

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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

June 15, 2017



10610 66th Ave E.
Puyallup, WA 98373



Letter from the President

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Chair, Jason Oliver (509) 366-9914

Whatcom Chapter
Chair Scott O'Day (360) 966-4112

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Chair Abel Cortina (509) 786-9196

Thanks:

First things first; many thanks go to **Bob Taylor** for covering the article for me this past month. I'm not saying I had writer's block. (How could anyone have writers block for a single page once a month?) But, it's always refreshing to get a new viewpoint on our waterfowling world.

Thank You Terry:

Also, I want to say **Thank You to Terry Satre** for his years of service to **Washington Waterfowl Association**. Terry's leadership, selfless dedication to all things waterfowl, and his technical savvy will be sorely missed. It's hard to accept that I can't just pick-up the phone and ring him up for input or to get me out of yet another computer mishap anymore. I miss my friend.

Thank you also to those members who assisted Terry's family with his memorial service. It was a great send-off.

Leadership:

I want thank (and so should all of you) **Gray's Harbor Chapter Chairman Kurt Snyder and David Irons** for joining the **WWA Board of Directors** recently. They bring a breadth of experience and fresh viewpoints to the **WWA leadership**. That said, there are more like **Kurt and David** amongst our ranks.

**WWA's role on behalf of waterfowl and waterfowlers in Washington State is important.
I will be calling you.**

(President's letter continued on page 3)

Mission Statement
To Preserve, Protect and Promote Waterfowl, Waterfowl Habitat, & Waterfowl Hunting in Washington state

EVENTS CALENDAR**2017 Events**

- June 24 & 25** **Oregon Waterfowl Festival** at the Columbia County Fairgrounds in St Helens, Oregon. Volunteer with the **Lower Columbia Chapter**. **Discount ticket code on page 10.**
- June 27** **WWA-SW Chapter Meeting** at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** at 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.
- June 28** **WWA-Seattle Chapter Meeting** at Kenmore Shotgun Range, 1031 – 228th Street SW, Bothell. Member and certified **NRA Instructor Rich Smith** will put on his popular **"How to Shoot 5-Stand Program,"** beginning at 5 p.m. ALL members of ALL Chapters invited.
- June 29** **WWA-Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting** at the **Vancouver Trap Club** on 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.
- June 30** Applications for WA St Jr Sportmen's Conservation Camp scholarships due. **Application and more info on page 23 & 24.**
- June 30** Return your By-Laws Amendment vote to **Kurt Snyder** by today! **See page 7 for ballot and pages 4-6 for proposed amended By-Laws**
- June 30** Return your Board Member ballot to **Kurt Snyder** by June 30th. **See page 8 for ballot.**
- July 8** **Lower Columbia Chapter Picnic and BBQ** at **Lewisville Park** at the Knotty Pine Shelter. **More info on page xx.**
- July 11** **NW Chapter Monthly Meeting** at Conway Fire Station at 7pm.

- July 22** Second Annual Free Shotgun Shooting Clinic at **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**. **More info on page 13.**
- Aug 12** Annual Free Youth Shooting Event at **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**. **More info on page 14.**
- Aug 19** Free Trap Shoot for Youth at **Quincy Trap Club**.
- Aug 20** Save the Date for the **BJ Brown Memorial Trapshoot** at the Kenmore Gun Range. More info to come.
- Aug 27** **Waterfowl Clinic with the WDFW at the Vancouver Trap Club**. **More info on page 10.**
- Sept 16** **Moses Lake WWA and DU BBQ for youth hunting season** at Mar Don Resort. **More info on page 11.**
- Sept 23:** **Lower Columbia Chapter Banquet**. Make your donation today! **More info on page 10.**
- Sept 30** Mark your calendar for the **NW Chapter Banquet**. More details coming soon.

**Be an Active Member
and Attend one of
these GREAT Events!**



Letter from the President continued from Page 1

Thank You for Voting:

I want to thank those of you who took part in the voting on the recent changes to the by-laws. The results are forthcoming. If you haven't voted yet, you can still do so by the end of this month. See Pages 5 and 6 for a detailed explanation the proposed changes to the By-Laws and a ballot with instructions on Page 7. It is important to keep the guidelines by which **WWA** operates fluid while respecting our heritage.

2017 Duck Stamp:

Well for those of you who lay awake at night wondering what the **2017 duck stamp** will look like, your insomnia will soon be ceasing. This year's **Washington Waterfowl Artist, Dee Dee Murry**, has done an exceptional job of capturing a young Yellow Labrador putting up some Cinnamon Teal while at play.

The first batch of prints have arrived from the printer for signing and the digital image is in Arkansas on its way to becoming collector stamps. The prints will probably be ready around the middle of August.

As in previous years, **Life Members and Previous Collectors** will be afforded the opportunity to reserve a specific numbered print through July 31st. Thereafter, print sales will be opened to the general membership and the public.

WWA continues to tightly limit the number of prints we produce to just 110 units; of which, #'s 101 thru 110 go to **WDFW**, #'s 90 thru 100 go to the artist, and the remainder go up for sale. Further, to make our artwork more collectible, **WWA** offers the corresponding stamp for collectors.

Most folks are probably unaware that the creation of the duck stamp takes the better part of the year. Subject selection, multiple artist communications, artist submissions, winner determination, deadlines, supplier communications, pricing decisions, weekly disbursement of complimentary stamps and sales to philatelic retailers are just part of the annual routine. Oh, and the communications with **WDFW** to create the appropriate pages in the waterfowl hunting regulations.

