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ESTABLISHED 1945

Volume 24, Issue 1

Find us @ www.washingtonwaterfowl.org & www.waduck.org

January 16, 2015



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Letter from the President



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Hey Y'all —

2015 is starting off with a bang. Hopefully the bang of a shotgun in the blind, but also with many things that need gettin' done.

The **most important thing for WWA to get done is to grow its membership.**

After nearly 20 years of being involved in waterfowl management in our state, I cannot stress enough how important it is for waterfowlers to pay the \$30 or \$35 each year and make themselves a member of WWA. Folks, waterfowl are not a priority for any agency or organization in this state except the WWA. WWA members are volunteering hundreds of hours in every region of Washington, working for waterfowl and public waterfowl hunting access. You don't have to be an active member to help make things work. For example, just joining and maintaining your membership allows publication and mailing of this newsletter and makes us a more powerful organization. **Every member counts.** Just Do It!!

The Puget Sound Nearshore Estuary Restoration Program (PSNERP for short) and its partner the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) have listed the **Skagit Farmed Island** as a primary fish restoration project (Project name: Deepwater Slough Phase 2). The Farmed Island is an amazing waterfowl area that has no equal in western Washington. Amazingly, **Milltown Island** and **Spencer Island** were also PSNERP priority restoration sites, but these two islands are already flooded every tide due to dike breaks from years ago, and Milltown Island has been flooded every tide since a dike break in 1976. It's just incredible. A lot of folks are getting involved to save the Farmed Island...you can too. **Call Theresa Mitchell (360) 902-2750 AND Jennifer Quan at the WDFW (360) 902-2508;** let them know that the Farmed Island is not replaceable and its demise is the end of waterfowl management in the Skagit.

February and March are **wood duck** months. About 20 years ago it was pretty rare to shoot a wood duck around here. Now folks get them regularly, sometimes at the end of the season. Coincidence? I think not. WWA has hundreds of nest boxes up around the state. Every year the boxes need to be cleaned or they become yellow jacket and starling havens. You can help us get this done. In fact, WWA needs someone to keep track of the wood duck monitoring and data across

(Continued on Page 2)

EVENTS CALENDAR

[\(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers\)](#)

- Sunday, Jan 18** Last Day of Brant Goose Season in Pacific County. See [Page 15](#).
- Wednesday, Jan 21 thru Sun., Jan 25** WA Sportsmen's Show @ the State Fair Events Center, 110—9th Avenue SW, Puyallup, WA. See WWA -SW Chapter News on [Page 5](#).
- Sunday, Jan 25** Last Day of Waterfowl Hunting Season
- Tuesday, Jan 27** WWA-Southwest Chapter Meeting; 7 p.m. @ Tacoma Sportsmen's Club. Contact Bruce Burns.
- Wednesday, Jan 28** WWA-Seattle Chapter Meeting; 5:30 p.m. @ Kenmore Gun Club, in Bothell. **FREE** Round of Trap or 5-Stand for ALL members of ALL CHAPTERS! Contact John Arrabito.
- Thursday, Jan 29** WWA-Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting 7 p.m. @ Vancouver Trap Club. Contact Rick Scott.
- Tuesday, Feb 3** WWA-Whatcom County Chapter Meeting 5-7 p.m. @ the Tenant Lake Interpretive Center, Ferndale. Contact Scott O'Day.
- Wednesday, Feb 4** WWA-Kitsap County Chapter Meeting @ Bremerton Trap and Skeet Contact Les Hollister.
- Wednesday, Feb 4 thru Sun., Feb 8** Pacific NW Sportsmen's Show @ the Portland Expo Center, 2060 N. Marine Drive, Portland, OR. See WWA-LC Chapter News on [Page 5](#).
- Thursday, Feb 5** WWA Corp Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 p.m., @ Canyon Park Denny's. All WWA members always welcome.
- Thursday, Feb 5** WWA-Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting @ The Evergreen Sportsmen's Club, Little Rock, WA. Contact Kurt Snyder.
- Monday, Feb 9** WWA-Tri-Cities Chapter Meeting @ the PUD Auditorium, corner of 10th Avenue & HWY 395, Kennewick. Contact Abel Cortina or Thor Ostrom.
- Monday, Feb 10** WWA-NE Chapter Meeting 7 P.M. @ the Conway Firehouse, Conway, WA Contact Reb Broker.
- Monday, Feb 12** WWA-Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting @ 6:30 P.M. at the Café Villa in Prosser, WA Contact Abel Cortina.
- Friday, Feb 20 thru Sun., Feb 22** Central WA Sportsmen's Show @ the Yakima SunDome, Yakima, WA

(President's Letter Continued from Page 1)

the state. If you're interested, let me know. Keep an eye out too for wood duck box building parties in the off-season.

