

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

501(c)(3) tax exempt

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

April 15, 2020



P.O. Box 40182
Bellevue, WA 98015

Letter from the President



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John Arrabito, Treasurer (425) 894-4080

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Vacant

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Chair Jason Oliver (509) 366-9914

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Chair Lyle Galloway (360) 201-1775

Yakima Valley Chapter
Chair Marcus Leuck (360) 710-7924

Hello Fellow Waterfowlers —

My bride and I returned to Washington state on March 31st. What a mess this Covid-19 has caused.

Since we have been home I have reloaded over 3100 12 gauge shot gun shells. The only reason that I have not loaded more is I am out of empties. I have now started on 20 gauge, then on to 28 gauge and lastly 410. lol

We have been busy around the house also, finishing up projects that were started last fall and winter. I do not have much to report — waterfowling wise. Most of the plans that the **WWA Board of Directors (BOD)** had made are now on hold. We were going to have an **All Chapter Meeting at O'Sullivan Resort** in Eastern Washington on May 16, 2020. Now a face-to-face meeting is on hold. We are working towards having a Web meeting. There will be a test run on Saturday April 18, 2020 to see if **Webex** and/or **Microsoft Teams** can handle all the participants. We welcome any input from any and all **WWA Member Techies** out there!

We will have holding elections for new Corporate Officers and BOD members in June. Nominations are open thru April. More details on that at a later date.

If any one has any concerns or questions please email me at [foxredlab12@gmail](mailto:foxredlab12@gmail.com) or call me at 360-853-3742.

FOR THE RESOURCE,

Rick Holt, WWA President

Consider becoming a Corp Director this Year

Consider the future of WWA

See Proposed Ballot on Page 3

MISSION STATEMENT

TO PRESERVE, PROTECT AND PROMOTE WATERFOWL, WATERFOWL HABITAT, & WATERFOWL HUNTING IN WASHINGTON STATE

News for the Flock

2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Tues, April 14** Northwest Chapter Meeting at 6:30 pm at the Conway Fire Hall.
- Wed, April 15th** Turkey Season opens statewide.
Postponed
- Weds, April 22** Seattle Chapter Meeting at the Kenmore Gun Club in Bothell.
Cancelled
- Sat, April 25** WWA-ML Chapter and Friends of the NRA FREE Trap Shoot, Quincy Gun Club, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. See Flyer on Page 9.
Postponed
- Tues, April 28** SW Chapter Meeting at the Tacoma Sportsmen’s Club (TSC) in Puyallup.
Cancelled
- Thurs, April 30** Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting at the Vancouver Trap Club in Vancouver.
Cancelled
- Tues, May 5** Whatcom Chapter Meeting at 7 pm at Laurel Farm & Western Supply in Bellingham
Pending
 Possible Extension of WA Stay Orders
- Thurs, May 5** Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting at Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club, near Littlerock at 7:00 pm sharp.
Pending
 Possible Extension of WA Stay Orders
- Sat, May 16** WWA All Chapter Meeting, Potholes Reservoir, near Othello, WA (To be further discussed at the WWA Board of Directors Meeting in April)
Pending
 On-Line Meeting
- Sat, May 16** WA Brant Foundation Decoy Carving Competition, Maiben Park, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, WA
Cancelled
 To Be Rescheduled

Page 8 & 9	Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge Restoration
Page 13	WA Legislative Report
Page 14	WDFW News Re: Land Closures
Page 15 & 16	A Duck Stamp & Print Order Form
Page 17	RR&GC Wood Duck Box Program
Page 18	Information on Hunter Ed Classes
Page 19	Classified Ads

- Tues, May 12** Northwest Chapter Meeting at 6:30 pm at the Conway Fire Hall.
Pending
 Possible Extension of WA Stay Orders
- Tues, May 26** SW Chapter Meeting at the Tacoma Sportsmen’s Club (TSC) in Puyallup.
Pending
 Possible Extension of WA Stay Orders
- Weds, May 27** Seattle Chapter Meeting at the Kenmore Gun Club in Bothell.
Pending
 Possible Extension of WA Stay Orders
- Thurs, May28** Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting at the Vancouver Trap Club.
Pending
 Possible Extension of WA Stay Orders

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

Officer and Board Member Elections

NOMINATIONS for Organization-wide **WWA Officers and Board of Directors (BOD)** are open through the month of May, with a final **WWA Ballot** to be published in the June 15, 2020 Newsletter. All Officer and BOD positions are up for election because of mid-term appointments and end of two-year terms.

