

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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

July 15, 2020



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Letter from the President



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Hello Fellow Waterfowlers —

I have been travelling since June 20th with my bride, **Teresa Coffey**. Initially we spent three (3) days driving south to the Santa Barbara area to visit with my parents. We left **Santa Barbara** on June 27 travelled to **Las Vegas** and spent a night at the **Clark County Shooting Complex**. What a great facility! We shot there on Sunday morning, packed up and headed to **Spanish Fork, Utah** to meet up with a friend whom I have known since 1967. We spent the night there, and then headed for **Casper** to attend the **Wyoming State Trap Shoot**.

I have never participated in a shoot this large. Four (4) days with an average of between 160 and 200+ shooters every day. My friend **Jim Thorp** is a AAA singles shooter, a B doubles class with a 27-yard handicap. I am B class only, because I do not have enough registered targets. The conditions were excellent for waterfowling but not favorable for competition shooters — 40+ mph winds blowing west to east. Despite the adverse elements, we had a great time and met some great people. Next we drove to **Thermopolis, WY** and then to **Cody**. We spent two (2) days going through the **Buffalo Bill Museum** and still did not see all of it! We will definitely be returning for that. On to **Yellowstone** which we never get tired of. There we viewed bison, elk, deer and revisited **Old Faithful**. Then the long drive home. Always glad to be home and see our children and grandchild.

I finally received the list of **Migratory Bird Authorization** permits sold by **WDFW**. There were 142,000 permits issued between 2017- 2019. I estimate there are 40,000+ names that **WWA** can canvas for new memberships. As it stands now **WWA** Represents less than 1 percent of waterfowlers licensed in this state — check my math. This is not acceptable. Yes this does sound a little negative, but we will keep getting better. We are getting younger men and women involved, and that is a good thing. We will persevere.

(Continued on Page 2)

**Corp Election
Results Delayed
See Page 11**

MISSION STATEMENT

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

News for the Flock

2020 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Weds, July 15 NW Chapter Meeting at the
Twin City Sportsmen's Club in
Stanwood. Decoy Carving
Presentation by Kurt Benson
- Weds, July 15 WWA BOD Meeting
Online Only — 11:30 a.m.
- Weds, July 22 Seattle Chapter Meeting
Online Only — 7 p.m.
- Tues, July 28 SW Chapter Meeting
Pending
Tacoma Sportsmen's Club
**Email Confirmation
will be sent to SW members**
- Thurs, July 29 Spokane Chapter Meeting
Online Only — 7 p.m.
- Thurs, July 30 Lower Columbia Chapter Meeting
Cancelled
- Sat, Aug 1st WWA sponsored and sanctioned
Cancelled
Duck and Goose Calling Contest
For 2020
- Tues, August 4 Whatcom Chapter Meeting at the
Pending
Laurel Farm & Supply, Bellingham.
**Possible Extension
of WA Stay Orders**
- Tues, August 6 Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting at
the Evergreen Sportsmen's Club.
- Tues, August 11 NW Chapter Meeting at the
Pending
Conway Fire Hall.
**Possible Extension
of WA Stay Orders**
- Sat, Sept 26 NW Chapter Banquet, Mt. Vernon.
Cancelled
For 2020
- Sat, Sept 26 LC Chapter Banquet, Vancouver.
Questionable
For 2020

IN THIS EDITION

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(President's Letter Continued from Page 1)

I noticed on Facebook the other day **Ducks Unlimited** has a flag with their logo. I think we need to address a flag for **WWA**. Ideas are welcome.

I still have **WWA logo'd** hats for sale \$10.00, and I think the **WWA-SW Chapter** also has hats, shirts and Hoodies left over from the 2020 Sportsmen's Show.

Also you can order your duck stamps and prints through our website at <https://www.washingtonduckstamp.com/>

This 2019-2020 stamp features and a chocolate lab with ring bills in the air and on the water! The 2020-2021 features Canadian geese landing in decoys. Get your orders in now! See Order Form on **Pages 15 and 16**.

