

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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February 16, 2015



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Letter from the President

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Hey Y'all —

Welcome to the 70th year for the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA)!

Yep, 70 years of promoting waterfowl and waterfowl hunting. If you are long time **WWA** member, we'd like to hear some stories from you about the history of **WWA**. I'd like us to get together a written and oral history of **WWA** events and stories to entertain and inform folks about our past.

Please send me written, audio, or video descriptions of your favorite **WWA** happenings and for each contribution we'll enter your name into a drawing to be held October 1st, and one winner will receive a waterfowling prize to start off the duck season. Help us document the history of **WWA**. Submittals may be used on our website (www.waduck.org).

Special thanks to two donors, one that put up \$2,000 and one that matched this with another \$2,000 for the **Heritage Lands Fund**. With the **Heritage Lands Program** we want to provide waterfowl management and a place for you to hunt ducks. I know of 30 acres we could buy right now if we only had the money already in the bank. A place for ducks and huntin' em. Consider a donation of **ANY** amount to help us reach this goal!

And finally for now I ask...Is there public hunting land near you that could be made better for waterfowl or hunters? Would a decent blind to hunt out of make it a nicer hunt? How about all those cattails that have overrun your old hunting spot... could they be removed to provide open water for the next generation of waterfowl and waterfowlers? Do you know of a landowner interested in donating that back swamp acreage to the **WWA** for a controlled

(Continued on Page 2)

EVENTS CALENDAR

(See Page One for Contact Phone Numbers)

- Thursday, Feb 19** **ML Chapter Work Party** to build 2 handicapped accessible blinds on the **Frenchman Hills Regulated Access Area**. See ML News on **Page 6**.
- Friday, Feb 20 thru Sun., Feb 22** **Central WA Sportsmen's Show @ the Yakima SunDome, Yakima, WA** See WWA-Yakima Valley Chapter News on **Page 8**.
- Tuesday, Feb 24** **WWA-Southwest Chapter Meeting; 7 p.m. @ Tacoma Sportsmen's Club.** Contact **Bruce Burns**.
- Wednesday, Feb 25** **WWA-Seattle Chapter Meeting; 5:30 p.m. @ Kenmore Gun Club, in Bothell.** **Game Calling Presentation** by pro guide/wildlife biologist, **Matt Stevens**. Contact **John Arrabito**.
- Wednesday, Feb 25** **WDFW/DU Public Meeting** on the future of **Leque Island, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM.** **Stanwood Middle School Cafeteria, 9405—271st Street NW Stanwood, WA** See Story on **Page 10**.
- Thursday, Feb 26** **WWA-Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting 7 p.m. @ Vancouver Trap Club.** Contact **Rick Scott**.
- Tuesday, Mar 3** **WWA-Whatcom County Chapter Meeting 5-7 p.m. @ the Tenant Lake Interpretive Center, Ferndale.** Contact **Scott O'Day**.
- Wednesday, Mar 4** **WWA-Kitsap County Chapter Meeting @ Bremerton Trap and Skeet** Contact **Les Hollister**.
- Thursday, Mar 5** **WWA Corp Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 p.m., @ Canyon Park Denny's.** All WWA members always welcome.
- Thursday, Mar 5** **WWA-Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting @ The Evergreen Sportsmen's Club, Little Rock, WA.** Contact **Kurt Snyder**.
- Monday, Mar 9** **WWA-Tri-Cities Chapter Meeting @ the PUD Auditorium, corner of 10th Avenue & HWY 395, Kennewick.** Contact **Abel Cortina** or **Thor Ostrom**.
- Tuesday, Mar 10** **WWA-NE Chapter Meeting 7 P.M. @ the Conway Firehouse, Conway, WA** Contact **Reb Broker**.
- Thursday, Mar 12** **WWA-Yakima Valley Chapter Meeting @ 6:30 P.M. at the Jeremy's Public House in Prosser, WA** Contact **Abel Cortina**.
- Saturday, Mar 28** **WWA Work Party at Royal City & Richland Rod & Gun Club Game Food Banquet.** Contact **Leo Pfeifer** at (425) 210-0321 for tickets, but do it **ASAP** cause they sell out early. More in the **WWA March Newsletter**.

