

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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ESTABLISHED 1945

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March 15, 2018



Letter from the President

P.O. Box 2131
Auburn, WA 98071



CORPORATE OFFICERS

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Rick Holt, Vice President (360) 853-3742
Bob Taylor, Secretary (360) 798-5342
John Arrabito, Treasurer (425) 894-4080

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Bruce Burns (SW) (253) 961-8802
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Chair Vacant
Tri-Cities Chapter
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Whatcom Chapter
Chair Matt Berry (360) 389-0104
Yakima Valley Chapter
Chair Abel Cortina (509) 786-9196

Elections are coming up in June: I will be stepping down for the second time. That's a good thing for the **WWA**. I am a firm believer that an organization has to grow and evolve; it also has to have new energy and ideas ...while remembering the roots and heritage of its past.

Over the past year, in an effort to strengthen and fill gaps, I have shifted and appointed personnel throughout our leadership. **WWA** leadership is currently very strong...with an excellent diversity of ideas and abilities.

That said, you will be looking at a slate of seven (7) Officers and Directors coming up for (appointee) confirmation in the elections.

I have asked all to submit a very brief biography prior to the election for your review. However, **our by-laws afford us the flexibility to carry more than nine (9) Directors**. One doesn't have to be a waterfowl biologist, a champion duck & goose callers, a Master Hunter to run for a leadership position. **One must have been a member for at least 'one year to be eligible for nomination and election to a statewide office.'** Please consider stepping up and insuring the future of **WWA** in Washington's waterfowling community.

On another front, Chapter elections are left open to the chapters and can be held at any time. Each Chapter should be carrying a slate of at least three (3) people: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary-Treasurer. As the saying goes, 'more hands lessens the load' and ensure the future of the chapter.

(More from the President on [page 3](#))

Consider becoming a Director or Officer this June.

Consider the future of WWA

See Proposed Ballot on Page 6.

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

News for the Flock

EVENTS CALENDAR

2018 Events

- March 17** **Ridgefield NWR Cleanup and BBQ lunch. [More info on page 11.](#)**

- March 24** **Seattle and Moses Lake Chapters annual Duck Nest Tube Work Party. Meet at **Leo Pfeifer's** Home Place in just off Road "I" in **Royal City, WA** at 9 a.m. Bring waders, brush cutters, and gloves.**

- March 24-25** **Volunteer Opportunity with Grays Harbor Chapter at the Lacey Cabela's- come help promote WWA. [More info on page 4.](#)**

- March 27** **SW Chapter meeting at Tacoma Sportsmen's Club in Puyallup. [More info on page 4.](#)**

- March 28** **Seattle Chapter meeting at Kenmore Shotgun Range in Bothell. **Matt Stevens** will put on his always popular **Turkey Hunting Program.** All **WWA** Members from All Chapters are welcome to attend. [More info on page 7.](#)**

- March 29** **Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting at the Vancouver Trap Club, 11100 NE 76th Street in Vancouver.**

- April 3** **Whatcom County Chapter meeting at the Tenant Lake Interpretive Center at 7pm.**

- April 5** **Grays Harbor Chapter meeting at Evergreen Sportsman's Club at 7pm.**

- April 7-8** **Special Youth only Spring Turkey Season, Statewide. See the link to the Regs [here.](#)**

- April 10** **NW Chapter meeting at Conway Fire Station at 7pm. [More info on page 12.](#)**

- April 13-14** **Volunteer opportunity at the KlineLine Kids Fishing Event. [More info on page 11.](#)**

- April 14** **Annual Columbia Basin Goose Nest Count and Oyster/Hamburger Potluck. [More info on page 8.](#)**

- April 15** **Spring Turkey Season opens Statewide. See the link to the Regs [here.](#)**

- April 21** **Clean up day on the lower Nisqually River with the Grays Harbor Chapter. [More info on page 4.](#)**

- April 21** **Free Youth Trap Shoot at Quincy Gun Club. [More info on page 9.](#)**

- May 5** **WA Brant Festival and Decoy Carving Contest, at Holiday Sports, in Burlington, WA.**

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



Letter from the President Continued from Page 1

In recent weeks, our country has witnessed another tragic mass shooting; this one in Florida. The loss of 17 innocent young people is devastating to the family and friends, and U.S. society as a whole.

