

# Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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January 9, 2013



etter from the President

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Top of the year to y'all and I hope you have been enjoying the holiday season as well as your hunting season. Mother Nature continues to baffle me this season as she has in recent years, and I hear it's not just us folks in the Pacific Northwest that see odd impacts on our hunting dates. I hunted Nebraska the first week of December. Other than the early morning hours, I hunted in my shirt-sleeves as the temps ranged into the upper 60's.

Migrations seem to have been delayed substantially this season. Weather change is making for short seasons around the country. *Gawd*, I wish we could squeeze another week out of the **USFWS** at the end of the season next year and cough-up a few days at mid-season to compensate!

All said though, me and mine can't complain. We have had some excellent hunts this season; and we have had some real 'duds'!

At a time in this country when one could really slump into the viewpoint that the glass is half empty. For the life of me, I can't understand my eternal optimism that my next hunt will be the best yet. Do I suffer from some form of 'waterfowling OCD'?

Changing topics, I have retired my faithful dog **Dusty** from 'waterwork' since Thanksgiving. I think 'Big Dog' will still get a little 'ringneck' chasing in from time to time, but it just takes too much out of him making those 50 yard water retrieves these days (even when wearing the old camo wet-suit). He is not happy about moving to 'back-up' status. I'm going to miss seeing him laying outside the blind patiently waiting to do what he loves most. Likewise, lately yours truly seems to have less joy for the 03:30 hr rise and shines as I then fade in the afternoon (as evidenced by the 50 honkers that flew by only 10 yards over my decoys while I slept in my layout blind this past week!). Enter **Dusty's** understudy **Jett Pack**. **Jett** is doing some great retrieving, and I have been very pleased with his taking direction. As is the case with other young dogs, he is sometimes a little

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## EVENTS CALENDAR

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

- Thursday, Jan 10** Yakima Valley Chapter, 6:30 p.m., @  
at **Café Villa, Prosser, WA.**  
Contact **Abel Cortina.**
- Wednesday, Jan. 16** **[THIS MONTH ONLY]** 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, Jan. 23** **Seattle Chapter Meeting;** 7 p.m. @  
**Kenmore Gun Club**, in Bothell.  
Program to be **"Goose Hunting For**  
**Dummies"** put on by **Dave Farley** and  
**Michael Terrell**, a former guide.  
Contact **John Arrabito.**
- Fri, Sat, Sun; Jan. 25-27** **Puyallup Sportsmen's Show;** Puyallup  
**Fairgrounds.** Contact **Terry Satre**
- Tuesday, Jan. 29** **SW Chapter Meeting,** 6:30 p.m., @ the  
**Tacoma Sportsman's Club,** 16409  
Canyon Road E, Puyallup.  
Contact **Pat Shearer.**
- Thursday, Jan. 31** **Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting**  
7 p.m. @ **Vancouver Trap Club.**  
Contact **Rick Scott.**
- Saturday, Feb. 2** **Peninsula Chapter Meeting,** 10 a.m., @  
**HJ Carroll Park,** 9884 Rhody Drive,  
**Chimacum, WA 98325.**  
Contact **Don Brickey.**
- Tuesday, Feb. 5** **Whatcom County Chapter Meeting**  
5-7 p.m. @ **Tenant Lake Interpretive**  
**Center, Ferndale.** Contact **Scott O'Day.**
- Wednesday, Feb. 6** **Kitsap Peninsula Chapter Meeting**  
6-8 p.m. @ **Bremerton Trap & Skeet**  
**Club.** Contact **Richard Bazzell**
- February 6-10** **Northwest Sportsmen's Show in**  
**Portland**
- Thursday, Feb. 7** **Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting.**  
7 p.m. @ **Evergreen Sportmen's Club,**  
near **Littlerock.** Contact **Kurt Snyder**
- Thursday, Feb. 7** **WWA Corp Board of Directors Meeting**  
6:30 p.m., @ **Canyon Park Denny's or**  
**Wild Fin in Issaquah (Gilman Village)**  
**All members always welcome.**
- Monday, Feb. 11** **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.**
- Tuesday, Feb. 12** **Northwest Chapter Meeting;**  
7 p.m. @ **Conway Fire Hall.**  
Contact **Rone Brewer.**

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overwhelmed with some old honker giving him the dickens on a retrieve....but the dead birds come straight to hand. I have to admit that he still has the ability to come across as the "class clown" as he sometimes goes to sleep in the blind; helps himself to some of my lunch if I'm not paying attention; or breaks into a tug-o-war with a corn stalk with hunting buddy 'Bo'.

Guess I've rambled on enough for this edition. So, I'll wish you all continued good health and fun and success waterfowling for the duration of the season.

For the Resource,

**Jim Cortines**

Recently we have had incidents on public forums where members have claimed they speak for the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA).

Members must be ever mindful that their individual actions reflect on the WWA as a whole.

No member is authorized to represent himself or herself as a Spokesperson for the WWA without the approval and authorization of the Board of Directors.

This rule applies when dealing with the media, interactive talk forums, manufacturers, retailers, guides, farmers, government agencies, other outdoors organizations, etc.

Please take the time to read the WWA By-Laws.

## Projects and Programs

### Island County No Shooting Zone Petition Ordinance

The **Island County Commissioners** are considering an ordinance that would allow neighbors to petition the commissioners for neighborhood no shooting zone[s]. At recent Commission meetings, WWA members provided testimony opposing this ordinance. One of the Commissioners was just replaced, so we are waiting to see if this ordinance moves forward. At this point it is unclear how the Commission or the neighbors would define a "neighborhood." Let the Board of Island County Commissioners know this ordinance is unnecessary as citizens can already petition on anything they want. This is just a way for anti-hunting/anti-shooting politicians to pass their constitutional responsibilities to their anti-hunting/anti-shooting constituents so they can say..."It's what the people wanted".