(President's Letter Continued from Page 1)

public hunting area? Or maybe you know of a farmer's field that could fit into the **Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Quality Hunt Program** where the owner gets \$1,000 or so for allowing controlled hunting on it over one hunting season?

It is these member ideas, member involvement, and member actions that make things work here at **WWA**. Join us and chip in any way you can.



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SEE RESULTS

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By Kurt Snyder

Hello everyone. Well it's finally sunk in that the waterfowl season is over. I'm back to getting too much sleep, and most of the equipment is cleaned and put away. The honey-dooos are in progress, and now it's time for some **WWA** business!

Upcoming GH Chapter Events

- Our Chapter has hit the ground running with the addition of our first ever Turkey shoot. Scheduled for the 27th of June at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club**.
- **Jon McAninch of Cedarville Farms** has generously donated another pair of waterfowl hunts for two (2)! All Chapters are invited to get in on this great fundraiser same as the past two (2) years.
- We acquired another sponsor, the **Oregon Waterfowl Festival**, who donated a large amount of money for our annual **Youth Shooting Event**.
- This is a list of our great Chapter sponsors; **Cedarville Farms**, **Tanglefree** waterfowling products, **Cabela's**, all the **Chapters** of the **WWA** and now **the Oregon Waterfowl Festival**.

I would also like to thank our biggest sponsor of all, *the members of our Chapter*. We could get nothing done without you. Your support of the **WWA** has been nothing short of fantastic. We are getting things done and you always come through when the need arises. You cannot be thanked enough.

Support Those That Support Us

Please remember those that support us when shopping for all the thousands of things you need when hitting the outdoors.

Other **WWA Chapter Chairmen** will hear from me when the Hunt raffle tickets become available in the next few weeks.

Keep your eyes peeled for the upcoming event fliers in the upcoming **WWA** newsletters.

As usual you can contact me any time,

Kurt Snyder
Grays Harbor Chapter
 360-485-9353
Kurtsnyder@outdrs.net



Richard "Dick" Briggs December 1, 1930 to September 26, 2014 Lifelong Waterfowl Hunter and Advocate

By Kurt Snyder

I first met **Dick** late in the summer of 2005. As I recall the introduction went something like this: "I'm **Dick Briggs**. I want to join your club. Where do I sign and who do I pay?" It was like I didn't really have much choice in the matter and "NO" definitely wasn't an option. From that point on this rather gruff old gentleman became a member of the Cedarville Farms Hunt Club, and I became his friend-in-training.

Breaking through **Dick's** armor really wasn't all that difficult if you had any of his passions in common. After sharing some space in the blind on a few hunts, followed [regardless of the hour] by breakfast (eggs over easy, bacon & hash browns crisp, rye toast – dry), we both came to realize how parallel our lives actually were. Both of us had an insatiable appetite for waterfowl hunting, salmon and steelhead fishing, and business. We both had fishing and hunting adventures that could have only been scripted by the same author.

(Continued on Page 5)

(Richard "Dick" Briggs Memorium Continued From Pg. 4)

As time passed **Dick's** armor thinned dramatically, and he would always manage to squeeze in a few comments about yet another passion, his daughter, **Julia**. He was very proud of **Julia** and talked often about their fishing trips; her being on a scull rowing team; attending college; and bringing team and classmates home to spend the weekend. A lifelong conservative, he would feign a little disgust at times about some left of center leaning that **Julia** might have disclosed to him, but it would always be followed up with a smile.



As the armor disappeared, admiration from friends for this man's drive and tenacity grew. Over the last few years health issues plagued **Dick**, often burning up opportunities for him to enjoy time with family, or get out to hunt or fish. He fought back numerous times when any lesser man would have given up. He cheated death more than once to squeeze in one of **Julia's** rowing events here or another waterfowl hunt there. His boat the **Seagar** was all refurbished and ready for future salmon trips, and no one doubted him when he said he'd soon be washing fish scales out of the cockpit and barbecuing fresh King fillets.