In **Willapa Bay**, duck numbers were way down this year, likely correlating with lower density Japanese eelgrass across the bay. WWA worked with WDFW to begin monitoring waterfowl populations in the bay three years ago after years of no one keeping track, and we are now trying to get the Department of Ecology to recognize the importance of **Japanese eelgrass** to waterfowl, particularly in Willapa Bay, where up to 90,000 ducks descend on the bay each year to gorge on the succulent intertidal eelgrass.

In the **Yakima Valley** WWA is working to provide water to a public hunting area using Duck Stamp funds. Around the **Potholes** WWA has actively been providing food plots and improving public hunting blinds, as well as supporting WDFW duck and goose counts, banding, and WDFW goose research.

Another goal during this off-season is to establish a connection with **Wounded Warriors** so each chapter has the opportunity to provide waterfowl hunting opportunities to this great organization. We could use someone to organize/manage this, so let me know if you are interesting in helping out with this program.

And don't forget the **Heritage Lands Program**! I know of 30 acres we could buy and manage for public hunting if we just had the money...Donate Today for the future.



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[SEE RESULTS](#)

News for the Flock

WWA-Corporate Elections

Per the **WWA By-Laws** **NOMINATIONS** for Organization-wide **WWA** Officers and Board of Director positions are open until the end of February 15, 2015.

Current by-laws provide that only members with at least one year of service as a chapter or corporate board member are eligible to be officers. The current ballot of the **WWA-Corporate** offices and board positions is set forth to the right. **WWA by-laws encourage a board member from each Chapter, who may participate in board meetings electronically.**

If you are interested in running for any position, seek nomination at your next Chapter meeting, and your Chapter Chairman will notify the **WWA** Corporate Secretary, **Earl Mikkelson**, to put your name on the ballot. If you are interested in serving, now is the time to step up. **As you can see with a nine (9) member Board of Directors, WWA needs at least two (2) new faces willing to serve!**

Currently open positions include:

OFFICERS:

No officer positions are open as all are in the 2nd year of 2 year terms.

BOARD MEMBERS:

- Bruce Feagan (ML)**
- Larry Gordon (SEA)**
- Howard Hicks (SW)**
- Terry Satre (SW)**
- Neco Vilella (SEA)**

Abel Cortina (YV) and **Thor Ostrom (TRI)**, are in the final year of 3-year terms and are not up for election. **Gary Talbert (NW)** has decided not to run for re-election to the Board of Directors

WWA Corporate Sample Ballot

Board of Directors: (Vote For No More than 6)
(Listed In Alphabetical Order with Chapter Designations)

- Bruce Feagan (ML)**
- Larry Gordon (SEA)**
- Howard Hicks (SW)**
- Terry Satre (SW)**
- Neco Vilella (SEA)**
- _____
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The adjacent ballot may also be used as an Official Absentee Ballot.
To vote by Absentee Ballot, first mark your ballot and place it in a blank envelope without any identification of the sender, and seal it. Place the unmarked envelope in an envelope identifying the voting member with a return address. In order to be counted, absentee ballots will only be counted from members who have paid their 2015 dues.

The ballot must be postmarked by **February 28, 2015.**

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

Ridgefield NWR Youth Hunt

On Saturday October 25th WWA hosted the annual youth hunt at the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)**. **Ted Blade, Dino Mastri, Dan Hafenbrack and Gerry Piazza** met the 20 or so young hunters two (2) hours prior to shooting time at the check station. **Dino** provided donuts and muffins. **Gerry** gave a brief safety and duck identification talk. He also donated three (3) Scotch feeding calls which were given to the young hunters along with a drawing for each of the three (3) blind bags and other calls provided by **WWA-LC**.

Hunt station administrator **Dave Lescalleet** assigned blinds and sent the young hunters out into the field. As the hungry young hunters and the adults filtered back in to the check station, **WWA** had a BBQ lunch ready to be devoured. **Chris Stalcup** did the cooking and was assisted by **Arlan Hackett, Rick Scott, Al O'Connor, David Chavez, and Mike and Susan Ellis**. Each young hunter was given their choice of a **WWA** logo'd hat or logo'd water bottle. We even fed a few hunters who were there for blinds available in the afternoon. A great event and thanks to all who contributed! *(Continued on Page*

Chris Stalcup (back to camera) preparing BBQ hamburgers and fixins' for a few of the guest Youth Hunters last October, while Gerry Piazza looks on.



Before and After Pictures of Blind #13 at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) from previous WWA-LC Chapter Work Parties.