Does **WWA** make money on this project? Is the Duck Stamp worthwhile? The **WWA** was responsible for the

creation of the State stamp in 1986. Washington is just one of thirty remaining states that produce a duck stamp. Although the Washington duck stamp/migratory bird permit are among the most expensive in the land; our stamps are highly collectible. As a whole, **WWA** runs in the black on the program; we haven't always done so. We are much better in managing the process than we were in 2012 when we produced our first stamps and prints.

The Washington State Duck Stamp would have ended had it not been for the efforts of Washington Waterfowl Association and the late Doug Graef.

The Duck Stamp committee welcomes two new members to our ranks, **Mike Bell and Scott Keith**. Their backgrounds in stamp collecting and graphics will ensure and enhance the future of the State duck stamp program. Mike will be taking over the chairmanship of the duck stamp committee in the near future. **Welcome aboard and Thank You both for stepping up.**

Due to the great suppliers we work with, we intend to hold the matted & framed print & stamp delivered to your door at \$120 again this year.

This isn't a bargain.....it's a steal!

We'll be looking for your order!

**For the Resource,
*Jim Cortines***

News for the Flock

By-Laws and Proposed Changes:

At the **All-Chapter Meeting** held on April 6, the following By-Laws were proposed to be changed. **Please make sure to cast your vote by June 30** at your local chapter meeting or via email. **See Page 7 for the ballot and for the current By-Laws go to:** <http://wwa.shuttlepod.org/Resources/Documents/WWA%20BY%20LAWS%20%28as%20Revised%204-2-2011%29.pdf>

Summary of Proposed Changes to WWA By-Laws:

Amend #5 — Chapter chair or his appointee afforded one seat on BOD, should chapter not elect to execute, BOD will appoint to the seat

Amend #6 — Provides for attendance through electronic means as well as voting via proxy

Amend #7 — Clarifies the qualifications for eligibility to hold office as a chapter officer, BOD member, or corporate officer

Amend #8 — Allows a 60% (super majority) vote by existing Directors to amend the By-Laws

Amend #9 — Provides language for the disbursal of assets in the event of the dissolution of either a chapter or corporate organizations

A more thorough explanation of the proposed By-Law changes is provided courtesy of **Board Member, Bob Taylor** on the pages 5 and 6.

Shillapoo Update: WDFW's Estimates Show Waterfowl Will Suffer from Shillapoo Dike Breachings:

By: Bob Taylor

According to the **WDFW's** own estimates, in an "average water year" the "**South Unit Buckmire Slough Salmon Restoration Project**," better known to us as the **BPA/WDFW Shillapoo dike** breaching proposal, will negatively impact at least 80 non-salmonoid species including two (2) which are threatened or endangered and **reduce goose and duck use of South Shillapoo by 65% and 62%** respectively. If it happens, this project will **decrease** wildlife use and habitat, **decrease** recreational use including hunting, bird watching, and dog training, and **decrease** native plant species while increasing invasive plants and fish. **WDFW** also estimates that this so-called "Restoration Project" will result in a dryer **South Shillapoo Unit** during all seasons. What a deal for wildlife!

These estimates were presented as PowerPoint slides during the May 19th briefing to the **Shillapoo Wildlife Area Advisory Committee** at the **Region 5 office** in Vancouver, WA. They are extremely significant because, while we've all felt in our gut that this project would be detrimental to waterfowl, we've had no reliable estimates from competent authority to interest other parties in joining our fight. **Now we do!** These estimates stem from **WDFW's own biologists**; the folks who know and manage this area.

Citing these **WDFW** estimates, I urge everyone to **contact their Congressional and Legislative Representatives and ask them to oppose this project.**

We should also demand that, should the Shillapoo dike breachings happen, mitigation be established for damage to non-salmonoid species. We should provide these estimates to other organizations such as **Delta Waterfowl, the Audubon Society, the NRA, local news media**, etc. asking them to join our fight. **WDFW** has given us the ammo we need to do this; we should use it!

Contact your Congressional and Legislative Representatives and ask them to Oppose the Shillapoo Dike Breachings.
Go to:
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/WA#senators>
to find your representatives and their contact information.

Detailed Information on Proposed Amendments

The following is a more thorough explanation of the proposed By-Law changes provided courtesy of Board Member Bob Taylor. Please cast your vote on page 8 and return your ballot to Kurt Snyder by June 30. Instructions included on ballot.

Amendment #5(February 3, 2017)

Article III, Section I is amended so that one director may come from each chapter with the provision that the chapter chair or his appointee may function as that chapter's board member should that chapter fail to elect anyone. If fewer than nine total board members result, additional board members may be elected at large.

Why This Proposed Amendment?: Although this section already says, "The Board of Directors shall generally consist of a representative from each chapter.", many chapters to date have not elected a board member with the result that these chapters are not represented at the state level. This amendment is an attempt to provide representation for all chapters while ensuring that there will be nine board members.

Amendment #6(February 3, 2017)

Article III, Section I is additionally amended to allow a board member to give another board member his proxy. The board will create proper forms for such proxies.

Why This Proposed Amendment?: No matter where board meetings will be held, some members will be faced with long drives in order to attend. This has become an issue in recruiting willing board members from all chapters. Although Article III, Section I already states, "Electronic attendance by Officers and/or Board member is permissible." this has proven difficult to implement due to bandwidth and computer compatibility issues. Allowing proxies will make it easier for all board members to perform their duties.

Amendment #7(February 3, 2017)

Article III, Section 13 is amended to permit by-laws to be amended by a super-majority (60%) vote of all currently seated board members.