Dick was a member of the **WWA**, but I really don't know much about the history of his membership. Records show at least since 2008. I do know that he generously donated \$1000.00 to the **WWA** legal fund, and he was an outspoken advocate for the Resource and for our hunting/shooting heritage. May you rest in peace, friend.

Dick Jacobs

March 12, 1944 to July 18, 2014

Lifelong Waterfowl Hunter and Advocate

By Kurt Snyder

Dick lost his courageous battle with cancer, peacefully at home in front of a cozy fire, surrounded by his loving family on July 18, 2014. A life long area resident, **Dick** was born in Aberdeen, Wash. on March 12, 1944. Being a lifetime waterfowler, he joined the **WWA** at the start-up of the **Grays Harbor Chapter**. He supported all our events and endeavors. As a member of the **WDFW Waterfowl Advisory Group (WAG)**, **Dick** was involved in the lawmaking process by giving his input for the Group's recommendations to the **WDFW Commission**.

Dick was "duck hunter" to the core. He was very involved with **Ducks Unlimited**, never missing a dinner/auction, be it local or around the U.S. He was honored at the February **2014** DU Banquet in **Montesano** for his outstanding contributions to waterfowl and wetlands conservation and for his countless volunteer hours at **Greenhead Farms**.

He was also a member of the **Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation**, **Safari Club International**, **North America Wild Sheep Foundation**, a former Director of the **Mule Deer Foundation** and **Life member of the NRA**. Because of his love for hunting, you could usually find Dick shopping at **Cabela's** at least 3-4 times a month. Rest in peace, friend.

Bill in WA Legislature to Force WDFW to do Their Primary Job

By Mark Pidgeon, President and Director of Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation

House Bill 1676 is a bill that is supported by the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)** of the **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)** as a high priority bill. **HB 1676** may be the most important bill of the 2015 regular session for Hunters! This bill forces the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** to do what they should have been doing long ago — that is conduct a scientific, peer-reviewed study assessing the health of Washington's wild ungulate population in game management units that have experienced a change in predator population dynamics due to the reintroduction and recovery of gray wolves in WA State.

Ungulates include deer and elk and the term roughly means "a hoofed animal." Most ungulates use the tips of their toes, usually hoofed, to sustain their whole body weight while moving.

HB 1676 would force the Department to conduct a baseline on ungulates and the effect[s] that all predators have on ungulate populations.

The Bill is scheduled for Executive Session on Wednesday, **February 18, 2015 at 8:00 AM**. Concerned Hunters need to let the members of the House Agriculture and **Natural Resources Committee** know that they need to pass this bill out of committee with a "do pass" recommendation. Here is a link to all Committee members, including phone numbers and email addresses: <http://leg.wa.gov/House/Committees/AGNR/Pages/MembersStaff.aspx>

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By Doug Hargin

Successful Pacific NW Sportsman's Show

Thanks to all who were able to staff our booth this year at the show. No snow storm this year to contend with just good ol' northwest rain. We signed up 4 new **WWA** memberships and sold a little over 60% of our 600 raffle tickets for the *SX3 Winchester shotgun*.

A special thanks to **Arlan Hackett** for coordinating this and covering multiple shifts. Thank you for all your efforts **Arlan!** We would also like to recognize **Hersch Heddlesten, Bob Taylor, Derrick Tackett, Craig Sherwood, Dan Hafenbrack** and **Bill Mitchell** for covering two shifts; **Dave Herbenson** for bringing the wood duck display and taking a shift; **Terry Foltz** for the display racking; **Rick Scott** for set up, tear down and a stint in the booth.

Also thanks to **Ted and Evan Blade, Doug Dickey, Terry Foltz, Quinn Murray, Dale Venema, Doug Hargin, Jack Whitney, Dave, Ryan and Mark Weston** for each staffing a turn in the booth. Also, **Michael Andriotti** for printing and delivering our brochures.