### Thurston County Marine Shoreline No Shooting Zone Ordinance

The incumbent County Commissioners were re-elected.  
Expect more no shooting/hunting ordinances to pop up in Thurston County, folks.

### Duck Stamp Program

(Statewide)

**State duck stamps and prints now available from WWA.**

**Contact Doug Graef** if you are interested in helping **WWA** with this great program: (425) 883-1150

### Willapa National Wildlife Refuge

(Pacific County)

It seems the **Willapa Refuge** will now provide detailed waterfowl count data to the **WDFW**. We were first told it was not available; then that **WDFW** had it; and finally that actually it is in the Refuge files somewhere in hard-copy format, but the Refuge was not going to provide it.

Dikes are scheduled for removal on the next unit this summer.

### Willapa Bay Eelgrass

(Pacific County)

**WWA** is concerned that proposed herbicide spraying of eelgrass on commercial clam beds may have the potential to kill a substantial portion of the **Willapa Bay Japanese Eelgrass** which is primary forage for widgeon and pintail. **WWA** provided a critical review of an ecological risk assessment of potential spraying of eelgrass with the herbicide *Imazamox*. The WA Dept. of Ecology has decided to require the shellfish companies to conduct an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) of the spraying before they permit the herbicide. **WWA** understands the shellfish growers concerns about Japanese Eelgrass affecting (primarily) their clam beds, and supports targeted spraying of the Japanese Eelgrass, with some monitoring to determine overall impacts. However, **WWA** is concerned about the possibility of bay-wide spraying of the primary forage for widgeon and pintail as well as potential impacts to native eelgrass, which overlaps with the Japanese Eelgrass, and impacts to other species, including forage fish, that use the eelgrass for cover and/or spawning habitat, and sediment-dwelling invertebrates.

## Projects and Programs - Continued

### Leque Island Fish Restoration & North Leque Island Wetland Mitigation

(Snohomish County)

The **Ducks Unlimited (DU)** groundwater data collection and modeling report is done. The **Juniper Beach Water System** is having a technical review completed. **WWA** has conducted a preliminary review and their model/report shows that saltwater from **Leque Island** tidal restoration would cross **Davis Slough** and enter the sole source drinking water aquifer. This is contrary to all the "professional" opinions that were provided to **WDFW** stating that **Davis Slough** would be a hydraulic barrier. But then the report somehow concludes that this would not affect drinking water. So, wouldn't this suggest that saltwater from **North Leque Island** is also entering the drinking water aquifer. The saga continues.

### Heritage Lands

(Statewide)

What is the Heritage Lands Program?

Farm fields in Stilly valley sold...hunting on this land is unlikely into the future.

WDFW no longer managing its land for waterfowl.

Fish restoration removes dikes on waterfowl management lands.

Snow Goose reserve to be restored for fish habitat.

Want to preserve some farmland for waterfowl and hunting into the future?

Imagine thousands of acres of farmland statewide, all managed for farming and public access, by a hunters' non-profit organization like **WWA**, all paying for itself.

It's called Heritage Lands

**WWA** wants to use **private dollars**, to establish this program, then after established, not only will it will pay for itself, as it grows it will pay for its own expansion. Think about it...a waterfowl hunting access program that pays for itself, managed by waterfowl hunters and farmers!

It is a powerful match up.

Care to invest in the future of hunting in our state?

[WWW.WADUCK.ORG](http://WWW.WADUCK.ORG)

### Youth Hunting/Shooting Programs

(Statewide)

**Larry Gordon of the Seattle Chapter** has been providing a youth shoot at the **Kenmore Gun Club** for eight (8) consecutive years. **Thor Ostrom of the Spokane, and now Tri-Cities Chapter** initiated the first ever youth hunt at the **Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge**. Thanks to **Rick Skiba and Reb Broker, the Northwest Chapter** now has a youth hunt program that is looking for places to provide successful hunts throughout the hunting season. **Kurt Snyder and the Grays Harbor Chapter** just conducted its first ever pre-season youth shoot at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club**. **The Whatcom Chapter** provides hunter education classes each year. And other chapters provide youth activities throughout the year. **WA State Duck Calling Champion, Abel Cortina** of the **Yakima Valley Chapter** provides youth calling contests as part of the annual state calling championships. Now, the **Northwest Chapter challenges each chapter** to select a volunteer youth hunt coordinator who can establish a small network of individuals and private blinds so youth waterfowl hunts can be provided during each waterfowl hunting season. Once these chapter programs are established, we intend to coordinate with other groups such as "**Hunt of a Lifetime**" to provide dream fulfilling hunts for folks across the state.

# Southwest Chapter News

By Terry Satre

Happy New year all you waterfowlers, hope your season is going well!

## January Southwest Chapter Meeting

Our next meeting will be January 29th at **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club (TSC)** on Canyon Road. Meeting is at 7:00 pm in the hunter education building. Come early and eat or shoot trap. Remember if you show your **WWA ID**, you will get **TSC** member pricing when shooting trap or skeet.

## Puyallup Sportsmen's Show

The Puyallup Sportsmen's show will soon be on us. It's earlier this year - January 23 to 27, so we are looking for volunteers to help run the booth, set up and take down etc. Call or email me if you want to help out, 253-845-2398

\*\*\*\*\*

# Northwest Chapter News

By Rone Brewer

## NW Chapter Meetings

The Northwest Chapter meets the second Tuesday of each month, 7 pm at the **Conway Fire Hall**.

## Pack it in/Pack it out

"**Hunters are litterers**" is **one of the first things anti-hunters blame us for**, along with being drunken slobs who don't care about how or where we hunt or what we shoot (at).