(LC Chapter News Continued from Page 4)

Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show Feb. 4th-8th

Our chapter will have a booth again this year for this popular sports show starting Wednesday February 4th through Sunday the 8th. We will need your help staffing the event each day for an afternoon or evening shift [11 AM thru 4 PM and 4 PM thru 9 PM]. Free admission and we will cover your parking.

Arlan Hackett has sent out an email for sign-ups. Please respond or call him at 360-600-9484. Thank you for your help!

Post Season Activities Ahead!

We will have blind cleanups at the Shillapoo Wildlife Area and the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge at the end of February and beginning of March. It is also time to reset the wood duck boxes. We have some great opportunities to reconnect and serve and give back to the Resource, coming up. We hope to see you there!

Thanks to our October Meeting Speaker

Many thanks to **Kelly Warren, CEO of Wild Spirit Resources**, who spoke at our October 30th meeting. With the support of the **WDFW, ODFW and the USFWS** he produced the ***"Identification Field Guide to the Geese of the Willamette Valley and Lower Columbia River."***

This is a comprehensive guide to the geese of this region and invaluable to every goose hunter who must know and navigate the murky waters of goose identification to hunt geese in our area. The book is full of color photos and information to successfully identify geese in the field. **Kelly** gave an informative power point presentation, followed by Questions and Answers. He offered the book at a discount to our group. If you are interested in purchasing a book you can access his website at <http://www.wildspiritresources.com/#photo> and click on "store."

Whatcom Chapter News

Just a reminder the **WWA-Whatcom County Chapter** meets at the **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center** in Ferndale on the first Tuesday of every month! Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 3rd. Come and join us!

Any questions call **Scott O'Day** at 360.966-4112.

Southwest Chapter News

By Terry Satre

The season is about over. Hope everyone had a good year. The weather was sort of hit and miss, and we know that's a big part of our sport.

The **Sportsman's Show in Puyallup** is upon us this January 21-25. This is the main fundraiser for our Chapter. We will be in our usual place upstairs in the pavilion. Want to get in free? Work in the booth half a day and get a free pass. Call **Terry** for more info.

The **SW Chapter** meetings are held the last Tuesday of the month at **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** on Canyon Road in Puyallup. Next meeting is January 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Any questions contact **Terry Satre @ 253-845-2398** or Teltim@comcast.net or **Bruce Burns** 253-961-8802 or bwburns36@gmail.com .

Kitsap County Chapter News

Just a reminder the **WWA-Kitsap Chapter** meets at the **Bremerton Trap and Skeet Club** the first Wednesday of every month at 6 pm! Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 4th. Come bring a shotgun and join us! Any questions call **Les Hollister** at 210-410-3037.

Yakima Valley Chapter News

By Abel Cortina

I just wanted to remind members of the **WWA-Yakima Valley Chapter** that we will be meeting on Thursday, February 12, @ 6:30 p.m. at Café Villa in Prosser. I will present our proposed conservation project[s] agenda for the 2015 off-season at the meeting that evening.

WWA-YV Chapter at Sportsmen's Show

Also once again this year we have a booth at the **Yakima Sportmen's Show** at the **Yakima SunDome**, Friday thru Sunday, February 20 thru 22nd. We will also be raffling off another dozen Dakota as we did at the 2014 show. Last year's raffle was a good money-maker for the Chapter. We also have a great time getting kids blowing duck and goose calls. Come by and support the group and/or sign up to volunteer to help staff the booth and see the Show for free!

New WWA Tri-Cities Chapter Chairman

The Tri-Cities Chapter has a new chairman by the name of **Jason Oliver**.

Welcome **Jason** and thanks for your willingness to take this on! (See **Page 8**).

Northwest Chapter News

By Reb Broker

Well here we are just over a week left in the season and still so many more hunts to get on. As usual I didn't get to hunt with everyone I wanted to and didn't hit all the spots that I wanted to. Hopefully everyone's season has been a good one for you. Unfortunately our area lost out on a Brant Hunting Season this year because of low numbers of Brant in our area. (See Story this page). Not to fear though we still have plenty of waterfowl opportunities left for this season.

For starters CLEAN UP!!!

All of those blinds that have been destroyed over the season need to be cleaned up and rebuilt. The **NW Chapter** will be having a clean up of the **Farmed Islands** on Saturday, February 7. We will meet at 9 A.M. at the HQ parking lot and head out. For the "newbies" among us, this is a great chance to explore the islands and find where all the birds get whacked at. Bring the boat and the dog and enjoy the day finding treasures. If you want to attend or need a ride over to the island let me know otherwise we will see you there.