Why This Proposed Amendment?: Getting a vote on by-law amendments from all chapters state-wide has become nearly impossible since some chapters meet irregularly and one holds no meetings at all. With a determined effort to seek board representation from all chapters this

Detailed Information on Proposed Amendments

amendment will allow the Washington Waterfowl Association to better adapt to new circumstances while still ensuring input from everyone.

Amendment #8(February 3, 2017)

Article III, Section 14 is amended as follows: 1. If a local chapter folds, any remaining assets it holds will become the possession of the Corporate Organization. 2. If the Corporate Organization folds its remaining assets will be divided between existing chapters proportionately based on membership. Local chapters wishing to continue, may keep their own assets; but if they later fold, their assets must be donated to a non-profit.

***Why This Proposed Amendment?:** In the event the state organization can not continue functioning it is entirely possible that some local chapters may wish to continue their conservation and hunter advocacy efforts independently. Since local chapters generally conduct their own funding efforts, it would be unfair to require them to surrender their own funds and fold simply because the state organization had done so. This amendment would allow local chapters to continue. The proviso that their money must be donated to a non-profit if they fold is necessary to ensure the tax-deductible status of monies donated to Washington Waterfowl.*

Amendment #9(April 6, 2017)

In the event that the Corporate Organization folds, individual Chapters would, as they desire, assume the responsibility for the setting, collection and usage of annual dues.

***Why This Proposed Amendment?:** This is simply reality. If the state organization folds local chapters continuing operations must assume these tasks themselves.*

Please cast your vote on the proposed amendments on Page 8. Return to Kurt Snyder by June 30.

By-Law Amendments Ballot

Voting on the 2017 Proposed By-Laws Amendments

The details of the proposed amendments are contained in the newsletter. The By-Laws are available at the WWA web-site at www.waduck.org.

Only members with their 2017 dues paid current are allowed to vote. Only one vote is allowed per member.

You may vote as a group at a monthly meeting or individually by e-mail.

Amendments are to be voted on individually.

All individual or group voting must be received by Kurt Snyder
(kurtsnyder@outdrs.net)
via e-mail by June 30th.

Voting as a Group

Supporting ballots and a copy of the re-cap must be maintained by the chapter. Ballot re-caps must be submitted by a chapter officer.

Voting as an individual member

Submit your individual ballots directly to Kurt Snyder.

Chapter _____
Name _____
Address _____

Amendment #5	Yeah _____	Nay _____
Amendment #6	Yeah _____	Nay _____
Amendment #7	Yeah _____	Nay _____
Amendment #8	Yeah _____	Nay _____
Amendment #9	Yeah _____	Nay _____

News for the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By: John Arrabito

Many thanks to **Larry Gordon** and his wife, **Kathy**, and their business, **AMS Guns of Woodinville**, for 13 consecutive years of organizing shotgun shooting instruction for youth. Next year their daughter **Tricia Ring** and her husband, **Royce**, will continue this great family tradition that to date has introduced over 260 young people to our shooting sports.

The event, historically held at the May general meeting of the **WWA-Seattle Chapter**, offers young people under the age of 16 a half-day course in firearm Safety Training; One-on-one individual shotgun instruction and supervision for shooting a shotgun at clay targets. The program covers the expenses of all range fees, shotgun shells, ear and eye protection and use of a shotgun [12, 20 and .410 gauges] fitted to each young person's size and length of pull. A free **WWA-logo'd** cap of their choice and a fun dinner of pizza and soda where they can share their achievements, capped off the fun day.

Shooting Instruction at our June Meeting

NRA Certified Instructor and WWA-Seattle member, Rich Smith, will once again put on his hands-on program, "How to Shoot Five Stand." For those of you who have to-date not ventured over from the Trap fields to the Five Stand



Larry Gordon gives his last Firearm Safety Talk prior to the 13th Annual Youth Mentor Shoot that he and his wife Kathy initiated in 2005 along with sponsorship from their business, AMS Guns in Woodinville, the Kenmore Gun Range, and WWA-Seattle Chapter. Hundreds of young people out there offer up a huge THANK YOU!

Setup — for whatever reason[s] — this is your chance to learn from an expert. With 13 different setups for "throwing" clay pigeons, 5-Stand gives the shooter the most varied and realistic practice for those shots you are likely to encounter while hunting.

Rich's 5-Stand Shooting Program starts early at 5:30 p.m., followed by pizza and pop at 7 p.m., and a short business meeting that will include voting with supplied ballots for all **WWA Corporate Offices**; six (6) of 9 open Board of Directors positions; as well as on five (5) new proposed amendments to the **WWA Corporate By-Laws**. Hope to see you and your "smoke pole" there!



Larry Gordon gives one-on-one instruction to Elisabeth Hanson.

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

Oregon Waterfowl Festival June 24th & 25th:

Our chapter is supporting the festival as a Lead Sponsor this year. We invite all WWA members to join us that weekend at our booth. **We really need some help on Sunday. Please contact Doug if you are able to help.** The event is billed as the largest waterfowl festival west of the Mississippi. Check out their website at: <http://oregonwaterfowlfestival.com/>

Summer Picnic:

Saturday, July 8th we are having our **Chapter picnic and BBQ at Lewisville Park**. We have the **Knotty Pine Shelter** reserved for the day. Please note this is a different shelter than last year. We plan to begin feasting around noon. The chapter will provide a tasty assortment of meats for the main dish. We ask that you bring a side dish of your choice. Please invite your family and waterfowl friends to this big summer party!