Shillapoo Wood Duck Box Clean up February 21st

We will meet at 8:00 AM Saturday February 21st in the parking lot off **Laframbois Road** to clean out and prepare the wood duck boxes. Bring gloves, waders, bucket and a ladder if you have one. Lunch will be provided. Contact **Ted Blade** for more information, (360) 558-1770.

Refuge Clean up March 7th

We will meet at 8AM Saturday March 7th at the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge** hunter check station. Bring your waders, gloves, buckets, square nose shovel, and bailers. We will pick up shells, garbage, lost decoys and other interesting things left behind during the season. We will cover and seal up the pit blinds until next fall. Lunch will be provided. Please save the date and join us!

Welcome New Members

We would like to welcome the following new members to **WWA**:

Jesse Ballard and family,
Mel Cope,
Carl Degner and family, and
Doug Dickey.

Moses Lake Chapter News

By Dick Price

Work Party

On February 19th 2015 at 9:00 A.M., we will meet at the **Ephrata Office of the WDFW** located at:

**1550 Alder St N.W.
 Ephrata, WA 98823**

We will be building two (2) **ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)** capable hunting blinds that will ultimately be placed on the **Frenchman Regulated Access Area (RAA)** (f/k/a the Frenchman Quality Hunt Area), after we have completed gravelling the road later this Spring.

The Ephrata Shop where we will be building the blinds is located in the annex to the South of the **WDFW** office building and can be entered from the back side of the building. **WWA** will furnish lunch for the blind project.

This project is part one of an **Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA)** grant that we secured to (1) build and install the pair of **ADA** capable blinds and (2) create an access road into them. The road project will be completed later this Spring and will entail the laying of fabric weed block and spreading gravel by the dump truck loads from the blinds to the entry off **Road C**. The entry ultimately will have a padlock and the key will be available to handicapped hunters through the reservation system.

Part 2 of the ALEA Grant — March Work Party

Sometime in March we will have a work party to lay out 7,690 feet of fabric weed block prior to gravelling the road into the **ADA** blinds built in February. We'll try and do this project on a Saturday so more folks can participate as this will require a fair amount of volunteers. As incentive, it will also provide an excellent chance for those who have not yet hunted the **Frenchman RAA** to do some off season scouting of the area. Hopefully we can pick a Saturday with nice warm weather and minimal wind.

Our **WDFW** contact is **Orrin Duvuvei** at (509) 754-4624 ext 232. For more information contact either **Orrin** or myself:

Dick Price
 509-762-9027
dickprice@nctv.com

ALEA Grant Applications Due February 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/.

Seattle Chapter News

By John Arrabito

Another Matt Stevens Game Calling Program!!!

Our February 25th meeting features a return appearance of wildlife biologist and professional guide, **Matt Stevens**, with another of his always popular and informative power point presentations. This year on "**Calling Game**," in which he will showcase calling coyotes, turkeys, and this year, **ELK** with some of the **Point Blank Hunting Calls** he reps.

Matt's presentation will include applicable slides from his previous coyote and turkey hunting programs as well as some photos and videos from a once-in-a-lifetime elk hunt he and a buddy experienced last September, as well as demonstrating how to use all of the various the calls.

For a video teaser, check out the YouTube of the monster bull elk he took last September with a bow @ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NE_UXPpSblw&feature=youtu.be

An expert marksman with a rifle, **Matt's** programs are hands down the most popular with our membership, so if you want to learn how to do it right, don't miss this month's meeting. **Raffle Prizes & More** -- As usual, **Matt** will be bringing a few **Point Blank** calls for a free raffle, and after showing you how to properly use them, will also have calls to sell for \$10, with all of the proceeds going to our Chapter.

Chapter Meeting Agenda

Shooting at the Kenmore Shotgun Range is open all afternoon; followed by pizza and soda for \$5 at 7:00 p.m., followed by **Matt's** presentation. **ALL WWA members of ALL Chapters are welcome to attend.** 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.