Please pick up your shotshells

## Black Cloud Shotshells — From Behind the Gun

In 20 gauge, these shells only come in 4 and 6 shot. They are about 1300 foot per second (fps) compared to some of the other faster 1500 fps shells.

While the slower 4 shot doesn't seem to have the range of the faster 3 shot that I have used previously within 35 yards or so, I have found them to be considerably more lethal. Nearly all of the ducks I hit this year (which weren't many unfortunately) were dead on the water. This was uncommon with the faster 3 shot I used in previous years, where I was frequently shooting ducks on the water after knocking them down. I also noticed more internal bleeding with the Black Cloud shells.

So, seat of the pants, it seems they do indeed have more lethality. I really wish they made them in 20 gauge 3 shot though!

Keep on Keepin' On

**Rone**

206-595-7481

\*\*\*\*\*

# Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

## Ridgefield NWR Youth Hunt

Our Chapter put on another successful youth hunt at the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge** on November 3rd. Members **Chris Stalcup, Don Zimmerly, Dan Hafenbrack, Jerry Piazza, Bill Dose, Rick Erickson, Al O'Connor, Doug Majury, Ted and Evan Blade, Arlan Hackett, Bruce Head** and **Rick Scott** all helped out. **Bruce** showed up early with a boat

*(Continued on Page 7)*

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load of donuts for everyone. Prior to heading out to the blinds **Rick Erickson** and **Bruce** gave out **WWA** donated duck calls to the young hunters and held the drawing for a blind bag and several other prizes.

This year the hunt took place on a Saturday which would have normally been a regular hunt day. This was done to encourage participation and improve the hunting success. Past hunts have taken place on Sunday. We had plenty of hotdogs and hamburgers (with jalapenos on request) grilled up by **Doug Majury** with help from **Rick Scott** for the hungry group. We were ready for big numbers as the reservations had all been filled with a waiting list.

As is the case many times at the Refuge on regular hunt days, some of the permit holders were unable to make it and a few blinds were left open. We still had a great turn out and will try for a new record next year! While waiting for the young hunters to return from the blinds for the BBQ, **Arlan** had everyone stuffing **WWA** garbage bags with a kitchen trash bags to hand out each morning at hunter check in. The extra bag has room to handle all the refuse left over from a day in the blind with three (3) hunters! Thanks to all who took time out from their Saturday and hunting schedules to participate in this great event!

**Pacific Northwest Sportsmen’s Show February 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>**

Our Chapter will have a booth at the **Northwest Sportsmen’s Show in Portland** the first part of February. This is our first booth at this event, and we are very excited at the opportunity we have to grow our organization and the positive exposure this venue provides. We will share the booth with another great organization, the **Vancouver Wildlife League**. We plan to sign up new members and

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raffle off a gun. Please contact **Arlan Hackett** to grab a four hour booth slot for this great event at [aghackett@aol.com](mailto:aghackett@aol.com).

**Operation Goose Down**

**WWA** member **Rick Erickson** and his nonprofit organization, **Pacific NW Outdoor Adventures**, sponsored a fantastic **Wounded Warriors** waterfowl hunting event for 10 former and current military veterans over the weekend of December 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The hunt took place in the **Tri Cities** area with the **Bill Saunders** and his **Big Guns Waterfowl Outfitters**. **WWA** members **Dion Hess** and **Derrick Tackett** also participated in the event. Our Chapter was honored to lend our support to this worthy event and



show our appreciation for the sacrifices these very special individuals have made on our behalf.

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**Successful Sea Duck Hunt**

Chapter members **Bob Taylor** (left) and **Ted Blade** had a great sea duck outing with **Grays Harbor Chair Kurt Snyder** in late October. **Ted** and **Bob** were the successful high bidders at our banquet for the generous sea duck hunt donation by **Kurt**. Ted was able to bag a mature harlequin drake.



Thanks to all three (3) of you for supporting our fund raiser!

**January 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting Blow Out!**

We are pulling out all the stops for our first meeting of the new year on Thursday January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m., at the **Vancouver Trap Club**. VP **Arlan Hackett** has procured some prime rib for the dinner. We have a free raffle for a \$40 gift certificate and of course trap shooting prior to the meeting. So make a point to bring your hunting stories and join us for a great meal and meeting!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Yakima Valley Chapter News**

By Abel Cortina

**Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting**

The **Yakima Valley Chapter** is meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the **Cafe Villa** in Prosser. Meetings start at 6:30 pm.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Whatcom Chapter News**

By Scott O' Day

**Whatcom Chapter Meeting**

The **Whatcom County Chapter** Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7 pm. @ **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center** near Ferndale. Join us if you can.

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**Spokane Chapter News**

Chairman wanted!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Moses Lake Chapter News**

By Dick Price

**Gloyd Seeps Project / ALEA Grant**

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> using the water jet stinger purchased by the **Columbia Basin Pheasants Forever Chapter** we planted 1,000 Red Osier Dogwood sticks and 2,300 Willow sticks with volunteers from the Ephrata office of **WDFW**, **Puget Sound Chapter of Pheasants Forever**, local high school seniors that used the event for their community service project (three (3) from **Quincy, Christian Perez, Roberto Avila, & Juan Velasquez** & one from **Moses Lake, Eryn Smiley**). **WWA** members **Bill & Rosann**

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Green and Lloyd Petersen, plus a couple of local folks that read about the project in the local paper.

On November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> we planted 1,620 shrubs that will provide cover and a food source in the winter. Shrubs included **Douglas Hawthorn, Blue Elderberry, Mock Orange, Bitter Cherry, Golden Currant, Quaking Aspen, & Rugos Rose**. The project on the 16<sup>th</sup> was done using the **WDFW** shrub planter manned by **Dick Price of WWA** and **Jacob Steele, Michael Osborn, and John Cotton**, all from **WDFW**.