Successful Sportsman's Booth Saturday May 20th:

Saturday morning May 20th we sold some raffle tickets and advocated for our organization. Thanks to **Rick Scott** for bringing the big WWA trailer. Also **Arlan Hackett, Ron Anderson, Bill Mitchell, Gerry Piazza, Doug Lee, Bob Taylor, Cliff and Jackie Pepper** and new member -to-be **Adam Kostick** for showing up and staffing the booth.

Sunday August 27th Waterfowl Clinic:

In partnership with the **Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife** we are planning a "not just for kids" waterfowl clinic at the **Vancouver Trap Club**. This is a great opportunity to expose potential waterfowlers of all ages to our sport and share with novice hunters' tips and advice.

14th Annual Chapter Banquet:

Our chapter banquet is three (3) short months away on **September 23rd**. We are looking for donations, gift cards, auction items and anything else you can come up with to make this our best event yet! Contact **Doug Hargin (360) 903-6951** for information.

Oregon Waterfowl Festival

JUNE 24-25TH, 2017
COLUMBIA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS | ST. HELENS, OR

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

- CALLING CONTESTS
- RETRIEVER CONTESTS
- BBQ & HUNTING FILM TOUR
- NW ELH CAMP (NEW FOR 2017!)
- SEMINARS
- RAFFLES & AUCTIONS
- OVERNIGHT CAMPING
- 17 & UNDER FREE ENTRY! (WITH ADULT PRESENT)

20% OFF TICKETS
WHEN YOU PURCHASE ONLINE BEFORE JUNE 23RD

WATERFOWL
USE THE ABOVE COUPON CODE AT CHECKOUT

Coupon not valid for purchases at the gate. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires June 23, 2017.

www.OREGONWATERFOWLFESTIVAL.COM

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

By: Dick Price

Youth Weekend BBQ:

Moses Lake WWA chapter along with the Moses Lake DU chapter will again host a BBQ for youths on the Sept 16, 2017 opener of the youth hunting season.

The event will again be held at Mar Don Resort and feature free hats, Duck calls, and Waterfowl I.D. books for the youths. In addition there will be decoy painting and a lunch of Hot Dogs and Hamburgers will be provided.

Cost of the event will be \$5.00 for youths and \$10.00 for adults. A DU Greenwing membership will be included. More information about the event will be included in future newsletters.

Goose Nest Count:

Every year the Moses Lake Chapter of WWA conducts a goose nest count, usually in early May. Even years it is on Moses Lake and in odd years on Pot Holes Reservoir, where we were on Saturday, May 6th. Members went out and counted about 26 islands and found 26 nests, which is fairly high compared to past years. The time was ended with the usual barbecue at the home of Robin and Susan Hickok on Moses Lake.



Aaron Eastman (top) and Hayden Ploeger (right) along with other Moses Lake WWA members conducting the annual goose nest count at the Pot Holes Reservoir.



News for the Flock

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Shotgun Shooting Clinic:

I hope everyone's summer is going as planned. The planning for our two annual events continues and it keeps getting better! I have yet to receive any RSVP's for our shotgun shooting clinic. This clinic was very successful last year so we are repeating it but on a slightly higher skill level. The basics will still be covered though! It's on the 22nd of July at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club** near Littlerock, WA. Check out the flyer in this issue **on page 13!**

Annual Youth Shotgun Shooting Event:

I have only a handful of RSVP's for our annual Youth Shotgun Shooting Event planned for the 12th of August at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club**. This is an awesome event for the kids so put it on your calendar. We scheduled it earlier this year so to not compete with the other hunting seasons. As with the shooting clinic please check out the flier in this issue **on page 14.**

Cedarville Farms Hunt for Two Raffle Tickets:

We are selling the **Cedarville Farms Hunt for Two** raffle tickets "steady as she goes!" More than half have been sold or issued to the **WWA Chapters**. The Drawing date is October 5th, which is coming up quickly so get them while their hot! They make really great gifts for that waterfowler you know or even someone that is just considering water fowling! As before, check out the flier here in this issue **on page 15.**



Member Greg Fulwider checking out the Nerf Archery Range!

Also I ask that you all share the flyers with anyone you know that may be interested! Thank you!

Cabela's Family Adventure Day:

On the 10th of June we attended the **Cabela's Family Adventure Day** at the **Lacey Cabela's**. One of our Chapter members and recent candidate for a **WWA Board of Directors** position, **Jim Goldsmith**, headed up the event as field director for the **US Sportsman's Alliance**. **Jim** currently represents **WWA's** voting membership with the **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)**. Thanks to him and **Cynthia**, his wife, and his son **Wil**, **Greg Fulwider**, **Dick Jensen** and yours truly, the **Grays Harbor Chapter** was well represented at this event! We may even have recruited a few new members!

That's about all for now so have a safe and fun rest of the summer!



Above: Cynthia, Jim and Wil Goldsmith, Dick Jensen, Kurt Snyder and Greg Fulwider all staffing the sign-up table for the Cabela's Family Adventure Day!

Below: All volunteers for the Cabela's Family Adventure Day!



News for the Flock

Shotgun Shooting Clinic

For the Water Fowler

Or New Shooter — Open to the Public

*Presented by the Grays Harbor Chapter of the
Washington Waterfowl Association*

*Instruction for the young and/or new waterfowler
or*

just want to shoot better

*Become a better shot for successful and ethical waterfowling
Informal instruction from experienced hunters with your own shotgun.*

Classroom and one-on-one range coaching

Improve your existing shooting skills

Advanced instruction for experienced shooters

Instruction is free! Just pay for the targets — \$5.50 for 25.