As the weeks since have lifted the clouds covering that horrible event, it seems evident that the responsibility of those who were charged with the prevention or lessening of such a demonic act was nowhere evident. Hence, the media's initial depiction of the facts was not found to be accurate.

One thing I know; an evil person hell-bent on doing evil, will achieve his/her goal by whatever means available.

As waterfowlers, it is inherent that we too are gun owners; and yes, many of those are 'auto-loaders.' We are also fine people and responsible gun owners.... as are the 99.999% of legal gun owners in our country.

Recently, a number of our members inquired about **WWA's** position on these tragic events and the attacks on gun ownership in the U.S.A. The Officers and Directors discussed this question at our most recent meeting.

It is the position of the WWA that we support the gun ownership provisions afforded us by the 2nd Amendment. Further, the WWA supports organizations such as NRA, and others as we seek to an end to this senselessness.

For the Resource,

Jim Cortines

Make Sure You Get the Newsletter in Your Inbox:

With the ever increasing need to stop spam from invading our inboxes sometimes the systems get it wrong and block those things we want to read. So make sure you have "white listed", "safe sender" or "friend" the email address of WWA:

wwa@wildapricot.org

Talk to the President:

Send your thoughts on the future of **WWA**; on governmental policies affecting waterfowl and their habitat; or even send your thoughts on your favorite hunting grounds [without giving out the GPS coordinates, *LOL!*] The president, **Jim Cortines**, wants to hear from you! Email him today at: wawtrfwlr@comcast.net.

It is the position of the WWA that we support the gun ownership provisions afforded us by the 2nd Amendment. Further, the WWA supports organizations such as NRA, and others as we seek to an end to this senselessness.

Order Your 2017 Duck Stamps & Prints

Mail in or online at:

<http://wwa.shuttlepod.org/duckstamp>



Created by the Artist: Dee Dee Murray

News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

Monthly Meeting:

Would like to thank the new members that came to the last chapter meeting it was great to see some new faces.

Our next **Southwest Chapter** meeting will be Tuesday, March 27 at 6:30pm at the **Tacoma Sportsmen Club** in Puyallup. This month we will be drawing for the raffle that was started at the **Sportsmen's Show**. If you had raffle tickets to sell please make sure the entry stubs are returned along with any unsold tickets.

This will also be a planning meeting for the upcoming year. If you have any ideas for activities, work parties or events please bring them up. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Whatcom County Chapter News

No News This Month

Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Hi all. Well it's now officially over. Hunting season that is. At least until turkey opener....

Cedarville Farms Hunt Raffle:

We have kicked off our 2018 **Cedarville Farms Hunt for Two Raffle**. If you would like some tickets please see your Chapter Chairman or you can contact me directly. Remember — each ticket gets you **TWO** chances at a **"Hunt for Two"** with lodging! The proceeds from this raffle all go to waterfowl conservation and youth programs making it a great way to help out. Check out the Flyer on the adjoining **page 5**.

Nesting Program:

We have expanded our nesting program this year as we have more volunteers, and we are getting requests from land owners that want to see the woodies and geese get some assistance with procreation! We have a great bunch of volunteers that make this program a success!

Volunteer Opportunity at Cabela's:

Our Chapter will be setting up a display at the **Lacey Cabela's Store** on the 24th and 25th of March! Come by and say Hi if you are in the area. Also contact me, **Kurt Snyder** (360-485-9353), if you want to volunteer for a day. You'll get a free lunch and Cabela's employee discount for the day for your efforts!

Volunteer Opportunity on Nisqually River:

I have volunteered myself and my boat to do some cleanup on the lower **Nisqually River** on the 21st of April. I have one volunteer going along with me but could use one more body! Let me know if you are interested in doing this. The **Washington Kayak Club** is putting on the clean up event all the way from Yelm down to the mouth. My boat will be on the lower stretch of the river from the 6th Street ramp to the mouth. I'll be launching at the **Luhr Ramp**.

April Meeting:

Our next Chapter meeting is on the 5th of April at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club** near Littlerock 7:00 pm.



Tacoma Sportsmen's Club

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



OCTOBER 4TH, 2018 HUNT FOR TWO RAFFLE

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Washington Waterfowl Association

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See your local WWA Chapter for purchase or contact below!