If cleaning blinds is not your thing then don't forget about those lovely Wood Ducks. February is **National Clean Your Wood Duck Box Month** (well at least I think it should be). Also don't forget to update the Wood Duck Database.

Next Chapter Meeting February 10th

So not to despair we only have eight (8) months to go till early goose. Then there is always the **NW Chapter** meetings with awesome guest speakers and great prizes! We meet on the second Tuesday of each month starting at 7pm at the Conway Fire Station. Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 10th. Hope to see you there. Bring one of those "newbies" with you.

No Skagit Brant Season This Year

OLYMPIA – On January 6th the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** today canceled a scheduled January brant goose hunting season, after counts of the birds in **Skagit County** indicated numbers were below the level needed for the hunt to proceed.

The hunt was scheduled to open Jan. 10, provided that at least 6,000 brant were counted during an aerial survey, said **Don Kraege, WDFW's Waterfowl Section Manager**. However, two recent aerial surveys of **Padilla, Samish, and Fidalgo** bays each resulted in counts of only about 3,600 brant.

Similarly low counts were recorded in 2003, the last time the late-season brant hunt was canceled in **Skagit County**.

Since 1996, WDFW waterfowl hunting regulations have required that at least 6,000 brant must be present for brant hunting to take place in **Skagit County**. That threshold is designed to conserve the population of Western High Arctic brant that winter in the area.

Kraege said the causes of the reduced Skagit brant population are unknown, but may be the result of poor production on the birds' western Canadian breeding grounds, combined with possible changes in areas of the flyway the brant frequent.

Still Brant Opportunity in Pacific County

Meanwhile, a brant season in **Pacific County** opened as scheduled Jan. 3. Information on that season is available in WDFW's Migratory Waterfowl and Upland Game Seasons hunting pamphlet at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/>. For those that don't have the regs handy, here's what's left of the Pacific County season. **January 15, 17 & 18.**

Hunter Reports Due February 15th

HUNTER REPORT REMINDER

All hunters are also required to submit information from all migratory bird harvest record cards acquired for the previous season, regardless of hunting success. Reports must be received by February 15, 2015 for brant, sea ducks, and snow geese. Hunters not reporting by these dates will receive a \$10 penalty which must be paid before any new migratory bird authorization and harvest record card for the next season can be purchased.

There are several ways to do your hunter report either online at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/wa/Hunterreport> or call toll free at 1-877-945-3492, or via regular mail to **WDFW, Wildlife Program**, 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia WA 98501. You will need your WILD ID number handy.

Turkey & Big Game Reports Due January 31st

A hunter report is required for each deer, elk, bear, turkey tag, and each special hunt permit awarded. The reports are required whether or not you harvested an animal or hunted at all. The report deadline is January 31, 2015 in order to avoid a \$10 administrative fee when you purchase your 2015 license.

Moses Lake Chapter News

By Dick Price

Aquatic Land Enhancement Account (ALEA), Grant Project Resumes

Hopefully in February we can get started building the two (2) **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** accessible blinds for the **Frenchman Restricted Access Area** (formerly known as the Frenchman Quality Hunt Area). We will build the blinds at the **WDFW Moses Lake Shop** in sections and then transport them to the site and complete assembly of them there.

Placement will take place after we have graveled the road into the ponds where the blinds will be located. They will be available to **ADA** hunters through the **WDFW** reservation system, where they will be given instructions on how to access the locked gate to the road to the blinds.

Non ADA hunters will be able to use the blinds if no **ADA** person has reserved the blind for that particular day, however they will have to walk in from the general parking lot and vacate the blind if an **ADA** hunter shows up. Hopefully there will be no problems with this arrangement.

Hunting Opportunities

There are still a lot of geese and ducks in the area, and the weather is warming. We had snow on Sunday 1/4, but it is melting and weather for this week is lows in the 30's and highs in the 30's above freezing. Large open waters and smaller ponds may be opening up and carry over into the last week of the season.

ALEA Grant Applications Due Feb. 28th

OLYMPIA – The **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** is accepting grant applications through February 28, 2015 for volunteer projects that benefit fish and wildlife.

WDFW currently expects from \$1.1 to \$1.36 million to be available for these grants, funded through the state's **Aquatic Land Enhancement Account (ALEA)**, beginning July 1, 2015. Interested persons can apply at: <http://alea.fluidreview.com>.

Five (5) major types of projects are funded through the program, although others may be considered. These project types include habitat restoration, scientific research/citizen science, public education, facility development and artificial fish production.

Eligible applicants are individual citizens, non-profit organizations, schools (including universities), tribes and political subdivisions of the state such as conservation districts. For-profit businesses, and state and federal agencies are not eligible.