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.

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.

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

Ballots must be emailed to the current **WWA-Corp Secretary Bod Taylor** at: bobtaylor15@icloud.com

or postmarked and addressed to:

WWA,
P.O. Box 40182
Bellevue, WA 98015

by **June 30, 2020.**

2020 WWA Corporate Sample Ballot

Corporate Offices: (One Vote For Each Office)

President

Rick Holt (NW)

(Write In)

Vice President

Rod Boyer (SW)

(Write In)

Secretary

Bob Taylor (LC)

(Write In)

Treasurer

John Arrabito (SEA)

(Write In)

**[Board of Directors: (Vote For No More than 9)
(Listed In Alphabetical Order with Chapter Designations)**

- Rick Billeau (NW)
- Bruce Burns (SW)
- Bruce Feagan (ML)
- David Irons (SEA)
- Earl Mikkelson (SW)
- Nathan Neideigh (SW)
- Al O'Connor (LC)
- Mark Pidgeon (SW)
- Kurt Snyder (GH)

- _____
(Write In)

- _____
(Write In)

- _____
(Write In)

- _____
(Write In)

- _____
(Write In)

News for the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By: John Arrabito

No April Chapter Meeting

As our regular meeting place, the **Kenmore Gun Range**, remains closed through May 4th per the Governor’s Order, there will be no Seattle Chapter Meeting in April.

Part of that Order first cancelled the **Youth Only Turkey Hunting Spring Season**, then the regular season scheduled opener of April 15th was “postponed” pending an updated notice from **WDFW**.

Our scheduled speaker on Turkey Hunting in Washington —professional guide **Matt Stevens**, — was first going to put on his presentation at our March Chapter meeting; then agreed to postpone to our April meeting; and now suggests a presentation in July or August on either Predator hunting or Elk hunting or both.



Paul McGovern refurbishing one of the Wood Duck Nesting Boxes built and placed in Bothell last year by members of the Seattle Chapter.



Professional Guide, Matt Stevens, doesn’t use that bow and arrow set up to hunt “sheds!”

Many of you have previously seen his predator hunting presentation and heard his calling prowess. I don’t recall him ever giving us a presentation on elk hunting. Let me know with an email at jarrabito@comcast.net, your preference[s] for one or the other or both.

Check out and like our Facebook page **Washington Waterfowl Association—Seattle Chapter** at

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/240265559992025/>

Seattle Chapter News Continued



**Matt Stevens and a ____ point Bull Elk.
(You Fill in the Blank!)**

WWA-Seattle Chapter

James Ono has stepped forward and agreed to stand for election to replace John Arrabito as Chairman of the WWA-Seattle Chapter. Secretary/Treasurer David Hanson, will be moving out of state in June, if not earlier because of Covid-19. We need some of the young bucks (or should I say bulls) to step forward and participate in Chapter leadership.

A ballot is contained on this page for nominations. We'll use it to actually cast our votes, hopefully at our May meeting.

WWA-Seattle Chapter Ballot

Chairman

- James Ono
- _____
- _____

Secretary-Treasurer

- _____
- _____
- _____

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

What do you write when all meetings, projects and work parties have been cancelled or put on hold? You take the circumstances you have and work through them!

Many of you have found yourselves at home with more time on your hands than you thought imaginable. Now that **COSTCO** has TP back in stock we can focus on other things:

- Helping our neighbors and loved ones;
- Starting or finishing long overdue projects around the house or yard;
- How about planning and preparing for next waterfowl season?
- This can be a great time to haul out your gear, decoys and equipment for inspection;

- Determine the condition of the tools of our obsession and repair, replace or rethink our hunting gear and strategies for next fall;
- Repair, repaint and restring some of the decoys that took a beating this last go around;
- How about getting your calls out and put some time in learning to make sounds that don't bring cringes from your blind mates?

The possibilities are endless. Man, I'm already tired just looking at that list! lol

Get creative and get busy and we will all get through this together ahh... separated by 6 feet!

Last Fall's Veteran's Hunt at Ridgefield NWR Photos
<https://www.facebook.com/USFWSPacific/>, <https://twitter.com/USFWSPacific>) and online
<https://www.fws.gov/pacific/>



Lower Columbia Chapter Chair
Ted Blade and Riley

Lower Columbia Chapter News Continued



Ted Blade with the inaugural launch of another boat — the SS Washington Waterfowl — donated for use on blind #13 (in the background) at the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.