On Saturday we finished making sure all the shrubs were properly in the ground using the above folks plus **Rich Finger, Eryn Smiley, and Dawn Snow**. We were unable to put down the plastic mulch at this time as the ground was too wet and gumbo mud, so we'll complete the project in the Spring when the ground dries out. After the mulch is spread, we will plant the nesting cover grasses.

To date we have put 323 volunteer hours into this project.

**Work Party January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

We will meet at a greenhouse located on the corner of **U Rd. and Rd. 6, North of Warden at 10:00 a.m.** We're looking at mixing lots of potting soil, perlite, and sphagnum moss, and packing it into small seedling tubes. We are planning to fill between 6,500 to 7,000 tubes — to be split between our effort and **BFI Native Seeds**. They are doing all the watering and maintenance for our help. We will be planting our share in the Spring to help control wind erosion on dikes and around ponds.

Let me know if you will be attending so I can plan on how many lunches we need to provide. Contact me at 509-762-9027 or dickprice@nctv.com

\*\*\*\*\*

**Grays Harbor Chapter News**

By Kurt Snyder

Hi all.

Hope your hunting season has gone well. Our Chapter had a raffle drawing for the Remington Model 887 shotgun on the 6th of December, and the winner was...**Cassie Henry of Elma WA**. This young lady is a very regular shooter and was very happy to receive this gun! This was the gun our Chapter won in the last **WWA** membership drive raffle. We didn't make a lot of money from the raffle as the tickets were only one dollar each. I'm a bit surprised that we didn't sell more tickets.

Thanks to all that bought and sold the tickets! We will put the money to good use!

Our Chapter has met all it's conservation goals for the last year which is awesome seeing as we had to put so much of our time fighting illegal no shooting ordinances! It seems that the subject will never end with all the anti - hunting sentiment out there. It makes it more important than ever to keep our act as clean as possible when hunting. I cannot count all the messes from other hunters that I have cleaned up this season. I would tell you how many empties that I've picked up but they don't make numbers that high...

What the **WWA** does to promote good, clean, safe, and legal hunting will go a long way for preserving our privilege to hunt waterfowl. I have hunted with several new people this season, and all of them were good hunters that wouldn't leave a trace of themselves. I scolded a few hunters recently for leaving a mess, but they were not interested in anything I told them. Shame.

**Youth Event**

We are planning our Chapters second youth event at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club** near Littlerock sometime in September. Last years event was successful even though we only attracted 11 youth. Lots of prizes were donated and given out. The shooting was outstanding. This year's event will be bigger and improved over last year with all the feedback we have received. The shoot will be before the youth opener and held on the **Sporting Clays** range. Fun for youth and the adults!

**Osgood Property**

Our **Osgood Acquisition** work parties never happened last year because of scheduling problems but will become a regular Chapter involvement this year. The old farm needs a lot of clean-up as an old farm will. I hunted this area twice this year with limited success, but it is getting used by many hunters. There is only room there for two (2)

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**Cassie Henry** with her new Remington 887



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blinds and only two parking spots to match. It is in the middle of a very wet area making it a great and easy hunt. It's only going to get better with our help. If you have not volunteered to be a part of this project yet, then let me know and I'll put you on my work party contact list. For those already on my list, thank you for your patience on this. I will have more time this year to set things up as I'm now well into and used to being retired.

**Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting**

Our next Chapter meeting will be on the 7th of February, 7:00 pm at the Evergreen Sportsman's Club near Littlerock. This will be our first Chapter meeting of the year, and we have many items to discuss and plan out our year. Anyone can attend so if you know of any waterfowlers near here please let them know about us. You can give them my email address; [kurtsnyder@outdrs.net](mailto:kurtsnyder@outdrs.net)

Happy hunting to you all,  
For the resource and the future,  
Kurt Snyder  
360-485-9353

\*\*\*\*\*

**Tri-Cities Chapter News**

By Tracy Miles

Hope everyone is having a great season.

The **First Tri-Cities Chapter Meeting** of the year is on **Wednesday [this month only]**, Jan 16th at the **Benton County PUD Building** in Kennewick. It's the start of the second year for our Chapter, and we have some great ideas we are working on (more info to follow).

Welcome new member **Justin Sherman**.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Kitsap & Olympic Peninsula Chapter News**

By Richard Bazzell and Don Brickey

Waterfowlers on the Peninsula were blessed with an excellent start to the season. With the help of **WDFW (Jeff Skriletz)**, our members have built/repared over nine (9) blinds across **Mason, Kitsap, and Jefferson Counties**. The rewards have truly outweighed the investments our group has made. I would like to take this opportunity to thank

**Justin and Jiles Pauole, Trent Hough, Jim Zimny, Michael and Dalton Wallitner, Grant Furness, Tony Covert and Don Brickey** for their commitment to the resource and helping grow **WWA** here on the Peninsula.



**Tom Hamilton of Bremerton Trap & Skeet** providing shooting instruction to attendees.

Friends and family of **WWA** members enjoying some shooting .



In addition, we would like to give a special thanks to **Tom Hamilton** and his fellow club officers of **Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club** for putting on a special shooting clinic for over 40 friends and family of **WWA-Kitsap** members.

Thanks again to all that have made **WWA-Kitsap** a success! Be sure to check us out on Facebook at Kitsap Peninsula Waterfowlers. Have a great end to the Season!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Seattle Chapter News**

By John Arrabito

With a few days of the season left after our Wednesday, January 23rd meeting, **WWA** members **Dave Farley** and **Michael Terrell** will be providing the program on

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the topic of "Late Season Goose Hunting." **Michael**, put 20 years in the Navy, and now likes to waterfowl hunt as much as possible. A former waterfowl guide, who especially enjoys taking kids into the field and teaching them the ropes, he has recently been treating several **WWA** members from various Chapters to some fantastic last season goose hunts. Come out and join us and get some tips on decoys; decoy placement, layout blind placement, etc.