Funds are provided on a cost-reimbursement basis and may not be used for salaries, wages, stipends or benefits. Grantees are required to follow state purchasing rules and report on their progress quarterly. For more information, visit the ALEA Grant Program website at wdfw.wa.gov/grants/alea/.

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Tri-Cities Chapter News

If you missed the announcement under the **Yakima Valley Chapter News**, the **WWA-Tri-Cities Chapter** has a new Chapter Chairman by the name of **Jason Oliver**.

The **Tri-Cities Chapter** meets the 2nd Monday of the month (Feb – Oct) at the **PUD Auditorium**, corner of 10th Avenue & HWY 395, **Kennewick**. The next meeting is Monday, February 9th at 6:30 p.m. Come on out and meet **Jason!**

There are a lot of new Waterfowl hunters on the Facebook page **Tri-Cities Waterfowlers**, so bring one of more of them to the meeting and let's introduce them to "hands on" waterfowl conservation and giving back to the Resource in the offseason.

Any questions until **Jason** takes over, call either **Abel Cortina** at (509) 786-9196 or **Thor Ostrom** at (509) 220-0144.

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By Kurt Snyder

Hi all. I hope everyone's hunting season has been good so far. Over all I think the season was a bit slower than last year. We did have some great hunts, but we have had to put in the extra work and scouting. The hard work generally paid off for many of us.

WWA-GH Chapter To Have an Eventful New Year

We plan to expand our nesting projects and start up some new turkey shoots for our fund raising. We now have a full complement of Chapter officers and will be ramping up for the year starting with the first meeting of the year on the 5th of February. We have our meetings at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club (ESC)**, near Littlerock, 7:PM sharp! The **ESC** has always supported our Chapter and is a great place to shoot.

Sporting Clays Shooting Day for Members???

The sporting clays range, although being a bit primitive, is a great place to practice shooting those shots you're likely to encounter in the field. After this season I now believe that I need as much practice as possible! We have been throwing around the idea of having a Chapter event on the sporting clays range. Maybe a complete comprehensive shooting day that all can enjoy. Lunch too! Keeps your eyes peeled for these and other events in up coming issues of the **WWA** monthly newsletter!

Thank you all for your wiliness to give back to the Resource through membership in the **WWA**.

Kurtsnyder@outdrs.net

New WDFW Director Seems to be Hunter Oriented

Dr. **Jim Unsworth**, deputy director of the **Idaho Department of Fish and Game**, was chosen January 10th as the new head of the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**.

The **WDFW** Commission voted to select **Unsworth** after interviewing eight (8) candidates for the director's position in December and narrowing the field to four (4) finalists. **Unsworth**, who will replace **Phil Anderson**, has formally accepted the job. As director, **Unsworth** will report to the Commission and manage a department with more than 1,600 employees, and a biennial operating budget of \$376 million. His annual salary will be \$146,500.



Unsworth, age 57, has spent more than 30 years in wildlife management with the **Idaho Department of Fish and Game** and has served as deputy director for the agency since 2008. He previously held several management positions for that Department, including wildlife bureau chief and state big game manager.

Unsworth holds a bachelor's degree in wildlife management from the **University of Idaho**, a master's degree in fish and wildlife management from **Montana State University** and a doctorate in forestry, wildlife and range sciences from the **University of Idaho**. **Unsworth** and his wife **Michele** have four (4) adult children. He is an avid hunter and fisher.

"I'm thrilled at this opportunity," **Unsworth** said. "I look forward to taking on the many exciting challenges that come with managing fish and wildlife in the state of Washington."

Commissioners said they sought a visionary leader with a strong conservation ethic, sound fiscal-management skills and the expertise to work collaboratively with the commission and the department's constituents.

"After a thorough nationwide search, we're confident Jim is the right person to guide the department through the many challenges that lie ahead," said **Miranda Wecker**, Chair of the Commission. "His solid understanding of natural resource issues and strong leadership skills will be invaluable in the department's effort to manage and protect the fish and wildlife resources that are so important to the people of this state."

Seattle Chapter News

By John Arrabito

First **FREE** Round of Shooting in the New Year

Well we're going to start out the New Year with the first of several **FREE** round of Trap or 5-Stand to **ALL WWA** members of **ALL Chapters** whose dues are current! Grab your shotgun and come out and join us on Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at the Kenmore Gun Range. Shooting all afternoon; followed by pizza and soda for \$5 at 7:00 p.m.