**GRAYS HARBOR CHAPTER
Washington
Waterfowl Assn.**

6744 Apricot Ln Sw
Rochester Wa 98579
360-485-9353
kurtsnyder@outdrs.net

www.waduck.org

Officer and Board Member Elections

NOMINATIONS for Organization-wide **WWA** Officers and Board of Directors are open through the month of May, with a final **WWA Ballot** to be published in the June 15, 2018 Newsletter. All Officer positions are up for election because of mid-term appointments and end of two-year terms.

BOARD MEMBERS OPEN POSITIONS:

In addition, [per Article III, Section 4, of the current **WWA By-Laws**] six (6) new directors were appointed by **President Jim Cortines** for various reasons to fill vacancies that occurred in the **Board of Directors** in 2017 and 2018. Those new Board Members in alphabetical order are: **Bruce Burns, Jim Goldsmith, David Irons, Earl Mikkelson, Mark Pidgeon, and Kurt Snyder**, and their appointments are valid until the next annual election in June.

Only Board Member **Rod Boyer** is not up for election as he is in the last year of a 2-year term.

The current suggested ballot of the **WWA-Corporate** offices and board positions is set forth to the right. **WWA by-laws encourage a board member from each Chapter, who may participate in board meetings electronically.**

The adjacent ballot is ADVISORY ONLY.
The final ballot will be published in the June 2018 WWA Newsletter.

Absentee Ballot — This ballot may be used as an Absentee Ballot. To vote by Absentee Ballot, first mark your ballot and place it in a blank envelope without any identification of the sender, and seal it. Place the unmarked envelope in an envelope identifying the voting member with a return address. In order to be counted, absentee ballots will only be counted from members who have paid their 2018 dues.

Ballots must be emailed to outgoing President **Jim Cortines** at: wawtrfwlr@comcast.net, or postmarked and addressed to:

WWA,
P.O. Box 2131
Auburn, WA 98071

by **June 30, 2018.**

WWA Corporate Sample Ballot

Corporate Offices: (One Vote For Each Office)

President
[] _____
(Write In)

Vice President
[] **Rick Holt**
[] _____
(Write In)

Secretary
[] **Bob Taylor**
[] _____
(Write In)

Treasurer
[] **John Arrabito**
[] _____
(Write In)

**[Board of Directors: (Vote For No More than 8)
(Listed In Alphabetical Order with Chapter Designations)**

- [] **Abel Cortina (YV)**
- [] **Bruce Burns (SW)**
- [] **Jim Goldsmith (GH)**
- [] **Bruce Feagan (ML)**
- [] **David Irons (SEA)**
- [] **Earl Mikkelson (SW)**
- [] **Mark Pidgeon (SW)**
- [] **Kurt Snyder (GH)**

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

[] _____
(Write In)

News for the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By John Arrabito

March Meeting to Feature Turkey Presentation

Turkey Season opens Statewide on April 15th along with a **Youth-Only Season** on April 7-8. Professional guide, **Matt Stevens**, has agreed once again to put on his always popular power point presentation regarding the **"How To's, and Where To's"** of Wild Turkey Hunting in Washington State. **Matt's** presentations [Turkey Hunting and Predator Hunting] are some of the most highly attended programs we host every year.

WWA members of **ALL** Chapters are welcome to attend. Trap and 5-stand are open all afternoon until 7 p.m., followed by pizza and soda, a brief business meeting, and then **Matt's** program. Invite a hunting buddy and/or potential new member.

Programs Past and Future

Many thanks to Chapter member **Bob Stephens** for putting on a **Decoy Flocking Presentation** at our February meeting, as well as tossing in some bonus info on decoy placement; mix and matching different kinds of decoys; when less is more regarding decoys and calling, etc.

April 25th's meeting will feature a game bird taxidermy demonstration by **WWA Life Member, John Otto**. The 31 original duck mounts in the **WWA Corporate Trailer** were done and donated to WWA by **John**. They've been seen at untold number of sports shows over the years. Sadly many of his originals were destroyed beyond salvage several years ago when **WWA** was storing the trailer at the **Sumner Gun Club**, and the **Puyallup River** flooded the area.



Matt Stevens in Archery Elk Hunting Mode. He takes his Turkey Hunting just as seriously!