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Southwest Chapter News

By Terry Satre

The **Sportsman's Show** in Puyallup went very well. We sold a lot of merchandise and raffle tickets for the shotgun and fishing rod/reel combo. Hopefully we will see hoodies and T-shirts around town with our logo on it! I want to thank all the volunteers for their time and commitment to **WWA**. We still have tickets available and will have them at February meeting. You can check some out and return them at March 31st meeting as the drawing is then.

More Volunteer Opportunities

We will be looking for volunteers to assist with the spring wood duck nest box cleaning. Assisting with this project could give you info where you might find that drake woodie come fall!

Meeting Night

The **Southwest Chapter** meeting are held the last Tuesday of the month at **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** on Canyon road in Puyallup. Next meeting is February 24th at 7:00. Any questions call 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, March 4th. Come bring a shotgun and join us! Any questions call **Les Hollister** at 210-410-3037.

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Yakima Valley Chapter News

By Abel Cortina

The **Yakima Valley Chapter** would like to welcome to the **WWA** family the new Chairman of the **Tri-Cities Chapter, Jason Oliver!** Our two chapters have some history working together, and we are looking forward to resuming a good connection with this Chapter with **Jason** at the helm. **Welcome, Jason!**

New Location for March Chapter Meeting

Following the hunting season layoff, our **WWA-YV Chapter** monthly meetings resumed on February 12 at a new location in Prosser, at **Jeremy's Public House**. Our March meeting will be in the same location, before we rotate back to **Zillah** for our April and May meetings at **El Ranchito**.

Come Join us at the Sports Show

We discussed logistics for next week's booth at the **Central Washington Sportsmen's Show**. Along with our raffle for a dozen Dakota mallard decoys, we are hoping to get a few new sign-ups for **WWA** membership, and also to get some kids blowing duck and goose calls. Our time in the booth is always a highlight in February! Come by and support the group and/or sign up to volunteer to help staff the booth and see the Show for free!

We also talked about plans for a hunting area clean-up, and ideas for another possible **YV Chapter/Tri-Cities Chapter-led** calling contest in August. The meeting was rounded out with a discussion on new Yakima area bird specialist **Matt Wilson**, as well as the impact of some refuge closures in Washington.

Again, our next meeting will be on Thursday, March 12th at 6:30pm at **Jeremy's Public House** in Prosser. For more information, contact **YV Chairman Abel Cortina** at 509-786-9196, or abelcortina@gmail.com.

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, March 3rd. Come and join us!

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

News for the Flock

Membership Information

By Ellen Satre

If you have questions or changes to address or email please contact me at Ellenswwa@comcast.net or call 253-845-2398

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

<u>Last name</u>	<u>First name</u>	<u>Chapter Preference</u>
Ade	Franz	Southwest
Ankley	Robert	Southwest
Morrow	James	Southwest
Baumann	Bruce	Kitsap Peninsula
Baumann	Max	Kitsap Peninsula
Kratsch	R.G.	Kitsap Peninsula
Rivera	Ricardo	Yakima Valley
Seward	Ric	Yakima Valley
Arrabito	Analise	Seattle
Williams	Jim	Seattle