July 22nd, 2017 — 10:00AM

Evergreen Sportsmen's Club

12736 Marksman Rd SW

Olympia WA 98512



Must RSVP at kurtsnyder@outdrs.net by the event date

News for the Flock

Free Youth Target Shoot
and
Pre -Duck Season Warm-up

Presented by

The Grays Harbor Chapter
Of The Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

August 12th, 2017 at

The Evergreen Sportsman's Club
12736 Marksman Rd. S.W.
Olympia Wa. 98512

Bring your young hunters and shoot targets from blinds, a boat blind, and layout blinds on the Sporting Clays Range. Targets from different angles Sporting Clays style and a poison bird target station. Adults can shoot with the kids.

50 target course per entry.

- ◎ ***All young hunters 15 and under FREE ENTRY, Paid for by the Grays Harbor Chapter's fund raising events.***
- ◎ ***\$20.00 adult entry to shoot the course. Active or retired military \$10.00.***
- ◎ ***Registration starts at 9:30 AM in the main club house.***
- ◎ ***FREE lunch at 1:00 PM for all entries.***
- ◎ ***Prizes to be given out by random draw between 1:30 PM. And 2:00 PM.***
- ◎ ***Pre registration (strongly) suggested!***

ALL youth shooters must be accompanied by a parent or guardian to enter!!

Contact kurtsnyder@outdrs.net for more info or questions.



News for the Flock

Hunt for Two Raffle

CEDARVILLE FARMS WATERFOWL CLUB



- **Drawing Date October 5th 2017 at the Evergreen Sportsman's Club**
- **Two Chances to Win with every ticket!**
- **Two Drawings and Two Winners!**
- **Hunts will be on the Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club exclusive hunting properties or Puget Sound during the 2017/2018 waterfowl season.***
- **Overnight lodging included at the Cedarville Farms Lodge near Oakville Wa.**
- **Winner has choice of; *Inland waterfowl hunt or Puget Sound trophy Sea Duck hunt!***

Ticket price is \$5.00 per single ticket or \$20.00 for Five tickets.

Read the small print below

Need not be present at drawing to win. Proceeds benefit the Washington Waterfowl Associations' Individual Chapter projects like Youth Shooting Events and Youth Water-fowling education.

Contact your WWA Chapter Chairman for ticket purchase and contact kurtsnyder@outdrs.net or 360-485-9353 for purchase, raffle rules and information.

This raffle is sponsored by the Grays Harbor Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Association

**Some exceptions may apply.*

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

Spring Wild Turkey season is officially over and in the rearview mirror. For those of you that made it out into the woods I hope your season was successful. This rite of spring is a great holdover activity until the early Goose opener, and we feel good knowing this year's hatch is on.

Welcome to the recent new members of the Chapter. We look forward to getting to know you. A good way to get to know the Club and its members is by attending a Chapter Meeting or event.

June Chapter Meeting:

This month's meeting will include guest speaker **Mark Pidgeon**. Mark is the president of **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)**. An alliance of individuals and organizations concerned with the health and well-being of Washington's wildlife and wildlife management methods.

WWA is a supporting organization of **WWC**. We will also be reviewing the proposed corporate By-Law changes, Corporate Officer and Board positions. Please make sure to cast your vote by June 30 at your local chapter meeting or via email.

3rd Annual Chapter Banquet:

Mark your calendars for the upcoming **NW Chapter banquet**. The Chapter has set a date of September 30th and will hold this event once again at **Hillcrest Lodge in Mt Vernon**. The Banquet provides financial support for conservation activities and Chapter events. A fun evening

with good friends, dinner, auctions and raffles. We are always looking for member donations, auction items and member volunteers for this event. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

The Northwest Chapter meets on the second Tuesday each month on July 11 at the **Conway Fire Station** starting at 7pm. See you there and bring a friend. Contact **Rick Billieu** at: rgbillieu@frontier.com if you have any questions.

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

Monthly Meeting:

The **Southwest Chapter** had a great time on the trap and skeet range this last meeting. Thank you to the members that came out we have to do this again.

The next meeting will be June 27 at 6:30 at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** on Canyon Rd in Puyallup.

Kitsap County Chapter News

The **Kitsap County Chapter** is looking for a new Chapter Chairperson. Peninsula Waterfowlers, we need someone to step forward.

Spokane Chapter News

The **Spokane County Chapter** is looking for a new Chapter Chairperson. Inland Empire Waterfowlers, we need someone to step forward.

OLD SKAGIT GUN CLUB

14933 Josh-Wilson Rd
Burlington WA 98233
(360) 757-4326



Dane Widen
(360) 424-9234
dw687eell@msn.com



Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

16409 Canyon Rd. E.
Puyallup, WA 98375
(253) 537-6151
www.tacomassportsmensclub.com

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at www.waduck.org

By: Ellen Satre

If you have not received your membership card or decal. Please contact Ellen. As well, if you have questions or changes to your address please contact Ellen at EllenSWWA@comcast.net or call 253.845.2398.