Donation of Multiple State Duck Stamp Prints

Outgoing **Washington State Ducks Unlimited (DU) Chairman, Mike Nilsen** and I met with **WWA** member, **Tim Cameron** on March 13th over dinner and drinks to split up a large collection various State Duck Stamp Prints (with stamps) donated by a friend of **Tim's**. **Debbie Benson**, of Carlton, OR contacted **Tim** about wanting to give the prints to a worthy cause, and **Tim** offered to split the collection to raise money for waterfowl conservation efforts in **WA State** between **DU** and **WWA**.

As can be seen from the photo at the right, **WWA's** share included an **OR First of State** (with medallion) and a **Canada First of Country**. The 1986 Oregon Print and stamp featuring **Pacific Black Brant** will be **WWA's** donation this year to the **WA Brant Foundation** for fundraising at their **Annual Festival and Decoy Carving Contest** to be held Saturday, May 5th, at **Holiday Sports** in Burlington.

The others will be turned over to the **WWA Duck Stamp Committee** to see if we can get them mounted and framed at the same or similar discount we get with our **WA State** prints. Then it's my intention to get one or two out to each Chapter for it's designated purpose — Fund raising for **WWA!**



News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

By Dick Price

Annual Basin Goose Nest Count and Oyster/Hamburger Potluck:

This year we have been requested by **WDFW** to conduct the Goose nest count prior to April 15th to conform with their other Waterfowl nest counts in the area.

To support that request this year's count will take place on Saturday, April 14th, 2018. We will be counting the nests on **Moses Lake** this year.

The plan is to meet at the **Cascade Valley Boat Launch** on Moses Lake at 10:00 a.m., and break up into teams to survey the nesting islands in the lake.

Since we are doing this earlier, we should find lot's of active nesting activity. For that reason **please leave your dog at home**, if you feel you can't do that it would be best if you didn't attend. We don't want anyone to get a ticket for having their dog along.

After the counting is done we will be gathering at **Robin & Susan Hickok's** water front home directly across the lake from the launch for an Oyster/Hamburger potluck. **Moses Lake WWA** will be furnishing the Oysters and Hamburger's plus the fixin's. Please bring a side dish you can share with the rest of the folks. Their address is 8206 Scott Road N.E.

Boats and youths are more than welcome and it should be a fun event for the kids as most of the nests should be occupied by a Goose. If you would like to bring your boat please make sure it meets all the current rules. Again we don't want anyone to get a ticket.

Mark your calendar April 14th at 10:00 A.M.

Cast & Blast April 21st, 2018 at Quincy Gun Club

Many lakes in the area are open to fishing now and with the weather turning nicer it is the perfect time to come and fish in the morning and do some trap shooting in the late morning/afternoon.

See the flyer on page 9 for information on the free trap shoot for any youth 18 and younger that possesses either a hunting license or a hunter safety card. Shoot as many rounds as you want. S hells and clay pigeons provided at no cost. There will be hamburgers and hot hogs at no cost.

Again see the flyer for all the details. **Tom O'Dell** is the major sponsor of this event through the **Moses Lake Friends of the NRA Chapter**.

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News for the Flock

MOSES LAKE FNRA FREE TRAP SHOOT

Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Quincy Gun Club
14550 Road Q N.W. 98848
from 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

There will be free trap shooting for all youths 18 and under that possess a hunter safety card or hunting license. All shells and targets will be provided at no cost to the participants.

Youth must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Lunch of Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Beverages, and chips will be provided also at no cost.

So we will know how much food is provided please sign up with either:

Dick Price: 509-762-9027

dickprice@nctv.com

or

Tom O'Dell: 509-764-8557

Mallard1@gosi.net

This event is sponsored by the Moses Lake Friends of the
NRA & the Quincy Gun Club.

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter Work Party

By Bruce Feagan

On March 10th a total of 25 nest tubes in seven (7) ponds in the **Winchester Wasteway** were brought into working condition by a group of **WWA-Moses Lake Chapter** members and **WDFW** Volunteers, who got lucky with the spring weather and enjoyed a clear, crisp, sunny, Saturday, in the outdoors.

WWA-ML Chapter members included **John Arnold, Fritz Keimle, Mark Olmstead, Jeff Waltz, and Bruce Feagan.** They were joined by volunteers **Nick Anderson, Rick Nelson, and Ella Rowan.**

Included in the refurbishing were the next tubes located at **Birder's Corner.** Located in the NW corner at the intersection of **Dodson Road** and **Frenchman Hills Road, Birder's Corner** is a highly visible location for wildlife viewing and a frequently used location for many species of waterfowl. Check it out next time you're in the **Potholes** area.