**Washington Waterfowl
Association**

The “Where’s Waldo” Blind, constructed by Lower Columbia Chapter Volunteers. Where’s it at?



News for the Flock

Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge Restoration

By: Al O'Connor

This article is about the **Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Restoration Project (SLNWRRP)**. The **US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** and **Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)** are proponents of the project. The plan is to breach the levee and flood a large portion of the **Steigerwald Lake NWR** for shallow water salmon habitat and establish a world class bird viewing area and a visitor's center for the **Columbia River Gorge** on Refuge lands.

The project does not follow the original intent laid out by Congress and the **Corps of Engineers (CoE)** in 1987 for mitigation related to the construction of **North Bonneville Dam**.

The boundary for **Steigerwald Lake NWR** was established in 1987 near the **Port of Camas** and **Washougal** on the Columbia River and is approximately 1,000 acres. The Refuge's origin is closely tied to the mitigation of impacts that resulted from construction of a second powerhouse at the **Bonneville Lock and Dam** on the Columbia River by the **CoE** between 1974 and 1983.

Construction of the powerhouse and related relocation of the town of **North Bonneville** resulted in the loss of 1,122 acres of habitat on the Washington side of the Columbia River, including developed land (163 acres), pasture (184 acres), wetlands (42 acres), mixed deciduous-coniferous forest (117 acres), maple (118 acres), scattered fir-oak (357 acres), lowland brush (91), and Douglas-fir/short scrub (50 acres). Wetland losses included lakes (12 acres), freshwater marsh (11 acres) and slough (19 acres). This information was from the **Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan**.

Refuge's primary mission of providing winter foraging habitat for migratory waterfowl. "Refuge has been actively managed for wildlife since its establishment in 1987. This management has resulted in a productive and important site for native wildlife species in a region that has been highly altered by humans". [**Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) BPA 2019**].

Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) is opposed to implementation of **SLNWRRP**. Listed below are our issues and concerns on the project:

- A. **USFWS** is not allowed compensation mitigation on the **National Wildlife Refuges** under Section 404 of **The Clean Water Act & Section 10 of Rivers and Harbor Act**.
- B. In general, the lands in the **National Wildlife System** are already targeted for restoration.
- C. The **Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)** clearly states projects are to avoid impacts to water facilities, municipalities, wildlife, etc. Mitigation is not avoiding impacts.
- D. The federal **Endangered Species Act (ESA)** states action by a federal agency cannot impact existing endangered or threatened species habitat on proposed projects.
- E. The federal **ESA** further states birds that migrate between countries that have agreements are to be identified and their habitats maintained to ensure they do not become extinct or threatened by propose projects.
- F. Proponents of the project believe the waterfowl (mainly geese) will find someplace else to go to. This position is inconsistent with either **Act**.
- G. Study on a similar area (proposal to create shallow water habitat) concluded that that area was "high value" waterfowl habitat and "low value" fish habitat. **WWA** believes this conclusion is also applicable to **SLNWRRP**.

(Continued on Page 9)



News for the Flock

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

I hope no one here has been overly affected by the coronavirus. It's a nasty one if you can believe all that is said about it.

I actually believe that it has already been through me and a friend. Last November or December I had a bad cough that persisted for a couple of weeks. Slight fever and chills with some overall achiness. I have always been a hand washer and a bit of a germaphobe so I don't think I spread it around, much. It's quite possible that I just had a bad case of the local crud though. So, what do you believe? Soooo many different stories on the news.

Anyway, our Chapter rolls along with meeting cancellations. I honestly don't know if our May meeting will be canceled or not.

The Hunt for Two raffle tickets sales have pretty much dropped off so this crisis/panic/stay at home unemployment will ultimately affect the final count unless someone buys up all the tickets. Oh well. (See Flyer on Adjacent [Page 10](#))

Thank you all for doing what you do for the **WWA**! Keep it up and we'll get through these days!
Kurt

New Officer Elections

We still plan on having our Chapters Bi-annual officer elections this year. I am strongly suggesting that someone else besides me run for chairman! I would like to take a break, and it would be cool to have a whipping boy and not be one for a change. I wouldn't quit the **WWA**, but just do what I do best. Be a good soldier. The official notice will be going out to chapter members soon.

The Grays Harbor Chapter **usually** meets on the first Thursday of each month (Feb – Oct) at the **Evergreen Sportsmen's Club** near Littlerock, at 7:00 pm sharp. The planning and discussion will continue!

Thank you all for your time money and work!