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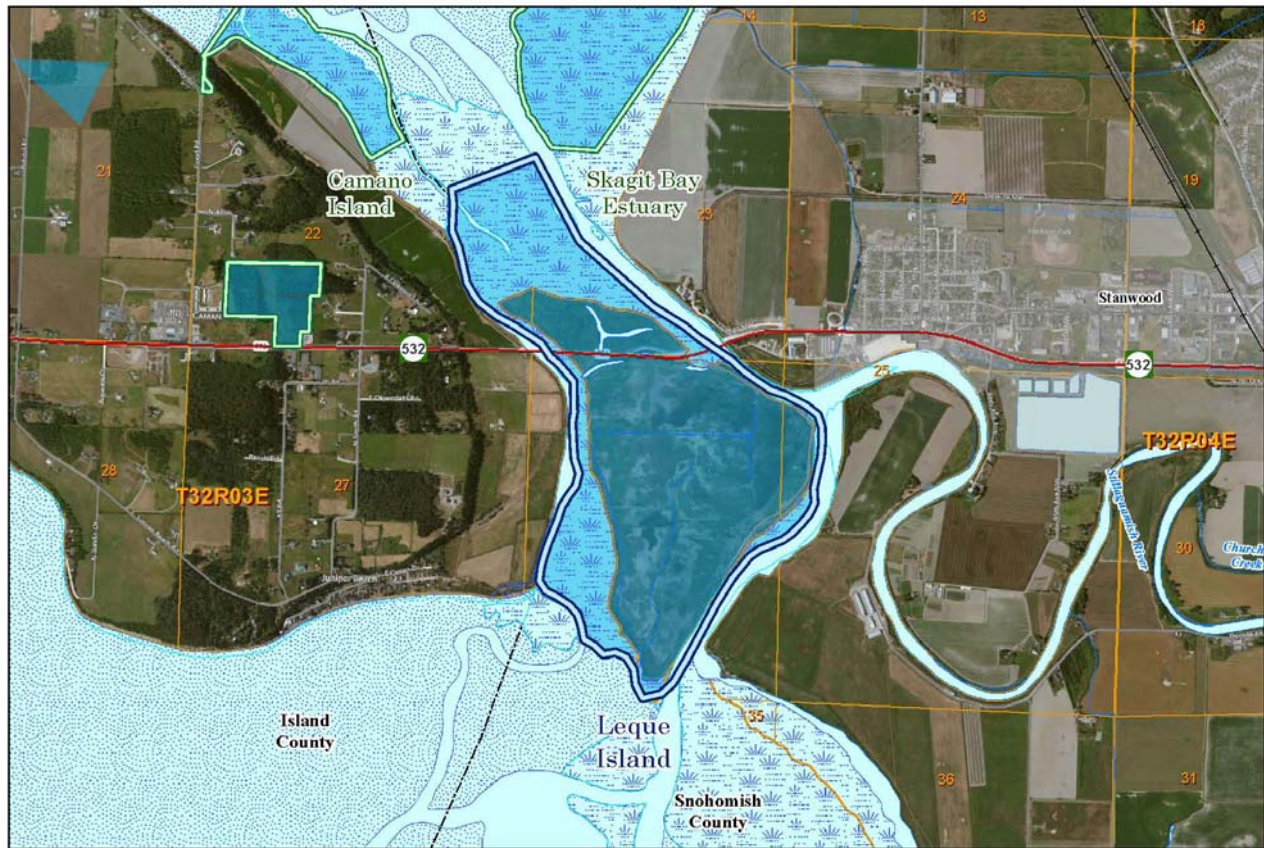
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Skagit Wildlife Area
Leque Island



WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Administered Land
 Featured Wildlife Area
 WDFW Wildlife Area
 Department Owned Land
 WDFW Access Site

Unit's Location Within
 WDFW Regions

Disclaimer
 Due to the dynamic nature of the data and the need to rely on outside sources of information the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions in the data and information contained in this product. There are no warranties that accompany the map and information contained in this product. For more accurate information concerning this Wildlife Area Unit contact the WDFW Regional office that manages this unit.
 Map Produced: December, 2012

WDFW Open House re: Leque Is.

From WDFW Restoration Projects

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and Ducks Unlimited (DU) will host a public Open House on **Wednesday, February 25th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm in the Stanwood Middle School cafeteria** at 9405 - 271st Street NW in Stanwood, regarding the future of **Leque Island**.

Leque Island, located west of **Stanwood** between **Port Susan** and **Skagit bays**, was once entirely salt marsh. Today it consists of wetlands and diked agricultural fields. **WDFW** began acquiring properties on **Leque Island** in 1974, and currently owns the entirety of the island aside from road right-of-ways controlled by **Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)** and **Snohomish County (Highway 532)**.