Earlier in March a number of **WWA-ML Chapter** members participated in a litter cleanup at the **Blyth Boat Ramp** on **Potholes Reservoir.** The boat ramp is used by fishers, hunters, and other recreational users of the lake year round. They may not know who cleaned up the area, but I'm sure they appreciated our efforts.

For those of you wishing to do some off-season scouting near the **Winchester Reserve,** we'll be servicing those nest tubes on Saturday, March 24th. These hen houses have been used successfully in the past, but they have not been service in several years. Please let **Dick Price** or myself know if you want to participate at this location as we will have to get special permission from **WDFW** to get in the **Reserve** at that time.

After this spring **WDFW** will put a hiatus on any more refurbishing of these nest tubes until they finish a study on the hatch and duckling survival on these various nesting ponds.



(From Left) WDFW Volunteer, Ella Rowan, WWA-ML Chapter members, Jeff Waltz and Fritz Keimle, and Volunteer, Nick Anderson.

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

March 17th RNWR Cleanup:

Meet us at the River S Unit Hunter Check Station at 8 a.m. Saturday, March 17th. We will clean out and close up the blinds for the season. Please bring buckets, waders, square nose shovels and a smile! A BBQ lunch will be provided.

KlineLine Kids Event April 13th & 14th:

Our chapter is supporting this event again this year. Last year over 3000 kids, ages 5-14, had the opportunity to learn about fishing at Kline Line Ponds. Please contact us if you would like to volunteer or man a booth at the event.

Wildfowl Dinner Party:

At our fundraising banquet last fall member **Doug Lee** generously donated two duck and goose dinners for up to six (6) people each for our live auction. **Rick Scott** was the high bidder on one of the dinners. I was fortunate enough to be invited to join **Rick**, his brother **Tim** and our wives several weeks ago for this epicurean delight. **Doug** and his wife **Therese** served a wonderful multiple course meal of various duck and goose entrees that were delicious and inviting to even the most timid of wildfowl palates (our wives).

We started with crackers/cheese, veggies/dip served along with sesame teriyaki duck legs and cheese infused duck hearts for appetizers. Our salad course consisted of lettuce and cubed apple with a tasty poppy seed dressing. For the main course **Doug** prepared seared duck breasts served with horseradish and mushroom gravy along with braised duck legs and breasts. Mashed potatoes, dinner rolls, cooked broccoli and carrots rounded out this delicious dinner. We barely had room for the homemade coconut cream pie and

chocolate cream pie but somehow finished off half slice samplings of each. Thanks to **Doug and Therese** for a wonderful dinner and donation. Also thanks to **Rick Scott** for successfully bidding on the event.

Goose Story:

Board and LC member **Bob Taylor** had the opportunity to take our local **Columbian Newspaper Outdoor** writer **Terry Otto** on a Southwest Washington **Goose Management Area 2** late goose hunt in February. Although the geese did not cooperate it was an informative article on the state's only late season goose hunt. Please read the article at: www.columbian.com/news/2018/feb/21/giving-geese-a-gander/



Left to Right Rick Scott, Nancy Scott, Cheryl Hargin, Doug Hargin, Chris Scott and Tim Scott enjoying a Wildfowl Dinner



A sampling of the meal: Sesame Teriyaki duck legs and cheese infused duck hearts



The chef's and their winning bidder: Doug Lee, Rick Scott, Therese Lee

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

Skagit Wildlife Area - Clean Up:

Mission accomplished at the **Farmed Island Unit and Samish Unit**. Thanks to Chapter members, **WDFW** personnel and plenty of sunshine. We spent Saturday March 3rd and 10th dragging trash bags around and filling them with spent shot shells and plenty of other trash. Ok we also ate donuts and drank coffee before and after.

Members split up into teams to cover these large areas. These are both some of the heaviest used waterfowl hunting areas in the region. We also evaluated the blinds at these sites for maintenance needs prior to the next season. One of our Chapter's goals is for individuals to take personal interest in a "**Blind Through Adoption Program.**" This includes any necessary blind maintenance with materials provided by **WDFW**. There's 34 blinds in these two areas, and we have made a good start.