Thanks All,
Kurt Snyder
WWA-GH Chapter Chair

Steigerwald Lake NWR Continued

- H. A **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** study on a similar area (**Shillapoo Wildlife Area**) found that it would lead to 65% or as much as 80% less usage by waterfowl in the area during the fall (migrating waterfowl) if the project were built. This is primarily due to the lack of water in the area. A similar effect is predicted by that study for the spring waterfowl migration because the water will be too deep and the waterfowl will not be able to reach the food. In addition, the study showed impacts to 80 other species.
- I. Following is a quote from the Final **EA**: "Critical habitat for **Lower Columbia River Chinook (LCRC)** includes the Columbia River adjacent to the study area but does not include the Refuge lands other than Gibbons Creek." The whole idea of creating shallow water habitat was for **LCRC**.
- J. Proponents are trading wildlife habitat including waterfowl for fish habitat.
- K. **BPA** and **CoE** have completed 60 projects for salmon habitat restoration consisting of 7,000 acres since 2007, yet salmon runs have continued to decline.
- L. The Washington State Legislature opposed implementation of **SLNWRP** and did not appropriate \$4.6 million for the **state's** share of the project costs, stopping construction in summer of 2018. The proponents negotiated an agreement with the **Washington State Department of Ecology (WDOE)** to provide the \$4.6 million for the project even though the project violates **CWA** and **ESA**.

WWA has not found any *pro bono* legal assistance yet to help fight this proposed project, but are hopeful. Proponents expect to begin construction in June 2020.

Albert (AI) O'Connor
Conservationist, Fisher and Hunter
WWA BOD Member

News for the Flock



OCTOBER 1ST, 2020 HUNT FOR TWO RAFFLE

Presented by; Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club and the Grays Harbor Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

Two chances at a hunt for two with each ticket purchase. Win a one day, fully guided waterfowl hunt for two at Cedarville Farms Waterfowl Club exclusive properties. Overnight lodging included. All equipment provided except hunters licensing.



www.waduck.org

Washington Waterfowl Association

Ticket price is \$5.00 each or \$20.00 per five (5)

Tickets make great gifts for that hunter that you know!

You get TWO chances with each ticket!

Need not be present to win!

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

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

April Chapter Events

During the month of April members and non-members of the **Northwest Chapter** are usually engaged in our annual cleanup effort at various **Skagit Wildlife Area** units. When these areas are reopened we will schedule the cleanup activities. The Chapters Calendar of events for the year will be reviewed at our next meeting as we adjust schedules for near term activities.

Wood Ducks

Earlier this year the chapter assembled a dozen new Wood Duck Nesting Boxes. Members have since deployed the boxes at several counties on the west side. Most of the new boxes were logged on the chapters spread sheet for location, maintenance check and member responsibility.

The stay at home order has had a minor impact on our maintenance efforts.

The **Northwest Chapter usually** meets on the second Tuesday each month at the **Conway Fire Station** starting at 7 pm. Raffle at the end of each meeting. We hope to resume these monthly meetings in May, pending a further continuation of the Governor's Stay at Home Covid-19 Order. See you then and bring a friend.

See and like our facebook page, **Northwest Washington Waterfowl Association** at:

<https://www.facebook.com/waducks.org/>

Support your passion – get involved

Rick Billieu

rgbillieu@frontier.com



News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

At this time the **Southwest Chapter** is not going to hold our April Meeting due to the coronavirus. We will start up again when this event is over. Our meeting location at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** remains closed through May 4th, per Governor Inslee's order.

We will be planning our work party for the two duck blinds on **Rapjohn Lake** in the near future.

Hope everyone is staying safe and looking forward to getting back together in the very near future.

The **Southwest Chapter** usually meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Feb – Sept) at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E, Puyallup.

Whatcom County Chapter News

No News This Month

Tri-Cities Chapter News

No News This Month

Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month

Moses Lake Chapter News

By: Dick Price

Chapter Meeting

Due to Governor Inslee's Stay at Home Order we had to cancel the March 26th chapter meeting and now are in a holding pattern until the Order is lifted, and we can reschedule the meeting. Obviously with the Order's extension to May 4th, that will not be happening in April. Hopefully we will be able to have a meeting in May.

Youth Trap Shoot

This event also was postponed and will now take place in August. The place will still be the **American Legion Quincy Trap Club** so watch the **WWA Newsletter** for the date.

Spokane Chapter News

By: Ramon Guel

Chapter Meeting Changed to On-line Event

Due to the COVID-19 issues in this state, and an overabundance of caution, the **WWA-Spokane Chapter** will adjust the April meeting format.