Two years ago **Michael** started his own business, **Run 'n Gun Waterfowl**, specializing in the manufacture of Texas style decoy rigs. He started using this method of decoy rigging while hunting the Skagit flats with his sneak



**Michael's son, Christian "Buddy" Terrell**, with some of last weekend's harvest of 21.

boat when he needed to move his decoys quickly to avoid tides while staying where the birds wanted to be. His best sellers are 48" and 60" decoy lines with a sliding four (4) ounce weight. You can check out his website at: [www.runngunwaterfowl.weebly.com](http://www.runngunwaterfowl.weebly.com)

To sweeten the pot and get you ready for the last weekend of the season, **WWA-Seattle** will give a free round of trap or 5-stand to all **WWA members of All Chapters** who want to come out and join us.

Shooting all afternoon; followed by a catered dinner [\$9.50] at 7:00 p.m.; followed by a short business meeting; followed by the *Goose Hunting Program* by **Dave** and **Michael**.



**Farley Family Tailgate Shot — Dave**, with his sons, **Chase and Chandler** from two (2) weekends ago.

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# News for the Flock

## Wood Duck Monitoring - Cameras Needed

WWA-Seattle Chapter member, Ted Burris, has been working with some wood duck nest box camouflaging to decrease nest dumping, and trying to photograph the comings and goings of the wood ducks. Ted is also trying to get about a dozen cameras for nest boxes in several wetlands around Seattle. They have four (4) cameras now, but would like to get about eight (8) more. The trail camera he has been using to capture the front of the box without altering the birds' use of the nest boxes is a **Moultrie Feeders** model pictured at the right. If you would like to help Ted's wood duck program, he would like to get about eight (8) more of these cameras, which can be seen and purchased at:



<http://www.moultriefeeders.com/productdetail.aspx?id=mfh-dgs-d55irxt>. Drop Ted an email, [camoduk@comcast.net](mailto:camoduk@comcast.net), if you are interested in helping out with the purchase of, or contribution toward a camera. Thanks All!

**The Seattle Chapter has committed to buying a camera for Ted and challenges all other WWA Chapters to do the same.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**TREASURERS. REPORT (1-3-2013)**

Corporate Checking	\$ 25,674.80
Chapter (LC, ML & SEA) Trust Monies for Goose Satellite Transmitters For WDFW	\$ 8,250.00
Corporate C.D.	\$ 17,529.08
Corporate Total	\$ 51,468.88

**CHAPTER FINANCES**

GH Checking	\$ 1,315.70
Kitsap Chapter	(To Be Funded)
LC Checking	\$ 17,270.05
ML Checking	\$ 8,014.88
NW Checking	\$ 3,518.51
OP Checking	\$ 320.00
SEA Checking	\$ 35,864.37
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,729.91
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,316.19
SPO Checking	\$ 170.50
SW Checking	\$ 3,947.02
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 300.00
WH Checking	\$ 7,175.34
YV Checking	\$ 2,571.33

\*\*\*\*\*

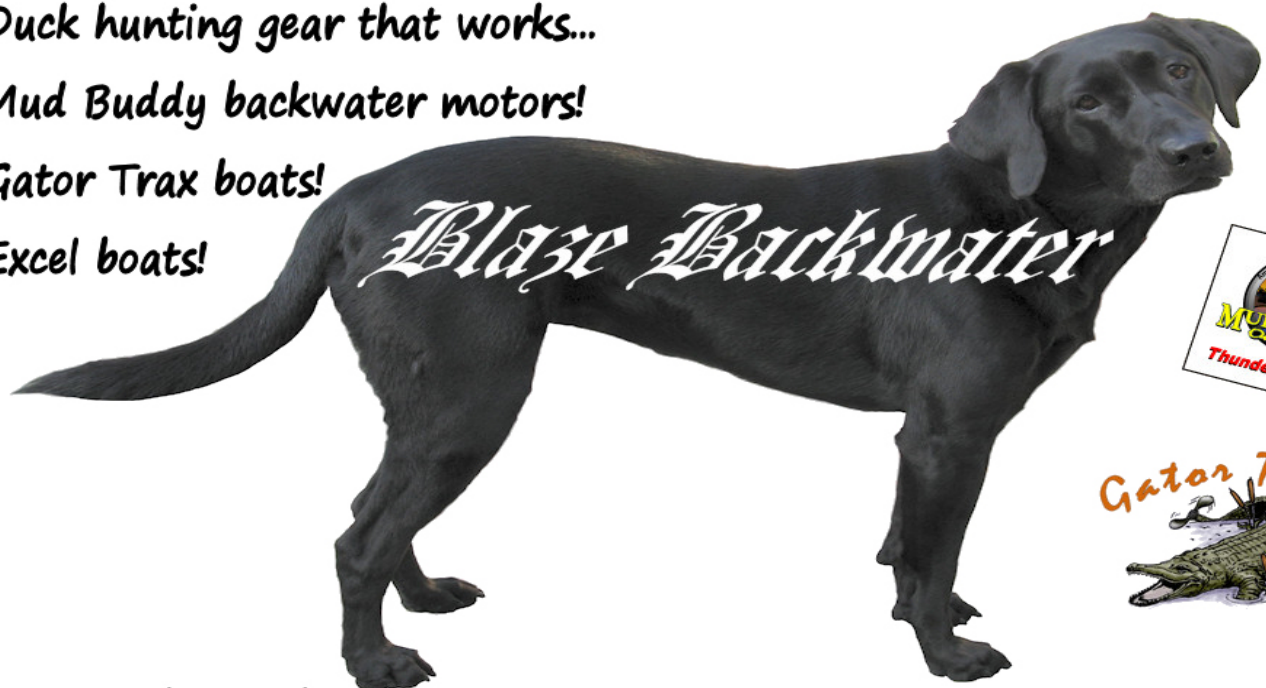
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# News for the Flock