FOR THE RESOURCE,

Rick Holt

WWA President

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

July Chapter Meeting — We're On!

Our last three chapter meetings were cancelled due to social distancing restrictions. **We're set for July 15th at the Twin City Sportsmen's Club in Stanwood!**

Our July chapter meeting occurs on this newsletter's release date. It's our first meeting in the last few months and features guest speaker **WWA-NW and Washington Brant Foundation member Kurt Benson** providing a demonstration on decoy carving.

Not only an artist and craftsman, but a teacher as well, hosting carving classes at the **Burlington Parks Department** and other public seminars. In addition **Kurt** has also donated many exquisitely hand carved and functional works of art for fund raising events for **WWA, DU, and the Washington Brant Foundation** among others. This is a meeting not to miss!

I'll have some highlights of the meeting in the August Newsletter. We've got some fun activities and guest speakers lined up for our August and September meetings also. Hope to see ya there.

Chapter Work Parties

The state wide COVID-19 restrictions have had an impact on the chapter's activities. With the reopening of state lands including Wildlife Areas, we are in the planning and scheduling mode for the continuation of our yearly activities. These outdoor activities include blind maintenance and cleanup, youth and veterans hunts and our annual **Farmed Island Tour**. As schedules are established, we'll keep everyone posted.

Island Unit Advisory Group

The **Island Unit Advisory Group** is part of **WDFW's** habit restoration initiative. The **Island Unit** or better known to waterfowl hunters as the "**Farmed Island**" is a part of the **Skagit Wildlife Area**. As many of you are aware the island has been actively farmed since the 1950s to provide enhanced winter forage for waterfowl.

The **Island Unit Advisory Group** provides feedback to **WDFW's Alternatives Analysis** -- a planning tool used to evaluate a range of choices relative to a set of common criteria. **WDFW's** plan is to assess four (4) options that range from no restoration to restoring all 268 acres. **WDFW** will evaluate options based on state requirements and

policies, as well as community values and input from the advisory group and the public.

The advisory team has met on three (3) occasions. Two (2) of the meetings took place this year. **WDFW** has developed a draft of the common criteria that will be used to evaluate the four (4) options. This criteria was recently sent to advisory group members.

WWA has four (4) members on the **Advisory Group** including **Reb Broker, James Ono, Darrell Tawes and Rick Billieu**.

WWA members have all provided feedback to **WDFW** in regard to the criteria. Copies of the criteria can be made available to any **WWA** members. There are additional meetings and a public

open house planned this year. As additional decisions that affect the future of the **Farmed Island** are made, **WWA** advisory group members will keep you informed.

If you have not renewed your **WWA** membership, you can renew on-line at www.waduck.org or at the next chapter meeting. 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. See you there and bring a friend.

See and like our facebook page **Northwest Washington Waterfowl Association** at <https://www.facebook.com/waducks.org/>



Seattle Chapter Member Terry Breidenbach (left) examines a finished cork Mallard working decoy alongside a work in progress, both carved by Kurt Benson (right) at a carving demonstration he put on for the Seattle Chapter during the summer of 2018.

Rick Billieu

rgbillieu@frontier.com

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

Four Months of Covid and Counting

As we round out our fourth month and counting under the cloud of Covid-19 it occurs to me we need to assess our situation and try to plan for the next steps. This virus has managed to provide yet another opportunity for division and strife in our families, friends, employment, churches and organizations. The avalanche of daily metrics on the health numbers, ever changing information and interpretation "there of" have added to the tension already inflicted due to social restrictions at all points in our lives.

There can be dire consequences for the seniors or those with compromised health. Yet, generally, a relatively minor annoyance for the young. Ranging from no big deal to a fatal situation. As a volunteer organization how do we navigate these waters at this point? As we move towards phase 3 in Clark County what should we plan to do?

Financial Support and Sustainability

Would there be interest in doing a Zoom meeting this month? Let us know your thoughts.

With the cessation of all events and gatherings, fund raising and group participation have dried up a bit. I would hope that financially healthy chapters can contribute to the funding of the corporate side of things until this begins to turn around. With that said it is imperative that those who are financially able to support the cause to do so through your dues by renewing. Take a moment to check on line if you are current and if not renew your membership today!