Check our Facebook page for updates on our future meetings at: <https://www.facebook.com/wwaspokane/>.



WWA Legislative News

WA Legislative Report

By: Mark Pidgeon

[Editor's Note: WWA is a voting member of the Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC). WWC is a member organization of the Hunter's Heritage Council (HHC), a Washington State based organization dedicated to political action on behalf of the hunting and related communities of Washington].

As I reported last month, the edited version of the animal-cruelty bill [Senate Bill, SB 6300] passed both chambers and went to the Governor's desk for his signature. Nothing is for sure when it goes to Jay Inslee's desk. When he was in Congress for 10 years, eight out of 10 years he was Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) [not to be confused with your local Humane Society] Legislator of the Year and during his years in Congress he was the absolute worse vote for sportsmen. He is an animal-rights person to the max.

The Governor signed SB 6300 with no line item vetoes, so he accepted the bill as is. SB 6300 is now law.

"I am very proud of the Hunters Heritage Council (HHC) record as a lobby organization. During our 22 years of existence, we have killed every anti-hunting bill introduced..."

I am very proud of the Hunters Heritage Council (HHC) record as a lobby organization. During our 22 years of existence, we have killed every anti-hunting bill introduced, and probably double or triple that before they are even introduced. I will match that record with any lobby organization in Olympia.

This was a crushing blow for the Animal Rights (AR) community. They have always wanted to get some definition to equate animals to people, and in these bills, they tried equating animal pain equal to human pain. With the poorly drafted definitions of pain and suffering in the

original proposed legislation, the use of hunting dogs and other work dogs would have been eliminated. So too many dog training methods would have been banned.

If the bill was killed instead of amended, the AR community would have run a public Initiative next year. The AR people got all their language struck from their bills and instead the bill got a very tightly worded, well drafted and well-written sensible bill. The dreams of the AR community to run an Initiative was blown away.

No businesses or major donors will contribute to an Initiative with the goofy definitions pro-offered by the AR people. They spent millions of dollars for nothing! Nothing makes me happier than seeing the AR groups get blown away in legislative battles.

In this time of COVID-19 with most everyone at home, there is plenty of time to reflect on things. One thing to reflect on is how well that the WWA Officers and the Board of Directors are fighting for your hunting rights within the parameters of their 501(c)(3) tax exempt designation, while maintaining fiduciary responsibility. By being a voting member of Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC), who itself is a member of the HHC, the WWA has access to a lobbyist, and I would wager there is no place in this nation where you can access a top-flight registered professional lobbyist at that cost.

In the state legislatures, the cost for good lobbyists start at between \$8,000/month and go to over a million dollars per year. WWA is committed to waterfowl in every aspect, conservation, habitat, and waterfowl hunting. Protecting waterfowl hunting means being on the front lines in Olympia and fighting those battles.



WDFW News Briefs

WDFW NEWS RELEASE

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
1111 Washington St. SE, Olympia, WA 98501
<http://wdfw.wa.gov/>

April 6, 2020

Fishing, shellfish harvesting, and some hunting postponed

The **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** today announced that recreational fishing, shellfish harvesting and spring turkey and bear hunting seasons will be delayed in an effort to control the spread of COVID-19. The decision follows a Friday announcement that all state land and boat ramp closures would extend to May 4, 2020 to coincide with **Governor Jay Inslee's** extension of the [Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#) order.

WDFW expects most recreation activities to remain closed through the Stay Home, Stay Healthy order. The department will reevaluate specific hunting, fishing, shellfish harvesting, public land, and boat ramp closures as new information becomes available from public health officials. "Local public health authorities have relayed to us their concerns regarding the risk that hunting, fishing and recreational travel poses to their communities right now," said **WDFW Director Kelly Susewind**. "With the support of the Governor's office we're asking people to put their recreation plans on pause while we work together to get this situation under control."

Director Susewind noted that some individuals may be able to enjoy these activities without risky interactions, but many cannot and asks everyone to be patient for the health of all Washingtonians.

These newly extended closures include all recreational fishing and shellfish harvesting, whether on public or private lands, and the spring bear hunts that would have started on April 1 as well as the April 4 and 5 youth turkey hunt. In addition, the department will postpone the spring bear and turkey season opening days, which were previously scheduled to open on April 15. The department made the closure decisions after consulting with local health departments.