## 39th Northwest Decoy Show Bellevue, Washington

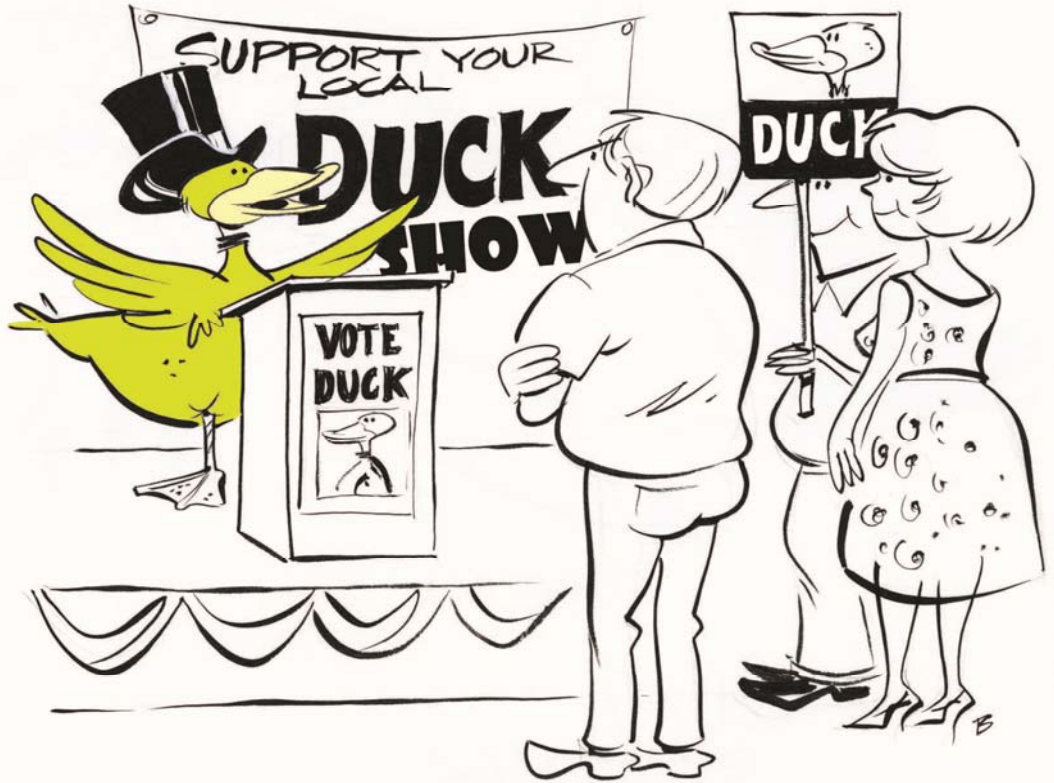
**Bellevue Coast Hotel**  
625 116th Avenue NE  
Bellevue, WA 98004

**Friday - May 3rd, 2013**  
Room to Room Trading  
6:00 PM

**Saturday - May 4th, 2013**  
Decoy Show - Ballroom  
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Details:**

Brett Stark  
(206) 963-8800  
NWDecoy@gmail.com  
BrettStark2003@yahoo.com



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www.tacomassportsmensclub.com

## The Dirty Dozen

Courtesy of the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance ([www.ussportsmen.org](http://www.ussportsmen.org))

There are groups that undermine and manipulate systems across America to end hunting, trapping and fishing. These same "less-than-honest" groups also often then exploit wildlife and conservation issues in the name of raising dollars for their devious causes. Here are a dozen organizations that have taken efforts in the past year to prevent you from hunting or trapping:

**Humane Society of the United States (HSUS):** After losing an effort to have the chairman of California's Game Commission removed because he went legally hunting for mountain lions in another state, **HSUS** then pushed legislation to end the hunting of bears and bobcats with hounds in California. **HSUS** has also threatened to sue to stop wolf hunting in the Western Great Lakes region. Shame on them.

**Center for Biological Diversity:** This group has repeatedly sued the federal government to end the use of traditional hunting ammunition through attempts to ban lead. This ban would also apply to fishing tackle and would affect all sportsmen and women. The group's information is based on flawed details about lead and bullets. The **CBD** is also working—and suing—to stop Western Great Lakes region wolf hunting seasons.

**People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA):** This radical animal rights group issued a request for its minions across America to break established hunter harassment laws. **PETA** urged followers to interfere with hunts by protesting, spreading human hair, and other unlawful acts.

**Defenders of Wildlife:** This group has been working to end wolf management in Wyoming and misguiding the public on the truth about overpopulated Yellowstone wolves. **Defenders of Wildlife** has filed a number of anti-hunting lawsuits and often seeks to recoup its legal costs for the suits from taxpayers.

**Sierra Club:** This group's board of directors worked for—and implemented—a policy officially opposing all trapping. The **Sierra Club** also tried to end a decades old elk hunt on public land in Wyoming.

**The Fund for Animals:** They have threatened to sue to halt established Western Great Lakes region wolf hunts after hunters and state game management supporters were successful in removing the long recovered wolves from the **Endangered Species List**. They have also filed a suit that would stop wolf management in Wyoming.

**Howling for Wolves:** A Minnesota-based group suing to stop wolf hunting in that state. The group claims that the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources didn't properly adopt the hunting season even though it went through the same process as other hunting seasons.

**American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals:** Supports laws to prevent keeping dogs in outside kennels (a standard practice across America). They have also filed a legal brief supporting the lawsuit aimed at shutting down wolf hunting with dogs in Wisconsin.