WWA Life Members

JOIN THE HERITAGE CLUB

\$500 Life Member; \$750 Sustaining Lifetime Member

WADUCK.ORG

#1 Gary Talbert	#2 Paul Bunn	#3 Austin Addicoat	#4 Rone Brewer	#5 Fritz Kimle
#6 Jim Corines	#7 Neco Villella	#8 Roger Bennett	#9 Bruce Feagan	#10 Larry Gordon
#11 Rich Greenshields	#12 Mike Lovelace	#13 Reserved on Time Payments	#14 Jack Westerfield	#15 Bud Hufnagel
#16 John Arrabito	#17 Jenny Lutz	#18 Mike Lutz	#19 Reserved on Time Payments	#20 Brett Stark
#21 Earl Mikkelson	#22 US Rep Jamie Herrera-Beutler	#23 Ken Packard	#24 Jan Sabin	#25 Lance Kintrea
#26 Jim Kline	#27 Leon Kollman	#28 Derek Melton	#29 Dan Stearns	#30 John Hanson
#31 Mark Hackett	#32 Reserved 2nd Bud Hufnagel	#33 Mickey Clary	#34 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2017)	#35 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2017)
#36 Doug Graef	#37 Robb Stack	#38 Rod Boyer	#39 Paul Sullivan	#40 Jessica Dunn
#41 Dave Farley	#42 Will Goldsmith	#43 Shaunie Cochran	#44 Claudean Talbert	#45 William Dunlap
#46 Analise Arrabito	#47 Robert Zeka	#48 Ron Watkins	#49 Ken Boyer	#50 Henry Field
#51 Ric Wray	#52 Rich Phillips	#53 Ross Barkhurst	#54 Michael Bess	#55 In Memory of Anne Grichuhin



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News for the Flock

2017 Duck Stamp Coming August 1, 2017



Created by the Artist **Dee Dee Murry**

See page 27 to order your 2016 Duck Stamps before they run out!

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Update

Frenchman Regulated Access Area and Enhancement Project

By: Chattan McPherson (WDFW Wetland Biologist)

Columbia Basin Wildlife Area staff have been involved in moist soil management in all wetland cells of the **Frenchman Regulated Access Area**. During April and May of 2017 wetland cells were harrowed, which breaks up top layers of soils and vegetation. This process allows for desired wetland plant species to establish, or for **WDFW** to plant food plots for waterfowl and other wetland associated wildlife species. Through our efforts some wetlands were harrowed and left to let desirable wetland plant species self-propagate, while other portions of wetland cells were planted with Millet, Smartweed, and Sudan grass. These planted crops will provide fall, winter, and spring migrating waterfowl with valuable forage. Waterfowl hunters will also see a benefit from planted areas within wetland cells.

The **Frenchman Enhancement** project field work started late May of 2017. **WDFW staff, Ducks Unlimited Regional Engineer**, and contracting crew began contouring, excavation, and creating a new water delivery ditch. These efforts' main focus is to reset succession and create wetland habitat that is valuable to wildlife and recreational users.

The expansion unit of the **Frenchman Project** historically had a significant amount of Russian olives, and water delivery through the cell had established its own route back to the Frenchman wasteway. Now with a delivery ditch system, water control structures, and removal of Russian olives, the total available amount of wetland acres will be increased. Work in **Cell 5** has been focused on contouring of the wetland cell. These alterations will increase efficiency of vegetation management, moist soil management, and will make the cell more user friendly to waterfowl hunters. Other work concerning the enhancement project focuses on the

establishment of islands in some of the wetland cells. Islands will create loafing areas for waterfowl, making cells more attractive and alluring to waterfowl. Islands will also offer waterfowl hunters the opportunity to hunt from within the wetland cell surrounded by water, which in certain conditions could improve opportunity.



Upper Photo: Land Tamer harrowing Cell 4 in the Regulated Access Area.

Lower Photo: Contouring in Cell 5 of Regulated Access Area

Photos by C. McPherson



News for the Flock

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 in red is a listing of recent contributions to the six (6) primary funds established by the **WWA** since publication of the May 2017 Newsletter.

WWA Youth Fund — \$2,565

- In Memory of Terry Satre — Jim Payne & Gladys Linford — \$200
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Jim & Teresa Cortines— \$100
- In Memory of Terry Satre — WWA-Lower Columbia Chapter — \$100
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Tacoma Sportsmen's Club — \$75
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Pat Bergsman — \$50
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Debra Hansen — \$50
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Al & Eloyce O'Conner — \$35
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Earl & Glory Mikkelson — \$25
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Larry & Edith Neether — \$25
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Emblem Club c/o Norma Lamphiear — \$20
- In Memory of Terry Satre — Jim & Sue Larson — \$20
- Monthly Recurring Donation — Jim Goldsmith, June 2017— \$5

WWA Legal Fund — \$17,877

- Monthly Recurring Donation — John Arrabito, June 2017— \$5

WWA Habitat Fund — \$785

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$10,957

WWA General Fund — \$154



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News for the Flock

TREASURER's REPORT (6-7-2017)

Corporate Checking (BAC)	\$ 10,922.35
Corporate Checking (Banner)	\$ 15,058.95
Funds to be Deposited	\$ 100.00
Duck Stamp Account (As of 5/3/2017)	\$ 12,789.02
Merchandise Account (As of 1/5/17)	\$ 2,415.15
Corporate C.D.	\$ 17,631.07
Corporate Total	\$ 58,916.54

CHAPTER FINANCES

GH Checking (1-7-2016)	\$ 1,632.41
Kitsap Chapter (To Be Funded)	
LC Checking	\$ 24,903.56
ML Checking	\$ 26,004.97
NW Checking	\$ 18,941.64
SEA Checking	\$ 20,404.59
SEA CD Amount	\$ 9,754.64
SEA Robert Hickok Fund	\$ 1,317.25
SEA Total	\$ 31,476.48
SPO Checking	Closed 5/19/2014
SW Checking	\$ 6,464.73
Tri-Cities Checking	\$ 100.00
(Original Seed Money)	
WH Checking	\$ 4,385.37
YV Checking	\$ 2,213.56

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Classifieds— For Sale and Wanted

For Sale:

Livingston 11ft with 15HP Johnson/trailer/easy on/off marsh grass boat blind in good condition. \$950 total or best offer.