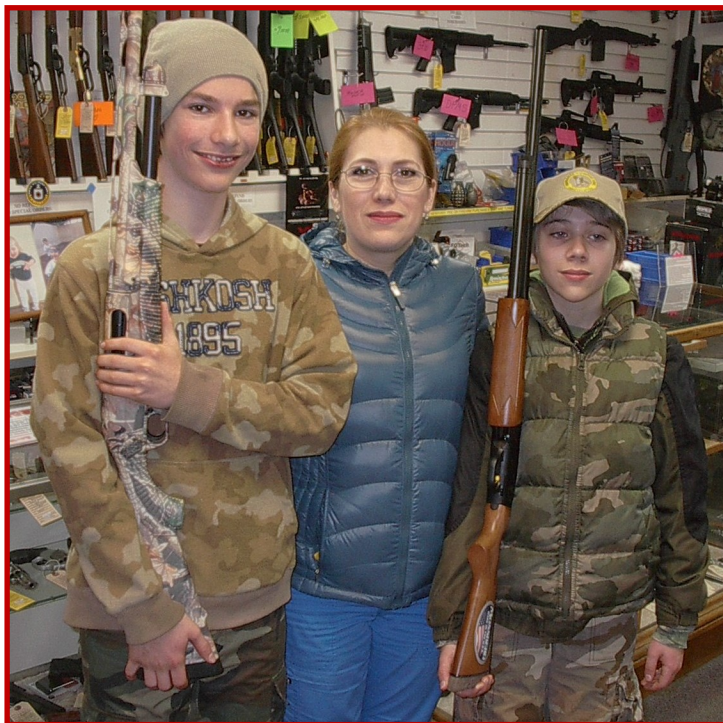
Please send me an email [jarrabito@comcast.net] or call [(425) 894-4080] if you are joining us and want to have dinner, so we will be sure to have enough and varied pizza's.

David and **Jonathan Bean** will be our dinner guests to say "THANK YOU," for the generous donations from **WWA** members from various Chapters around the State that helped outfit them with shotguns through the **WA Refuge Forum**: [<http://www.refugeforums.com/refuge>].

The **Bean Brothers** first got introduced to **WWA** in May of 2014 when they came to the **WWA-Seattle Chapter's 10th Annual Youth Member Shoot** hosted by **Larry and Kathy Gordon, of AMS Guns, in Woodinville** for their first first shotgun shooting experience. They were sponsored by **Seattle Chapter** member, **John Hanson**. In July, **WWA** sponsored both with full scholarships to a week of **Youth Conservation Camp** on Orcas Island. In August they returned to the Seattle Chapter monthly meeting to talk [and brag] about their great experiences at camp.

In September **John Hanson** sponsored both to **WWA** junior memberships, and **David** won a case of magnum shells in the **WWA Membership Drive Raffle**, but neither at that point even owned a single-shot shotgun.

Upon hearing this, **Matthew Peck** of the **Kitsap Chapter** stepped forward with a fundraising effort on the **WA Refuge Forum**. He was soon joined by **WWA** member, **Bill German of Kent**, who donated the camo Benelli Nova 20 gauge shotgun seen in the hands of **David**, above. **WWA** members **Wade Finley** and **Rick Sheridan** both stepped up



David Bean, age 14, and **Jonathan Bean**, age 12, pick up their Christmas shotguns at **AMS Guns in Woodinville**, while their mother, **Lubov**, looks on. The gifts were made possible through the generosity of **WWA** members from various Chapters, all of whom belong to the **WA Refuge Forum**. At right, the boys get some exposure to waterfowl hunting on the **Snohomish River**, thanks to **Seattle Chapter** member, **John Hanson**.

with cash donations of \$200 and \$100, respectively. **AMS Guns in Woodinville** the provided the 2nd shotgun at cost and handled transfer compliance with I-594 for both guns without fees to make this a reality. Thanks to all.

Finally a **BIG THANKS** to **John Hanson**, for the donation of that most precious commodity – his time – taking these young men out trap shooting and onto the **Snohomish River & Puget Sound** and introducing them to the waterfowling sport we all love.

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News for the Flock

TREASURERS. REPORT (1-6-2015)

Corporate Checking	\$ 12,899.07
Chapter (LC, ML & SEA)	
Trust Monies for Goose	
Satellite Transmitters	
For WDFW	\$ 8,250.00
Jay Koetje Trust for	
Skagit Farmed Island	\$ 1,975.00
Corporate C.D.	\$ 17,599.68
Corporate Total	\$ 42,868.75

CHAPTER FINANCES

GH Checking	\$ 1,973.62
Kitsap Chapter	(To Be Funded)
LC Checking	\$ 25,602.63
ML Checking	\$ 8,349.65
NW Checking	\$ 2,649.10
OP Checking	\$ Closed 3/25/2013
SEA Checking	\$ 30,863.73
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,748.40
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,316.67
SPO Checking	\$ Closed 5/19/2014
SW Checking	\$ 4,741.88
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 25.00
(Original Seed Money)	
WH Checking	\$ 6,536.27
YV Checking	\$ 1,634.75

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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 contributions since the publication of the **WWA October** Newsletter to the six (6) primary funds established by the **WWA**.