**Western Environmental Law Center:** A ring leader in a group of eight (8) anti-organizations that want to ban wolverine trapping in Montana until the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** determines if the wolverine will be placed on the federal threatened and endangered species lists. This is just another "backdoor" ploy to end all trapping.

**In Defense of Animals:** This anti-hunting group sued to stop bear hunting in Virginia; has called for a boycott of Alaska over its highly successful and sustainable wolf management program; strongly opposes wolf management in the Northern Rocky Mountains; and is pushing for a federal ban on animal testing for medical research.

**Friends of Animals:** This Connecticut-based group believes "hunting in all forms is unethical, socially unjustifiable and ecologically disruptive." The group worked against bear hunting in New Jersey; deer hunting in Connecticut; and against many science-based conservation programs. This group claims "hunting is an important cause of many deer/auto collisions... by inciting the deer to be incautious."

**WildEarth Guardians:** They earn a place on this shame list for working to ban trapping on public land in New Mexico. This group has also sued the federal Wildlife Services department over their wolf management program and has called on Congress to end funding for this important federal wildlife management entity.

**Please spread the word on these ANTI groups. Your next hunting, fishing or trapping trip depends on it.**

## 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 October 2012 Newsletter] contributions to four primary (4) funds established by the WWA.

**WWA Youth Fund—\$190**

**WWA Legal Fund—\$14,677**

**SW Chapter Hunting Gear Sale — \$150**

**South Bay Hunt Club — \$125 (Leque Island Legal Fund)**

**WWA Habitat Fund—\$235**

**WWA Heritage Lands Fund—\$1,158**

**WWA General Non Specific Donations —\$73**

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.



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## Photograph of the Month

**WWA Member Dale Schossow  
with some nice mallards**



## **IN MEMORIAM**



If you have someone you would like to honor in this column,  
 please contact newsletter editor Rone Brewer  
 (nwducks@frontier.com or 206.595.7481)  
 before the 10th of the month you would like the memorial to appear.



We would prefer a note written by the contributor.  
 A picture is also requested.

There is no charge for this service but donations at your discretion are always appreciated.

## WWA Photo Contest

### Send us Your Great Waterfowling Photograph

The **WWA** photo contest is to promote sharing of wing shooting experience of the Club's membership. Photos from the current or previous season must be submitted by September 30th of the following year. Members may submit digital photos (jpg file) to [mikkelse@mindspring.com](mailto:mikkelse@mindspring.com). Monthly winners photos will be posted on our website and newsletter and may be used in a **WWA** calendar. **WWA Photo Contest Guidelines:** Must be taken in the last license year; Is limited to the wing shooting experience; Must include a member (or family member), harvested game, and/or a bird dog.



**WWA retains right to use all submitted photographs** (submittal of a photo including a person under 18 years old gives **WWA** consent to use the file for **WWA** purposes).





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## OR HERE



## Yes Virginia, Santa has Brought you a 2013 Brant Season in Skagit Co.

OLYMPIA - Brant goose numbers in **Skagit County** are high enough to allow an eight-day hunt later this month, according to the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**. Brant hunting in **Skagit County** is scheduled [Jan. 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, and 27](#) with a bag limit of two (2) geese per day.

The hunting season was adopted by the **Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission** in August, contingent on a count of at least 6,000 brant in **Skagit County**. A total of 8,960 brant were counted Jan. 2 during an aerial survey of **Fidalgo, Padilla** and **Samish** bays.

"Numbers of brant wintering in Skagit County are up from last year's count of 6,704," said **Don Kraege**, waterfowl section manager for **WDFW**. "The brant season is structured to maintain the limited wintering population of western High Arctic birds (commonly known as gray-bellied brant) wintering in Skagit County."

This year's count in **Skagit County** is similar to the 10-year average, **Kraege** said. He noted that ground surveys conducted last winter indicated good productivity of brant, so this year's increase was not a surprise. About 2,000 brant were counted in **Whatcom County** during this year's aerial survey.

To participate in the **Skagit County** brant season, hunters must:

1. Purchase a special migratory bird hunting authorization and a harvest record card available from **WDFW** license dealers.
2. After taking a brant, hunters are required to record their harvest information immediately on the card, and report their harvest to **WDFW** by Feb. 15. Hunters are reminded that failure to report by Feb. 15 will result in a \$10 administrative fee added to cost of their 2013 license. Check out the Brant Season in **Pacific County** on the next page.

Hunters who harvest a brant fitted with a metal and/or colored leg band are asked to report the leg band information by calling 1-800-327-BAND or at <http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/bblretrv/>. The leg bands help biologists identify and track the birds.

## WWA Board Election Results

Two (2) new members were elected to the **WWA** Board of Directors in the recent elections that ended October 31st. **[Editor's Note: This is the first published Newsletter since October]**. The results added some more Eastern WA input into **WWA** with the election of **Thor Ostrom** of the WWA-Tri Cities Chapter to a two-year term.

The top vote getters were **Dave Farley** of the Seattle Chapter and **Abel Cortina** of the Yakima Valley Chapter, and as such were each re-elected to three year terms.

**Timon Gasowski** of the Seattle Chapter was re-elected and joins **Thor** with a two year term.

**Larry Gordon** of the Seattle Chapter was re-elected to a one year term, and **Jim Kline** of the Seattle Chapter returns to the board for a one year term.

These six (6) join **Bruce Feagan** of the Moses Lake Chapter in the 2nd of a three year term, and **Howard Hicks** and **Neco Villella**, each in the final year of their two year terms.

Thanks to all who "threw their hat into the ring" and were willing to step up their participation in **WWA**.

## Master Hunter Program on Hold

OLYMPIA – With current enrollment nearing 2,000 hunters, the Master Hunter Permit Program administered by the **WDFW** has stopped accepting new applications for membership until further notice.