While some recreational fishing opportunities exist year-round, the lowland lakes trout season opener, previously scheduled for April 25, is one of the most celebrated angling days of the year. The recreational halibut seasons scheduled to open on April 16 in Marine Areas 6-10 and Areas 1-5 on April 30 will be delayed.

Recreational harvesting of spot shrimp in Marine Areas 5-7 and 12 will also be delayed. When fishing seasons do open, anglers should be prepared to practice proper social distancing and avoid the gatherings that characteristically define opening day for so many.

A number of April razor clam digs are cancelled, though the department will assess the ability for razor clamming and other shellfish seasons to resume in May.

If the department is able to open spring bear and turkey seasons on May 4, spring bear hunters would still have until May 31 or June 15, depending on the location, to use their permits before the intended season closure dates for those hunts. Likewise, spring turkey hunters would have 28 days of hunting during the spring season, plus, most likely, a robust fall season.

Hunting application deadlines for the rest of the year have not changed, yet the deadline for sealing bobcat and river otter pelts that were harvested during the 2019-2020 season has been extended to July 20.

Refunds for licenses and permits, if initiated before opening day, are available. Hunters can also get their points reinstated for spring bear season if requested prior to the start of the season.

The department does not regulate shed antler hunting, yet wants to remind the public that this activity is not allowed on state lands while the closures are in place. For the latest updates on WDFW's coronavirus response updates, visit wdfw.wa.gov/about/covid-19-updates. **State lands closure extended to May 4**

This action is a continuation of the state's efforts to protect residents by stemming the spread of the coronavirus. **This extension will apply to all camping on state lands, boat launches and water access sites, wildlife areas, and day-use recreation areas.**

2019/20 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

The **Washington Waterfowl Association** is pleased to present the 2019
Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and
Limited Edition Print.

by Catherine Temple.



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

To order your print(s) and accompanying stamps, please complete the application.

2019 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

Please send me:

Quantity _____ unframed print(s) and stamp(s)



Quantity _____ frame for print & stamp

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

Please Ship Prints to:

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

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

I have included \$140* for each framed print/stamp for a total of \$ _____ .00

*SHIPPING \$10.00

Total Amount: \$ _____ .00

-- Easier Yet --

Go to

<https://www.washingtonduckstamp.com/shop>

to place your order.

WWA and RRGC News Briefs

RRGC Wood Duck Box Program

By Arlan Hackett

Please find pasted below an e-mail ail received yesterday from **Richland Rod & Gun Club** with another Wood Duck Box Camera.

The **WWA** system that we are using will tell us if you opened the e-mail and also if you clicked on and opened the link. From this , we know that these e-mails are of high interest to the WWA Group.

If you are hunkered down at home , this may give you something to watch. If you do not have an interest, please just humor us and delete it. This is a group e-mail and it goes out to all in the system.

We hope you are all well, and please stay safe.
Pasted Below:

I just added another camera live stream. You can view this at <https://youtu.be/js1S3bS-DCU>

This hen is 30156 that was originally banded in 2017 down river about a mile. She nested in 2018 in twice in near by boxes and twice in 2019 again in a near by box #494. This year she is in box #393.

We hope to add additional cameras as we locate nesting hens. There is wood duck activity in box #493 and a screech owl in box SM that are close enough that I should be able to set up a switch with multiple boxes on this broadcast channel. Thanks for watching.

We have accomplished performing the annual maintenance of all 474 nesting boxes that were available for wood ducks last nesting season.

We have accomplished performing the annual maintenance of all 474 nesting boxes that were available for wood ducks last nesting season. We have replaced some of those boxes that have reached the end of their life with

boxes built by youth at the Sportsman Show or Kids Duck Day, and by students at Libby Middle School or Homeschool students.

The data collected during the effort shows 56.5 % of boxes were used by wood ducks, 86 boxes were used by Western Screech Owls, cooperative banding with **WDFW** installed 17 new bands on owls and had 24 owls recaptured having been banded in previous years.

There were 186 nest boxes that had successful hatching of ducklings evidenced by us counting 1214 membranes. We believe this number is a very conservative estimate of the actual number of ducklings that were hatched and jumped from the nest boxes. The reason we feel the number is lower than actual is because many membranes are "lost" between the hatch and when the box cleaning is performed months later.

Now that all the boxes are ready for hens, we will start to survey boxes for banding efforts. A few selected checks indicate the early nesting activities have started.