Contact **John Hanson** john@all-mountain.com

425-343-3401

Old **10 foot Sea King aluminum boat** in Adna, WA for sell or trade. Make Offer. Contact **Will** at birdstew@yahoo.com or 360-250-6896

Like New. **4' x 4' five rail galvanized tubular stock gate**. \$93 dollars at Del's Farm Supply. Asking \$55. Contact **Jim** at wawtrfwlr@comcast.net or 206.612.8772

Beretta A300 Outlander Real Tree Camo 12 guage, new in box, \$600 firm. Contact **Jeff** at jeffblee98@yahoo.com or 360-708-0585.

Wanted:

The Lower Columbia Chapter is looking for a **12 foot Aluminum used row boat**. There could be a Tax Deduction for a Donated Boat. We also can purchase or pay for one. No Leaks. Paint not a problem as we will camo.

Contact: **Ted Blade**, ted.blade@providence.org, or **Doug Hargin**, dlhargin@msn.com, or **Arlan Hackett**, aghackett@aol.com

WWA Classifieds:

WWA is dedicating a page in the newsletter for WWA members to sell hunting related items to their fellow members. No business ads please. That extra shotgun, waders, decoys or boat could get you some cash or trade for something another member has on hand.

Rules are simple:

- 25 words or less.
- Members only may advertise.
- For sale items only, not for business ads. (Businesses are welcome to purchase business ads from us.)
- Submit your classified ad each month (we have no way of knowing if you sold/purchased your item or not).
- Be sure to include your contact info. Phone and/or email.
- Send to **Matty Moore** at matty@vision-marketing.net or call 509.944.1009 by the 10th of the month.

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SEE RESULTS

News for the Flock

Once again it's time for parents to start making plans to send their children to various summer camps. In two (2) separate drawings — one for children of **WWA** members and another for all applicants, **WWA** will select up to two (2) girls and (2) boys, for full tuition scholarships to the **Washington State Youth Conservation Camp in July at Camp Moran on Orcas Island**. In 2013, there were only three (3) applicants. In 2012 rather than leave one youth home, **WWA** sent all five (5) applicants to camp. They represented young men from four (4) different **WWA** Chapters throughout the State. Attached on the next two (2) pages is the application and more information for all interested. **Deadline for Applications — Must be Postmarked by June 30, 2017**

WASHINGTON STATE JUNIOR SPORTSMEN'S CONSERVATION CAMP APPLICATION

CAMP DATES 2017: Girls Camp – Sunday, July 16 to Saturday, July 22
Boys Camp – Sunday, July 23 to Saturday, July 29

CAMP FEE: \$300.00

*All campers must be at least 12 years old by July 18th, 2017 and must not have reached their 17th birthday before the onset of camp. Campers do not need to be sponsored by a club or organization.

Please write legibly and carefully.

Camper's Name _____ Sex _____ Birth Date _____

Age Just Prior to Camp _____ Number of Previous Years at This Camp _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Home Phone () _____ Work Phone () _____

Cell Phone () _____

Email Address (legibly, please) _____

Sponsor (if other than parent/guardian) **WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION**

Sponsor Mailing Address: **P.O. Box 2131, Auburn, WA 98071-2131**

Sponsor Phone **(425) 894-4080**

Contact Person: **JOHN ARRABITO**

Who will deliver camper to ferry dock? _____

Who will retrieve camper at the end of the week? _____

(If other than parent/guardian, a signed letter of permission is required)

Who has legal custody of the camper? _____

Is there anyone specific the camper should not be released to? _____

Emergency Contact _____ Contact Phone () _____

Has this child been away from family for a full week before? _____

Do you believe he/she may have difficulty adjusting to a structured camping situation? _____

(If yes, please explain on a separate sheet)

Transportation to and from Anacortes will be the responsibility of the sponsor/parent/guardian. If car pools are desired, phone numbers of other campers in your area can be obtained from your camp directors. To be fully completed, this application must include (1) the signatures of the camper and the parent/guardian at the bottom of this page, and (2) the full camp fee of \$300.00. If, due to some emergency, a camper is unable to attend, the sponsoring club or organization (if any) and the Camp Directors must be notified immediately so that a replacement can be located. **NO REFUNDS WILL BE MADE FOR NO-SHOWS AT THE FERRY DOCK.**

There will be no discrimination due to race, color, religion, or nationality.

THIS APPLICATION AND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN ARE TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE. SIGNATURES BELOW INDICATE THAT THE CAMPER HAS PARENT/GUARDIAN PERMISSION TO ATTEND CONSERVATION CAMP ON ORCAS ISLAND, AND THAT THE CAMPER AND PARENT/GUARDIAN HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREED TO ABIDE BY THE CAMP POLICIES. IT IS FURTHER AGREED THAT, SHOULD THE CAMP DIRECTORS FEEL THAT CONTINUED INFRACTIONS OF CAMP POLICY OR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR OF A CAMPER CONSTITUTE A THREAT TO THE HEALTH, SAFETY, OR SECURITY OF THE CAMPER OR OTHERS, THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OF THE CAMPER INVOLVED WILL BE EXPECTED TO COME TO ORCAS ISLAND TO RETRIEVE THE CAMPER. BY SIGNING, YOU ARE AGREEING THAT YOU ARE THE PERSON STATED.