The enrollment freeze is designed to give the department time to absorb an increase of nearly 30 percent more certified master hunters over the past four (4) years and clearly define the program's role, said **Sgt. Carl Klein**, **WDFW program manager**.

"Since 1992, the program has produced a highly skilled pool of volunteers that assist the department in controlling wildlife damage," **Klein** said. "Now we need to make sure we can utilize the skills of all master hunters."

**Klein** said **WDFW** often calls on master hunters to participate in hunts designed to remove problem animals that damage property or threaten public safety.

**Mike Britton**, **Chair of WDFW's Master Hunter Advisory Group**, said he supports the department's review of the program.

"There is an urgent need for **WDFW** to identify priority volunteer needs and to actively engage master hunters in meaningful work," he said.

## Selected **(and Incomplete)** Summary of 2012-2013 Migratory Waterfowl Seasons

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES (inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Ducks	Statewide	<b>September 22-23, 2012 (Youth Hunting Only) (a)</b> Oct. 13-17, 2012 and Oct. 20, 2012— Jan. 27, 2013,	7 (b)	14 (b)
(b) Bag Limits:	Statewide	7 ducks to include not more than 2 hen mallards; 2 pintail; 1 canvasback, and 2 redhead; and		
	Western WA	To include not more than 1 harlequin; 2 scoter, 2 long tailed duck; and 2 goldeneye.		
(b) Season Limit		1 harlequin		

**AUTHORIZATION & HARVEST RECORD CARD REQUIRED TO HUNT SEA DUCKS**  
**Hunters who did not possess a 2011-2012 sea duck harvest record card must submit an application form to WDFW. Immediately after taking a sea duck into possession, hunters must record in ink the information required on the harvest record card.**

Geese (except Brant & Aleutian)	Statewide,	<b>September 22-23 2012 (Youth Hunting Only a) EXCEPT Goose Mgmt., Areas 2A &amp; 2B</b>	4 Canada Geese	8
	Goose Mgmt. Areas 1 & 3	<b>Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2012;</b> Oct. 13-25, 2012 & Nov. 3, 2012-Jan 27, 2013 <b>EXCEPT snow, Ross, or blue geese can only be taken Oct 13, 2012—Jan. 27, 2013</b>	<b>5</b> 4 <b>4</b>	<b>10</b> 8 <b>8</b>
	Goose Mgmt. Area 2A	<b>Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2012;</b> 8 a.m.– 4 p.m. Nov. 10-25, 2012 and , Dec 5, 2012—Jan. 27, 2013, <b>Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays only. (EXCEPT Ridgefield NWR)</b>	<b>3</b> 4(d)	<b>6</b> 8(d)
		<b>Ridgefield NWR open Sat., Tues., Thurs., only, Nov. 10-24, 2012 &amp; Dec. 6— Jan. 26, 2013, EXCEPT CLOSED Nov. 22, Dec. 25 &amp; Jan 1.</b>	4(d)	8(d)
	Goose Mgmt. Area 2B	<b>Early Season — Sept. 1-15, 2012;</b> 8 a.m.– 4 p.m. Saturdays & Wednesdays only <b>Oct 13-24, 2012 &amp; Nov 3, 2012—Jan 19, 2013</b>	<b>5</b> 4 (d)	<b>10</b> 8 (d)
	Goose Mgmt. Area 4	<b>Early Season — Sept. 14-15, 2012;</b> Sat, Sun, Wed, only, Oct. 13, 2012— Jan 20, 2013 Nov 22, 23; Dec 25, 27, 28, & 31, 2012; Jan 1, 2013 and every day Jan 21—27, 2013.	<b>3</b> 4	<b>6</b> 8
	Goose Mgmt. Area 5	<b>Early Season — Sept. 14-15, 2012;</b> Oct. 13-15, 2012, & Oct 20, 2012 thru Jan 27, 2013.	<b>3</b> 4	<b>6</b> 8
Brant (see authorization requirements on p. 14 of 2012-2013 regulations pamphlet)	Skagit County	<b>Jan 12, 13, 16, 19, 20, 23, 26, &amp; 27, 2013.</b>	2	4
	Pacific County	Jan 5, 6, 8, 10,12, 13, 15, 17, 19 & 20, 2013. <b>If the pre-season wintering population in Skagit County is below 6000 (as determined by the early January survey) the brant season in Skagit County will be canceled.</b>	2	4

**EDITOR'S NOTE: CHECK THE COMPLETE 2012-2013 REGULATIONS FOR SPECIFICS NOT PRINTED HERE.**

**WWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_, State: \_\_\_\_\_, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Best Phone Contact: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership 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

**Chapter & Newsletter:** (Please specify your preferences)Newsletter by  email or  hard copy

- Grays Harbor/Chehalis Valley Chapter** meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.
- Kitsap County Chapter** meets the 1st Wednesday of the month (Jan – Nov) at **Bremerton Skeet & Trap Club**.
- Lower Columbia Chapter** meets the last Thursday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **Vancouver Trap Club**, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.
- Moses Lake Chapter** – Dates and places TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at the **Conway Fire Hall**.
- Peninsula Chapter** meets the 1st Saturday of the month (Jan – Nov) at **10 a.m. at HJ Carroll Park**, 9884 Rhody Drive, **Chimacum, WA 98325**.
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Bothell.
- Southwest Chapter** meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **Tacoma Sportsman's Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.
- Spokane Chapter** – Dates and places to TBD.
- Tri Cities Chapter** meets the 2nd Monday of the month (Jan – Oct) at the **PUD Auditorium**, corner of 10th Avenue & HWY 395, **Kennewick**.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at the **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center**.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** meets the 2nd Thursday of the month (Jan – Nov) at **Café Villa, Prosser**.

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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 public 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.