WWA Youth Fund — \$1,345

WWA Legal Fund — \$17,457

WWA Habitat Fund — \$585

Jim Hobbs — \$5

Kyle Leber — \$15

WWA Jay Koetje Memorial Fund for Skagit Farmed Island — \$1,975

Alan Haid — \$100

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$6,326

Bonnie Pullman — \$20

WWA General Fund — \$128

You can contribute in so many ways to the WWA, from locally in your Chapter, to statewide, helping the WWA carry on! Many donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Waterfowler's Heritage.



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**Selected (and Incomplete) Summary of 2014-2015
Migratory Waterfowl Seasons (Significant Changes in Red)**

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES (inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Ducks	Statewide	September 20-21, 2014 (Youth Hunt Only (a)	7 (b)	14 (b)
		Oct. 11-15, 2014 and Oct. 18, 2014—Jan. 25, 2015	7 (b)	21 (b)
		EXCEPT Scaup closed Oct. 11 — Oct 31, 2014	3 (b)	9 (b)
(b) Bag Limits:	Statewide	7 ducks to include not more than 2 hen mallards; 2 pintail; 3 scaup; 1 canvasback , and 2 redhead;		
	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		
(b) <u>Possession Limits Statewide</u>		6 pintail; 9 scaup; 3 canvasback ; 6 redhead & 6 hen mallards 6 scoter; 6 long tailed duck; & 6 goldeneye in Western WA		
		Coots, and	25	75
		Snipe	8	24

AUTHORIZATION & HARVEST RECORD CARD REQUIRED TO HUNT SEA DUCKS, BRANT & SNOW GEESE

Geese (except Brant & Aleutian)	Goose Mgmt. Area 1	Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2014;	5(c)	15(c)
		Oct. 11-23 & Nov 1 2014 thru Jan 25, 2015	4	12
		EXCEPT snow, Ross, or blue geese can be taken Oct 11, 2014 thru Jan. 25, 2015(d)	4	12
	Goose Mgmt. Area 2A	Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2014;	3(c)	9(c)
		8 a.m.—4 p.m. Nov. 8—30 & Dec 10—Jan 25 Saturdays, Sundays & Wednesdays Only (EXCEPT Ridgefield NWR)	4(e)	12(e)
		Ridgefield NWR open 8 a.m.—4 p.m. Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays Only Nov. 8-29, 2014 & Dec 11—Jan 24, 2015 EXCEPT CLOSED Nov 11, 27, Dec 25 & Jan 1, 2015	4(e)	12(e)
	Goose Mgmt. Area 2B	Early Season — Sept. 1-15, 2014;	15(c)	45(c)
		8 a.m.—4 p.m. Saturdays & Wednesdays Only Oct. 11-25 & Nov 1, 2014—Jan., 17, 2015	4(e)	12(e)
(e) Aleutian Geese in Area 2B			1(e)	3(e)
(e) Season Limit		1 dusky Canada goose		
	Goose Mgmt. Area 3	Early Season — Sept. 10-15, 2014;	5(c)	15(c)
		Oct. 11-23 and Nov. 1, 2014—Jan. 26, 2015	4	12
	Goose Mgmt. Area 4	Early Season — Sept. 13-14, 2014;	3(c)	6(c)
		Sat, Sun, & Weds, only, Oct. 11—Jan 18, 2015 Nov 11, 27, and 28; Dec 25, 26, 29, & 30, 2014; Jan 1; and every day Jan 19-25, 2015.	4	12
	Goose Mgmt. Area 5	Early Season — Sept. 13-14, 2014;	3(c)	6(c)
		Oct. 11-13, & Oct 18, 2014—Jan 25, 2015	4	12
Brant (see authorization requirements on p. 4 of 2014-2015 regulations pamphlet)	Pacific County	Jan. 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 17 & 18, 2015	2	6

Skagit County — Jan. 10, 11, 14, 17, 18, 21, 24, & 25, 2015 **CANCELED**
If the pre-season wintering population in Skagit County is below 6000 (as determined by the early January aerial survey) the brant season in Skagit County will be canceled.

2014 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

The **Washington Waterfowl Association** is please to present the 2014

Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and Limited Edition Print

Revenue received through this program will be used by the **Washington Waterfowl Association** and the **Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife**, to improve habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds in Washington.