Wood Duck Nest Box Maintenance:

Sometimes being a Wood Duck means getting a new home or at least a clean one. At February's chapter meeting some of our members built several new boxes for deployment in the region.

Throughout the month members have made the duck homes a cleaner place to nest. Numerous Wood Duck Boxes in both **Snohomish and Skagit counties** received the royal treatment. Members also refurbished some of the local Mallard Nesting Tubes.

April Meeting:

April's meeting will include guest speakers **Cole Caldwell** from **WDFW Private Lands Program**; **Jamin Woods** from **ManBling Custom Firearm Coatings**; plans for our future events; and our standard agenda.

The **Northwest Chapter** meets on the second Tuesday each month. Our next meeting will be held on April 10th, at the **Conway Fire Station** starting at 7pm. Gift Certificate Raffle at the end of each meeting. See you there and bring a friend.

Skagit Wildlife Area Clean Up with the NW Chapter



(L - R) Jeff Leon, Mike Rathvon, Belinda Rotton, Oscar Graham, Rich Phillips, Joe Molitor, Avree Miller, Rebecca Cooper and Paul Cooper. Howard Huglen and Rich Johnson not pictured.



Art Kendall, Duke and Greg Huggins



Avree Miller, Ethan Lehman, Art Kendall and Greg Huggins

News for the Flock

NW Chapter Wood Duck Box Maintenance



NW Chapter Member Steve Billieu at Lake Sixteen installing a wood duck nesting box.



NW Chapter Members, Avery Miller and Mike Rathvon at Milltown Island repairing and installing wood duck boxes.

An advertisement for Dee Dee Murry. It features a large, close-up image of a light-colored dog's head on the left. To the right, two ducks are flying in the sky. Below the dog, the text reads "Capture Your Faithful Partner" in a stylized font. At the bottom, there are two smaller images of dogs and the text "with personalized art from Dee Dee Murry" and "Learn more at DeeDeeMurry.com".

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SEE RESULTS

Classifieds— For Sale and Wanted

For Sale:

J.C. Higgins 12 ga. pump with polychoke \$110. NIB Mossberg 500 w/ long & riot bbls., and pistol grip stock & reg. stock \$250 **Robert** 206-909-7189

Beater Single Shot shotguns – Crescent 12 ga. \$75 and an Ivar Johnson 16 ga. cute gun for \$160 call **Robert** 206-909-7189

Extra-large Pet-Porter dog crate, \$40...**Jim**, 206.612.8772

Wanted:

Spinning wing mallard decoy. Original Zebco fishing reel driven with speedometer cable. Mathews Speedo. Any parts or pieces or broken works also. Price flexible.
Contact 206-579-4129

FOR SALE: \$5900: 14' TDB - The Duck Boat with 25 HP Merc 2 stoke, Fuel separator, Inside lights red and white. Contact **Dan Hafenbrack** for pictures and more information: **360-607-4653.**



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.

News for the Flock

2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife- Associated Recreation: National Overview

From the earliest days of our nation, the love of nature and a connection with the outdoors, have always been an integral part of our identity as Americans. Which is why it's not surprising that even as our society continues to change and diversify in the 21st Century, those values endure.

Our passion for wildlife and wild places, and the lengths to which we go to pursue that passion, are reflected in the preliminary findings of the **2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation**.

As it has since it was first conducted in 1955 – and every five (5) years since – this detailed and rigorous survey is based on interviews with thousands of Americans from all walks of life.

The preliminary 2016 findings should hearten everyone who cares about the health of our wildlife, natural landscapes and people. In 2016, more than 101 million Americans – a staggering 40 percent of the U.S. population – participated in some form of fishing, hunting or other wildlife-associated recreation such as birdwatching or outdoor photography. And in doing so, we spent an estimated \$156.3 billion on equipment, travel, licenses and fees. These expenditures represent 1 percent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product – creating and supporting thousands of jobs and communities across the nation.

More than 35.8 million Americans went fishing in 2016, while 11.5 million hunted and 86 million watched wildlife. This means that 14 percent of Americans 16 years of age or older fished, 5 percent hunted and 35 percent participated in wildlife watching.