(Signature of parent/guardian)

(Signature of camper)

(Signature of other parent/guardian)

Date

For Scholarship consideration by WWA, when fully completed, please send application to:

WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOC.
P.O. Box 2131
Auburn, WA 98071-2131

Deadline for Applications — Must be Postmarked by June 30, 2017.

MORE YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP INFO CAN BE OBTAINED FROM:

www.washingtonconservationcamp.org

GIRLS CONSERVATION CAMP

C/O Jesse Selland
1221 E. 63rd Street
Tacoma, WA 98404

BOYS CONSERVATION CAMP

C/O Lonnie McCann
4815—244th Street Ct. E.
Graham, WA 98338

Director Contact Information

Girls Camp:

**WAgirlscamp@gmail.com
Jesse Selland (253) 229-9151**

Boys Camp:

**Lonnie_mccann@yahoo.com
Lonnie McCann (253) 875-1241**

News for the Flock

Selected **(and Incomplete)** Summary of 2017-2018 Migratory Game Bird Seasons **(Significant Changes in Red)**

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES (inclusive)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Ducks	Statewide	September 16-17, 2017 (Youth Hunt Only (a)	7 (b)	14 (b)
		Oct. 14-18, 2017 and Oct. 21, 2017— Jan. 28, 2018	7 (b)	21 (b)
		EXCEPT Scaup closed Oct. 14 — Nov. 3, 2017	3 (b)	9 (b)
(b) Bag Limits:	Statewide	7 ducks to include not more than 2 hen mallards;		
	Western WA	1 pintail; 3 scaup; 2 canvasback, and 2 redhead;		
(b) Season Limit		To include not more than 1 harlequin; 2 scoter,		
(b) <u>Possession Limits Statewide</u>		2 long tailed duck; and 2 goldeneye		
		1 harlequin in Western WA		
		3 pintail; 9 scaup; 6 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)	Statewide	September 16-17, 2017 (Youth Hunt Only (a)	4(c)	8(c)
	Goose Mgmt. Area 1	Early Season (Canada Only) — Sept. 9-14, 2017;	5(c)	15(c)
		Snow, White-fronted Geese — Oct. 14-Jan 28, 2018		
		Canada — Oct 14-26; & Nov 7-Jan 28, 2018		
	Goose Mgmt. Area 2	Early Season (Canada Only)— Sept. 2-10, 2017;	5(c)	15(c)
		All Areas EXCEPT Ridgefield & Willapa NWR's		
		Everyday** — Oct 14th—29th (f)		
**Refer to specific Willapa NWR		Saturdays, Sundays & Wednesdays ONLY		
Rules (Saturday, Sunday & Wednesday)		Nov 25, 2017 thru-Jan 14, 2018 Feb 10-Mar 10(f)		
		Feb 10 — Mar 10 (Goose Hunting CLOSED in		
		Ridgefield NWR and in Willapa NWR.		
Dusky Canada Goose Season		Ridgefield NWR	4(g)	12(g)
is closed in Area 2 during		Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays ONLY		
October thru March		Oct 14-28, 2017 and Nov 25, 2017 thru Jan 13, 2018		
	Goose Mgmt. Area 3	Early Season (Canada Only) — Sept. 9-14, 2017;	5(c)	15(c)
		Oct. 17-26 and Nov. 25, 2017—Jan. 13, 2018(f)		
	Goose Mgmt. Area 4	Early Season (Canada Only) — Sept. 9-10, 2017;	5(c)	10(c)
		Sat, Sun, & Weds, only, Oct. 14— Jan 21, 2018		
		Nov 10, 23, and 24; Dec 25, 26, 28, & 29, 2017;		
		and every day Jan 22-28, 2018.		
	Goose Mgmt. Area 5	Early Season (Canada Only) — Sept. 9-10, 2017;	5(c)	10(c)
		Oct. 14-16, & every day Oct 21—Jan 28, 2018		
Brant				
(see authorization requirements	Clallam & Whatcom Counties — Jan 6, 10 and 13, 2018		2	6
on page 4 of 2017-2018	Pacific County	Jan. 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20 & 21, 2018	2	6
on p. 4 of 2017-2018	Skagit County	Jan. 6, 7, 10, 13, 14, 17, 20, & 21, 2018	2	6
regulations pamphlet)				
	Skagit County	If the pre-season wintering population in Skagit County		
		is between 3000 and 6000 (as determined by the midwinter		
		survey) this brant season will be limited to Jan 6, 10 and 13, 2018.		
		If the pre-season wintering population in Skagit County		
		is less than 3000 (as determined by the midwinter survey)		
		the brant season in Skagit County will be canceled.		
Mourning Dove	Statewide	September 1 thru October 30	14	45

EDITOR'S NOTE: CHECK THE COMPLETE 2017-2018 REGULATIONS FOR SPECIFICS NOT PRINTED HERE.

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

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*(Prices include shipping and handling)

Total Amount: \$_____ .00

Mail a check for the total amount to:

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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 — | \$ 750.00 | |
| <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 Sportsmen's Club**, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.
- Kitsap Peninsula Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.
- Lower Columbia Chapter** meets the last Thursday of the month (Jan – Sept) at the **Vancouver Trap Club**, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.
- Moses Lake Chapter** – Dates and places TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets year round 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, WA
- Southwest Chapter** meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Feb – Sept) at the **Tacoma Sportsman's Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.
- Spokane Chapter** – Vacant
- Tri Cities Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1st Tuesday of the 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 restaurants in either **Prosser** or **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,
10610 66th Avenue E.
Puyallup, WA 98373

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.