Contract farmers annually plant cereal grain as food for wintering waterfowl (mainly ducks and snow geese). This site offers bird watching, bird dog training, and pheasant and waterfowl hunting.

The perimeter dikes on the island have repeatedly failed during high tide and storm events, most recently in 2010. Temporary repairs were made in 2010 to patch the dikes in two locations that were breached. **WDFW** and **DU** are working cooperatively with grant funding to determine a long-term solution to the failing dikes. Together they will draft potential design alternatives and **WDFW** will select the preferred alternative with input from stakeholders. This project is referred to as the **Leque Island Alternatives Analysis and Design Project**.

The portion of **Leque Island** south of Highway 532 is approximately 250 acres in size and is currently isolated from tidal inundation with perimeter dikes built in the early 1900's. The perimeter dikes are in a state of disrepair, and high tides combined with storm events have caused the dikes to be breached multiple times; most recently in 2010.

WDFW and **DU** have acquired grant funding to conduct an alternatives analysis and design project to examine potential solutions to the failing dikes.

(Leque Island Continued from Page 10)

The objective of the proposed **Leque Island Alternatives Analysis and Design Project** is to develop and examine potential design options for **Leque Island**, select the preferred alternative design, and to advance the preferred alternative design to permit-level stage.

WDFW and **DU** will draft alternative conceptual designs, use models to predict effects of each design, analyze merits and drawbacks of each design, and solicit input from stakeholders to assist with **WDFW's** selection of the preferred design alternative. *Design alternatives analyzed as part of this process will range from reconstruction of existing dikes, to construction of dikes in various setback locations, to complete removal of dikes.*

At this Open House, **WDFW** and **DU** staff will present a summary of progress made on the **Leque Island Alternatives Analysis and Design Project** since it was initiated at a public meeting on October 30th, 2013. Included in this presentation will be an overview of six (6) design alternatives that were developed with input from the project **Stakeholder Advisory Committee**, as well as the framework used to analyze each of the design alternatives.

After the presentation, attendees will break out into stations and have the opportunity to learn more details about the overall project, ask questions, and provide feedback. A questionnaire will be handed out to collect written input.

WDFW intends to select the preferred design alternative by the end of March, and will then advance to the next design phase. More information about the **Leque Island Alternatives Analysis and Design Project** is available on the project webpage at: http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/skagit/leque_island_project.php.

Northwest Chapter News

By Reb Broker

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 7 pm at the Conway Fire Station. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 10th. Hope to see you there.

News Briefs...

WA Legislature Looks to Alter WDFW

Senate Bill 5817 proposes to change the name of the **Fish and Wildlife Commission** to the **Fish and Wildlife Advisory Commission**, effectively transferring the duties of the **Fish and Wildlife Commission** to the **Department of Fish and Wildlife**, and returning the appointment of the Department's Director from a selection by the Commission to politics and a political appointment of the Governor. For a complete look at the SB 5817, See: <http://lawfilesexp.leg.wa.gov/bienni...Bills/5817.pdf>

WDFW Enforcement Has Huge Problems

By Cooper Inveen, WNPA Olympia News Bureau

OLYMPIA — The **Department of Fish and Wildlife's Enforcement Division** is a serious mess and someone needs to be held accountable, say critics inside and outside the division.

Controversy surrounding the Department's administration — including internal investigations, allegations of cronyism and a federal civil-rights lawsuit — has been circulating among Washington's game wardens and marine officers for years. But what was once an internal affair has now boiled over into the Legislature, and the level of dysfunction is becoming undeniable.

In the past three (3) years, nine (9) officers have either quit or retired early from **WDFW** enforcement, a rate unparalleled in the last 20 years, according to senior officers.

"The big picture is that you've got a law enforcement agency - the second biggest law-enforcement agency in the state - and it's poorly run, dishonest, unsupervised and is out of control," said **Matthew Nixon**, who retired in 2012 after a 19-year stint with **WDFW** enforcement. For the full story see: http://www.northkitsapherald.com/news/291307771.html?utm_source=hootsuite&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=socialmedia#

Back Door Gun Control by ATF

In a move clearly intended by the Obama Administration to suppress the acquisition, ownership and use of AR-15s and other .223 caliber general purpose rifles, the **Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)** unexpectedly announced on February 16th that it intends to ban commonplace M855 ball ammunition as "armor piercing ammunition."