This year's artwork, a pair of redheads afloat on the water, was created by **Ms. Cynthia Fisher**.

Double Down for the Ducks

Please consider ordering two stamps or prints to increase finances available for waterfowl and other migratory birds.



To order your print[s] and accompanying stamps, please complete the application on the other side of this sheet.

2014 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

Please send me:

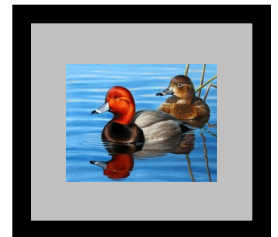
1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more _____: unframed print(s)



1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more _____: unframed print(s) and stamp(s)



1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more _____: framed print(s) and stamp(s)



If available, the edition number(s) I would like are: _____

Please Ship Prints to:

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

I have included \$55* for each unframed print for a total of \$ _____ .00

I have included \$70* for each unframed print & stamp for a total of \$ _____ .00

I have included \$120* for each framed print/stamp for a total of \$ _____ .00

*(Prices include shipping and handling)

Total Amount: \$ _____ .00

Mail a check for the total amount to:

Washington Waterfowl Association

PO Box 2131

Auburn, WA 98071-2131

Order/Pay Online with PayPal: http://www.waduck.org/WWA_Duck_Stamps.htm

2014/15 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Order Form
 (Complete order form and submit with check or money order for the combined total)

Please include a self addressed stamped envelope and proper protective materials to:

WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION
 PO Box 2131
 Auburn WA 98071-2131

Orders must be received by March 31, 2015 for fulfillment by WWA

Questions? Call 206-890-9559

See next page for examples of stamp order types

TYPE A STAMPS	_____	X \$15.00	=	\$ _____
Single stamps	No. of stamps			Total
TYPE B STAMPS	_____	X \$30.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 2 stamps	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE C STAMPS	_____	X \$60.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 4 stamps	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE D STAMPS	_____	X \$90.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 6 stamps	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE E STAMPS	_____	X \$135.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 9 stamps	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE F STAMPS	_____	X \$450.00	=	\$ _____
Full sheet of 30 stamps	No. of sheets			Total
TYPE G STAMPS	_____	X \$15.00	=	\$ _____
Mini-sheet; looks similar to Federal Duck Stamps	No. of mini-sheets			Total
Combined Total				\$ _____

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone number with area code _____

Email _____

Please include a self addressed stamped envelope and proper protective materials

WASHINGTON MIGRATORY BIRD STAMP ORDER TYPES

	Type E			Type D	
Stamp Sales Description					
Type A = Single Stamps					
Type B = Corner Block of 2 Stamps					
Type C = Corner Block of 4 Stamps					
Type D = Corner Block of 6 Stamps	Type A				
Type E = Corner Block of 9 Stamps					
Type F = Full Sheet of 30 Stamps					
<u>Note:</u> All Stamps are in full color					
	Type B			Type C	



Type G Mini-sheet

Business Directory

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425-481-5684
www.wholepetshop.com

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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....



This Program will **Purchase Farmland, Preserve it, Conserve it, Promote it, Maintain it, and Manage it for Waterfowl and Public Hunting 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! WWW.WADUCK.ORG

For additional information please contact:

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

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

WWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Best Phone Contact: () _____

Membership Type:

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-----------------|--------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family (immediate family up to age 18) — | \$ 35.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Regular — | \$ 30.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Life — | \$ 500.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sustaining Life — | \$ 750.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Senior (65 or over) - | \$ 15.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Junior (under age 18) -- | \$ 15.00 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2-Year Regular | \$ 50.00 | (New) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2-Year Family | \$ 60.00 | (New) |
- (2-year memberships not available online)**

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

- Grays Harbor/Chehalis Valley Chapter** meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Feb – Oct) at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club**, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.
- Kitsap Peninsula Chapter** meets the 1st Wednesday of the month (Feb – Oct) 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 2nd Tuesday of the month at the **Conway Fire Hall**.
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4th Wednesday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228th 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** – Vacant
- Tri Cities Chapter** meets the 2nd Monday of the month (Feb – Oct) at the **PUD Auditorium**, corner of 10th Avenue & HWY 395, **Kennewick**.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1st Tuesday of the month (Jan – Nov.) at the **Tenant Lake Interpretive Center**.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** meets the 2nd Thursday of the month (Feb – Sept) alternating between **Café Villa in Prosser** or **El Ranchito, in Zillah**. See Page 2 for this month's meeting location.

Pay with a credit card from our website:

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9792 Edmonds Way
Suite 161
Edmonds, WA 98020

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 pay for all of these "hands on" conservation projects.