
- Providing scholarships for boys and girls to attend a week at Youth Conservation Camp on Orcas Island, WA
- Working with the WDFW in the creation of premium quality hunt waterfowling areas
- Building and rehabilitating blinds in <u>public</u> hunting areas
- Distribution and planting of thousands of pounds of donated corn seed for waterfowl consumption
- Working with the Yakama Tribe in banding upland birds and waterfowl, and building duck "blinds" on tribal lands
- Goose and duck nest counts and banding of both with the WDFW and USFWS
- Working with the WDFW on dove counts & planting WDFW food plots in Eastern WA with WWA owned tractor and farming implements
- Sponsoring of the Annual NW Decoy Collector's Show
- Participating in multiple Sportsman's shows annually
- Donation of funds and volunteer man hours for Swan Mortality Mitigation Studies
- Donation of funds and man hours to WDFW for goose banding and satellite tracking
- Litter pickup projects at public hunting areas, boat ramps, and along highways; and Conducting multiple fund raising banquets annually to fund all of these "hands on" conservation projects.

Selected (and Incomplete)	<b>Summary of 2013-2014</b>
Migratory Waterfowl Seasons	(Significant Changes in Red)

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES (inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT				
Ducks	Statewide	<b>September 21-22, 2013 (Youth Hunt Only</b> (a Oct. 12-16, 2013 and Oct. 19, 2013— Jan. 26,	<b>7 (b)</b> 2014 <b>7(b)</b>	14 (b) 21(b)				
(b) Bag Limits:	Statewide	7 ducks to include not more than 2 hen mallard 2 pintail; 3 scaup; 2 canvasback, and 2 redhea	ls;	9(b)				
(b) New Possession Lim	<u>its Statewide</u>	6 pintail; 9 scaup; 6 canvasback; 6 redhead	& 6 hen mallards					
		Coots, and Snipe	25 8	50 24				
4) 9	Western WA	To include not more than 1 harlequin; 2 scoter, 2 long tailed duck; and 2 goldeneye	-					
(b) Season Limit		1 harlequin in Western WA						
AUTHORIZATION & HARVEST RECORD CARD REQUIRED TO HUNT SEA DUCKS								
Geese (except Brant & Aleutian)	Statewide	September 21-22, 2013 (Youth Hunting Only EXCEPT Goose Mgmt., Areas 2A & 2B	y) <b>4(c)</b> Canad	la Geese 8(c)				
	Goose Mgmt.	Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2013;	<b>5</b> (c)	10(c)				
	Area 1 & 3	Oct. 12-24, 2013 & Nov 2, 2013—Jan 26, 201		12				
		EXCEPT snow, Ross, or blue geese can be taken Oct 12, 2013 thru Jan. 26, 2014	<b>4</b> (c)	12				
	Goose Mgmt.	Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2013;	3(c)	6(c)				
	Area 2A	8 a.m. 4 p.m. Nov. 9—Dec 1 & Dec 11—Jan EXCEPT CLOSED Dec. 25 & Jan 1 Sat Sun & Weds., only (EXCEPT Ridgefield NWR)	26 <b>4(e)</b>	12(e)				
		Ridgefield NWR open 8 a.m.—4 p.m. Tues., Thurs., and Saturdays only Nov. 9-30, 2013 & Dec 12—Jan 25, 2014 EXCEPT CLOSED NOV. 28th	<b>4</b> (e)	12(e)				
	Goose Mgmt.	Early Season — Sept. 1-15, 2013;	<b>5</b> (c)	10(c)				
	Area 2B	8 a.m.– 4 p.m. Saturdays & Wednesdays Only Oct. 12-23 & Nov 2, 2013—Jan., 18, 2014	<b>4</b> (e)	<b>12</b> (e)				
	Goose Mgmt. Area 3	Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2013; Oct. 12-24 and Nov. 2, 2013—Jan. 26, 2014	5(c) 4(e)	10(c) 12				
	Goose Mgmt. Area 4	Early Season — Sept. 14-15, 2013; Sat, Sun, & Weds, only, Oct. 12— Jan 19, 201 Nov 11, 28, and 29; Dec 26, 27, 30, & 31, 201 and every day Jan 20-26, 2014.		6(c) 12				
	Goose Mgmt. Area 5	Early Season — Sept. 14-15, 2013; Oct. 12-14, 2013, & Oct 19, 2013—Jan 26, 20	3(c) 14 <b>4</b>	6(c) 12				
Brant (see authorization requirements on p. 14 of 2013-2014 regulations pamphlet)	Pacific County Skagit County	Jan. 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18 & 19, 2014 Jan. 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 22, 25, & 26, 2014	2 2	6				
Party (	Skagit County	If the pre-season wintering population in <b>Skagit County</b> is below 6000 (as determined by the early January survey) the brant season in <b>Skagit County</b> will be canceled.	n					

EDITOR'S NOTE: CHECK THE COMPLETE 2013-2014 REGULATIONS FOR SPECIFICS NOT PRINTED HERE.