The decision continues Obama's use of his executive authority to impose gun control restrictions and bypass Congress. The **NRA** sounded the alarm last week.

News for the Flock

TREASURERS. REPORT (2-5-2015)

Corporate Checking	\$ 15,354.00
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.	\$ <u>17,600.87</u>
Corporate Total	\$ 43,454.93

CHAPTER FINANCES

GH Checking	\$ 1,958.62
Kitsap Chapter	(To Be Funded)
LC Checking	\$ 24,149.64
ML Checking	\$ 8,350.50
NW Checking	\$ 4,649.10
OP Checking	\$ Closed 3/25/2013
SEA Checking	\$ 30,432.86
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,748.82
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,316.69
SPO Checking	\$ Closed 5/19/2014
SW Checking	\$ 5,445.01
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 25.00
(Original Seed Money)	
WH Checking	\$ 5,536.27
YV Checking	\$ 1,632.82

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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 January** 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

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

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$10,326

Robb Stack—\$2,000 Gary Talbert — \$2,000

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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Kill power that matches HEVI-SHOT®
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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:

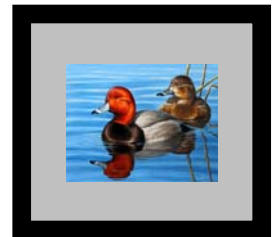
1 2 3 4 (circle one) or more _____: unframed print(s)



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

Support the Merchants that support us!

Environmental Consulting

Sound Ecological Endeavors 206-595-7481
Wetlands Restoration/Permitting
Stanwood, WA rbrewer@soundeco.net

Guns & Ammunition

Skagit Arms 360-588-4672
895 Nevitt Road
Burlington, WA www.skagitarms.com

AMS Guns 425-483-8855
Buy-Sell-Trade-Consign Since 1975
Woodinville, WA amsguns.bizland.com

Hunting Guide Services

Burbank Guide Service 509-545-8000
Washington's Premier Guide Service Since 1977
Burbank, WA www.burbankgoose.com

Duck Taxi on Potholes Reservoir 509-346-2651
Meseberg Adventures Mike Meseberg
Since 1972 www.ducktaxi.com

Hunting Supplies

Flight Cancelled Lanyards 509-860-3422
Call n' Haul Aaron Tanis, Owner
www.flightcancelledlanyards.com

HEVI-Shot www.hevishot.com
Sweet Home, Oregon

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East Harbor Gun Dogs 360-861-8385
Quality Labrador Retrievers
McCleary, WA www.eastharborgundogs.com

Von Waldberg Kennels 425-402-8899
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Lawyers

John T. Arrabito 425-894-4080
Attorney at Law (FAX) 425-775-8016
Lynnwood, WA jarrabito@comcast.net

Shooting Ranges

Old Skagit Gun Club 360-757-4326
Trap and 5-Stand
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Dentistry

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Cook Canyon Hunt Club

Birds-Guided Hunts-Dog Training 888-857-5074
www.cookcanyon.com Ellensburg, WA

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State Farm 360-855-1833
Keith Sorestad, Agent
Sedro Woolley, WA www.ksorestad.com

Lodging

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Greg Hublou, Owner (503) 730-8628
P.O. Box 3500
Bay City, OR 97107 www.baysideoregon.com

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Whole Pet Shop

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425-481-5684
www.wholepetshop.com

Photography

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Anacortes, WA www.geddesphotography.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:

- 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
- 2-Year Regular \$ 50.00 (New)**
- 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 Sportsmen'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 **Jeremy's Public House in Prosser** or **El Ranchito, in Zillah**. See Page 2 for this month's meeting location.

Pay with a credit card from our website:

www.waduck.org

or

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