These findings are not just good news for the nation's economy. Revenues from the sale of licenses and tags, as well as excise taxes paid by hunters, anglers and shooters continue to support vital wildlife and habitat conservation efforts in every state and U.S. territory. And on a personal level, a growing body of scientific research suggests that we're all healthier, happier and better off in myriad ways when we spend time in nature.

We will continue to analyze and refine the data gathered in 2016, releasing final numbers and a series of detailed special reports to help the conservation community use this information to connect even more Americans with their natural heritage.

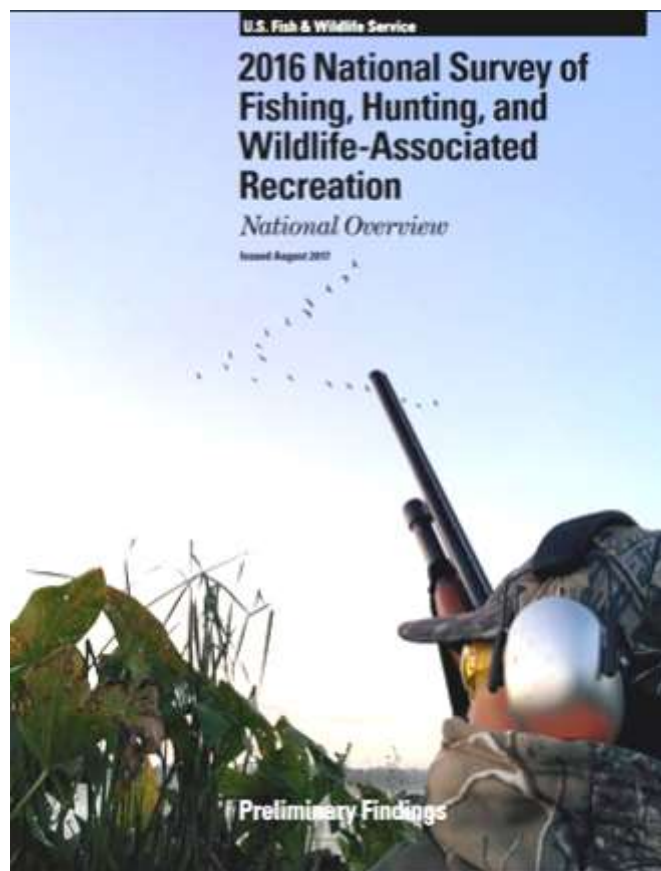
You can do your part too when you drop a line in the water or take friends and family on their first hunt. You'll find a deeper connection with both nature and people, and at the same time help support vital conservation work across the nation.

That's something we can all get behind.

Here is the link to the full report: https://wsfrprograms.fws.gov/Subpages/NationalSurvey/nat_survey2016.pdf

Greg Sheehan

Principal Deputy
Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



WDFW Letter to the Flock

2017-18 Waterfowl Surveys in The North Puget Sound

By: Paul DeBruyn WDFW

Our normal waterfowl aerial survey routine was a bit truncated by funding issues this year but we did manage two flights each for dabblers, snow geese and brant geese.

Dabbling Ducks

We flew a normal pre hunting season flight on 9 October and found a pretty normal distribution of ducks in the bays. Wigeon had yet to arrive in big numbers on **Padilla Bay** and northern mallards were still a little low in their normal **Skagit Bay** haunts.

Location	Mallard	Northern Pintail	American Wigeon	Green-Winged Teal	Area total
Port Susan Bay	2700	675	2700	675	6750
Livingston Bay	400	300	125	50	875
Skagit Bay	11400	8850	6375	1325	27950
Fidalgo Bay	0	0	25	75	100
Padilla Bay	2950	2050	10250	100	15350
Samish Bay	4275	8200	1100	600	14175
Nooksack Delta	440	660	1100	55	2255
Lummi Bay	650	475	125	74	1324
Birch Bay	330	330	220	110	990
Drayton Harbor	500	175	225	40	940
Totals	23645	21715	22245	3104	70709

The mid-winter flight was conducted on 2 January and was indicative of a normal “good” year for waterfowl. Numbers of Pintails in **Samish Bay** and Wigeon in **Padilla and Skagit Bays** were probably under represented as many birds were feeding in dry fields. Not shown on the chart were impressive numbers of scaup in **Lummi Bay** and Canvasbacks in **Drayton Harbor**.