One box checked on 3-22-20 we found and recaptured a hen sitting on 10 eggs. This hen is a banded hen that has returned to this same box or adjacent boxes since 2016 when she was first banded. Additionally we had deployed a geolocator on this hen last year on 4-23-19. Her nest hatched out and jumped from the box on 5-19-19. Apparently the ducklings perished and she re-nested in the same nest box which jumped on 7-15-19. The geolocator has been recovered/removed to download the mini data logger data and we will report on the migration data after the data is processed and analyzed. We are hopeful that we will recover more of the 16 geolocators that were deployed last spring when we get further into the nesting season.

We have 2 channels on YouTube that we are attempting to stream live video. We have had some upload bandwidth problems which drops off our live stream, requiring us to make a field trip to reset the equipment. You can view the active live channels on YouTube with a search for "Wood Duck Project" https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=wood+duck+project

Dale Schielke
RRGC Wood Duck Project Coordinator

News for the Flock

Need Hunter Ed? Now What?

Due to the Governor Inslee's direction and the need to help address the spread of COVID-19, the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** has cancelled all in-person hunter education classes.

So, now what? OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE!

Briefly if a student is 9 years old or older they can take the On-line course followed by the Virtual Field course and get a license. The Virtual Field course option will go away as soon as we are able to start offering On-line Field Course Evaluations again.

If a student is under 9 years of age they can still take the On-line course but to complete hunter education they will have to take an On-line Field Skills Evaluation with a hunter education instructor when we are able to offer the evaluations again.

Below are the Official Details:

- Online course: You may take the online hunter education course and a Virtual Field Day. The Virtual Field Day replaces the in-person Field Skills Evaluation during the COVID-19 emergency. This course takes approximately 10 hours to complete, but students can complete it in multiple sittings.

Steps:

1. Complete course:

- Register for and complete the online hunter education course at <https://www.huntered.com/washington/>.

2. Complete course:

- Next, register for and complete the online Virtual Field Day course at <https://www.huntercourse.com/virtualfieldday/>. **(Note, the VFD course completion certificate is NOT VALID for a license purchase).**

3. Sign your [hunter-ed.com](https://www.huntered.com) certificate

- Upon completing the Virtual Field Day course, please sign into <https://www.huntered.com/washington/> to print and sign your course completion certificate. This will serve as your official certificate (once signed, is **VALID** for license purchase).

4. You will also receive an orange postcard-type hunter education certificate in the mail at a later date.

- Hunter Education Deferral: You may qualify for the Hunter Education Deferral, which allows a one year, **once-in-a-lifetime deferral** of hunter education training for individuals new to hunting who are accompanied by an experienced hunter. Note that this is a one-time deferral and is not available if you have taken a deferral in a prior year even if you did not purchase a license. There are other requirements, so please review them at:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/deferral-program>.

Applications are submitted and processed via email, which currently takes 1-2 days. Once approved, you can pay for the deferral and purchase a hunting license online or at a license dealer. At this time, please do not send your application through the U.S. Postal Service.

- Enroll in a later course: You may choose to postpone completion of hunter education and enroll in class after the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Both the traditional classroom course and the online class plus in-person field skills evaluation course will be available.

If you need assistance, please call 360-902-8111 or email huntered@dfw.wa.gov. Be aware **Hunter Education** staff are working remotely and will respond to emails and phone messages as soon as possible.

We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused. We will do everything we can to assist you during this challenging time to help you get outdoors.

Wishing you good health, and good, safe hunting!

Classified Ads – For Sale

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.
- Submit your classified ad each month (*we have no way of knowing if you sold/purchased your item or not*).
- Include your contact info. Phone and/or email.

For Sale:

Herter's Magnum Diver Decoys For Sale

Three (3) dozen magnum Herter's foam body diver decoys! A mix of bluebills and canvasbacks. Includes mother line and weights. Plus two expandable decoy bags. Ready to hunt over. Asking \$225 for decoys, lines, weights, and bags. I am in Snohomish County, WA.

Contact: Guy, 206-618-1345

Ammo — Eight (8) boxes of new Remington (case) hypersonic steel (1700 FPS), 12 gauge, 3 inch, Number 4 s. \$15.00/box.

Contact Al, H: 360-892-4479 or M: 360-907-9244.

BRAND NEW Stoeger P350, 12 gauge, in 3.5" Mag, pump action, DU Logo on black composite stock, vent rib, chokes, solid duck/goose gun, \$250. FFL Legal Transfer only.

Contact Robert, 206-909-7189

Ithaca 12 gauge, SxS in Mod and Full, standard model in nice shape for a 1925 gun, \$525. FFL Legal Transfer only.

Contact Robert, 206-909-7189

Stainless Ruger Mini-14 in .223 with 4-12X Scope, \$685 FFL Legal Transfer only,
Contact Robert 206-909-7189

New Ruger LCs-9 pistol in 9mm, great pocket gun with striker fire trigger, \$245. FFL Legal Transfer only,
Contact Robert 206-909-7189

Midnight Valley Labradors

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<https://midnightvalleylabs.com>



For Sale:

As-new Glock 30 in .45 ACP, 10 shots, Crimson Trace Laser sight w/ 3 clips, holster, 3rd Gen. \$490. FFL Legal Transfer only, Contact Robert 206-909-7189

Remington 241 take-down .22 semi-auto, like the Browning, good cond. \$300. FFL Legal Transfer only, Contact Robert 206-909-7189

Savage 93 bolt action varmint rifle in .17 HMR, laminated wood stock, scope, accurate heavy barrel. Excellent condition, \$365 FFL Legal Transfer only,
Call Robert 206-909-7189

**If You Are
a WWA Member,
place your
FREE Classified Ad Here!!!**

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at www.waduck.org

By: Mark Pidgeon

If you have not received your membership card or decal. Please contact **Mark**. As well, if you have questions or changes to your address please contact **Mark** at marpwwa@gmail.com or call 425-221-3986.

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 Kiemle*
#6 Jim Cortines*	#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 Anonymous
#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 Logan Sanday	#33 Mickey Clary	#34 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2020)	#35 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2020)
#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
#56 Frank Gallo*	#57 David Irons*	#58 David Ragsdale		



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 **March Newsletter**.

WWA Youth Fund — \$2,565

WWA Legal Fund — \$19,192

WWA Habitat Fund — \$1,125

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$11,077

WWA General Fund — \$873

Network for Good — \$140

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

At its February 27, 2018 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.

OLD SKAGIT GUN CLUB

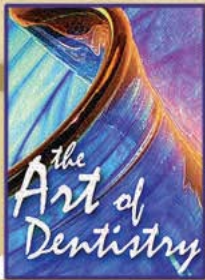
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John T. Arrabito

Attorney at Law

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FAX (425) 775-8016

E-mail: jarrabito@comcast.net

19303—44th Avenue W.
Lynnwood, WA 98036



Tom Elliott
425-220-6567
TomElliott.JohnLScott.com

John L. Scott
REAL ESTATE

With the referral from a WWA member that results in a sale, I will donate \$300 to Heritage Lands. Contact me today!

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OR HERE



Shooting Ranges

Kenmore Gun Ranges <https://www.wcwi.org>
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Old Skagit Gun Club <https://www.oldsagit.com>
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14933 Josh Wilson Road, Burlington, WA 98233

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Washington Waterfowl
Association
Established 1945
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Consider Your Donation For

Heritage Lands



FARMLAND AND PUBLIC ACCESS PRESERVATION

The WWA is launching a private land/public access program called *Heritage Lands*. The goal is farmland preservation and public outdoor recreation opportunity, with the initial implementation in the Skagit and Stillaguamish River valleys.

DON'T let your Heritage Lands Turn from this into....



This Program will **Purchase Farmland, Preserve it, Conserve it, Promote it, Maintain it, and Manage it for Waterfowl and Public Hunting for you and the Next Generation.**

We need your personal, corporate, or in-kind commitment to help us exceed our goal of \$300,000! We currently have a benefactor that will match the first \$2,000. Contact Rone Brewer to donate (206) 595-7481.

Every Donation Helps! WWW.WADUCK.ORG

For additional information please contact:

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

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

WWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____, State: _____, Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Best Phone Contact: (_____) _____

Membership Type:

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

Chapter & Newsletter: (Please specify your preferences)

Newsletter by email or hard copy

- Grays Harbor/Chehalis Valley Chapter** meets the 1st Thursday of the month (Feb – Oct) at the **Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club**, 12736 Marksman Road, SW, Olympia.
- Kitsap Peninsula Chapter** — Vacant.
- 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** – Dates and places TBD.
- Tri Cities Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.
- Whatcom County Chapter** meets the 1st Tuesday of the of the month (Jan – Nov.) at **Laurel Farm & Western Supply** in Bellingham.
- Yakima Valley Chapter** — Dates and places TBD.

Pay with a credit card from our website:
www.waduck.org

or

Mail with a check to:

WWA,
P.O. Box 40182
Bellevue, WA 98015

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.