Location	Mallard	Northern Pintail	American Wigeon	Green-Winged Teal	Area total
Port Susan Bay	575	275	575	125	1550
Livingston Bay	400	75	225	225	925
Skagit Bay	41735	11215	23655	4840	81445
Fidalgo Bay	0	175	100	250	525
Padilla Bay	15540	10335	25600	2230	53705
Samish Bay	12350	11305	11195	2700	37550
Nooksack Delta	75	25	0	0	100
Lummi Bay	3640	6995	1685	450	12770
Birch Bay	350	2450	350	350	3500
Drayton Harbor	410	1150	0	0	1560
Totals	75075	44000	63385	11170	193630

(Continued on next page)

WDFW Letter to the Flock

Snow Geese

Our snow geese flights are a joint effort with the **Canadian Wildlife Service** as the population spans the border with birds regularly moving back and forth between the **Fraser Delta in B.C.** and the north **Puget Sound** estuaries. We flew on December 21st and the Canadians flew on January 20th. The two surveys came amazingly close with both sets of photos revealing about 85,000 birds. A flock in **Whatcom County** managed to give us the slip on both flights but was counted from the ground and numbered about 2,000 individuals. These numbers were down a little from last year but are still robust enough to justify increased bag limits.



Snow Goose Flock from the air.

Brant Geese

Two Brant flights showed similar low numbers of these marine geese. The second flight was done after a period of northeast winds that no doubt drove some birds south. Given that there were low percentages of juvenile birds in hunter's bags and observed on the water says a poor breeding year was at least partially responsible for low total numbers. An experimental photo count done on **Padilla and Samish Bays** extrapolated slightly higher numbers but still not enough to justify a full hunting season in **Skagit County**.

Area	12/26/2017	2/21/2018
Fidalgo Bay	0	194
Swin Reserve	0	0
Padilla Bay	1713	1957
Samish Bay	1333	1716
Skagit Sub Total	3046	3867
Portage Island	456	93
Lummi Bay	2675	1086
Birch Bay	404	455
Blaine/Drayton	366	970
Whatcom Sub Total	3901	2604

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.

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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 five (5) primary funds established by the **WWA** since publication of the February 2018 Newsletter.

- WWA Youth Fund — \$2,565**
- WWA Legal Fund — \$18,172**
- WWA Habitat Fund — \$895**
- WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$10,957**
- WWA General Fund — \$154**

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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News for the Flock

TREASURER's REPORT (2-27-2018)

At its February 27th Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting, the WWA Board voted to stop publishing our monthly financial report in the Newsletter which is available to the general public on our website [www.waduck.org].

However, in an effort to maintain and continue our history of financial transparency with respect to our membership, the monthly Treasurer's Report will be emailed to not only the BOD, but also to each and every Chapter Chairman to be made available for inspection and review by the Chapter membership or any individual Chapter member in good standing with dues paid current at any regularly scheduled Chapter Meeting.

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2017 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

The **Washington Waterfowl Association** is pleased to present the 2017 Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and Limited-Edition Print created by **Ms. Dee Dee Murry** of Centralia, WA. Revenue received through this program will be used by the **WWA** and the **WDFW** to improve habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds in Washington.

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)



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

Please Ship Prints to:

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Email Address _____ Phone _____

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

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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

2017 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:

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PO Box 2131
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Orders must be received by March 31, 2018 for fulfillment by WWA

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 E = Corner Block of 9 Stamps

Type F = Full Sheet of 30 Stamps

Note:

All Stamps are in full color



TYPE G Mini-sheet

2017 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Order Form

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PO Box 2131
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Orders must be received by March 31, 2018 for fulfillment by WWA

TYPE A STAMPS	_____	X \$15.00	=	\$ _____
Single stamps	No. of stamps			Total
TYPE B STAMPS	_____	X \$30.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 2	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE C STAMPS	_____	X \$60.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 4	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE D STAMPS	_____	X \$90.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 6	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE E STAMPS	_____	X \$135.00	=	\$ _____
Corner block of 9	No. of blocks			Total
TYPE F STAMPS	_____	X \$450.00	=	\$ _____
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Combined Total				\$ _____

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See next page for examples of stamp order type

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- (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 – Oct) 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 Sportsmen’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** — Dates and places TBD.

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A few facts about the WWA:

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

Our projects include:

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