Vancouver Lake treated for Eurasian Milfoil

Friends of Vancouver Lake funded a treatment to eradicate this non-native invasive water weed on Tuesday July 7th. This will clean up the lake for recreational activities such as swimming and boating, but it does remove a popular food source for widgeon and gadwall ducks.

<https://www.columbian.com/news/2020/jul/07/group-injects-herbicide-at-vancouver-lake-to-kill-invasive-milfoil/>

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Hi all.

This months comments will be a bit short as I am once again late with my inputs to John Arrabito the newsletter editor!

Our annual youth shotgun event, **The Colton Smith Memorial Shoot** has been **anceled** for 2020. We didn't think that attendance would be good with the current Apocalypse, and we surely did not want to be responsible for any preventable virus infections. This will give us plenty of time to plan for the 2021 event! We also have modified our weekly shot gunning events to just a few with personal invitations.

What this all means is that we can concentrate on our waterfowl conservation efforts! I have several projects looming and would like to take care of them this summer so when duck season comes up on, **the 19th of October**, there will be no interruptions! If you can be available this summer for some climbing, pounding and jungle trudging, please let me know so you can be included in all the fun!

The **Cedarville Farms Hunt for Two Raffle** continues and has picked up a bit. To all Chapters selling the tickets; get the word out and SELL! You get to keep your income so how can this be bad???? I recently got a ticket order from Colorado Springs! No orders from Maryland or Maine so our Colorado member gets the distance prize! Thanks again to all that have bought and sold these wonderful tickets! One note; The winning tickets are transferable with just a few restrictions. If any of you want to see all of our rules, please just let me know and I'll get you fixed up! Also remember that Cedarville Farms has donated overnight lodging along with your hunt! You can't get these kinds of benefits with our state lotto! See Flyer on **Page 14**.

(LC Chapter News Continued)

Vancouver Trap Club Still Closed

The **Vancouver Trap Club** is closed and will remain so until at least **Phase 3** comes along at which time they will have to have to obtain clearance of their Covid-19 procedures and protocol to open up.

GH Chapter News Continued

Companion Raffle to the Hunt for Two Raffle

By Jon McAninch & the Cedarville Farms Hunt Club

19th Legislative District Representative **Brian Blake** carved and painted a really cool Tundra Swan (aka Whistling Swan). If you follow **Brian** on Facebook you may have seen pictures of it on some of his posts.

The body was carved out of a remnant of a pine log that originated in Idaho and migrated to Washington to be used in the construction of a log home in Grays Harbor



County. The head & neck were carved out of Alaskan yellow cedar **Brian** had been saving for many years. Both the pine and yellow cedar were stored away all these years with it in mind that they would one day be utilized in a carving project.

Now that you are familiar with some of the history

connected to the Tundra Swan carving, I have the pleasure to announce that **Brian** has graciously donated his finished carving to be raffled off with all proceeds to go to **The Seattle Children's Hospital**.

Cedarville Farms will administer the raffle by selling tickets for \$1.00 each up until the date of the drawing which shall be held at **The Cedarville Farms Annual Clambake** on August 15th. You need not be present to win, but an out of area winner would be respon-

sible to pay for shipping. To purchase your raffle tickets for this original carving please send checks made payable to:

**Cedarville Farms
15 White Oak Lane
Oakville, WA 98568**

Please include your name and a contact phone number and reference **Swan Raffle** on your check. All funds shall be deposited in a dedicated account and dispersed to **The Seattle Children's Hospital** along with our annual **Children's Hospital Fund Raiser** donations collected at the upcoming Clambake event.

When we receive your raffle check we will place your name and phone number on the tickets purchased, and enter them into the raffle. We will also post confirmation of receipt of payment on our Facebook Page.

Hunt for Two Raffle Update

With **Governor Inslee's** Lockdown Orders stopping all Chapter Meetings, the **Hunt for Two Raffle** tickets sales have pretty much dropped off. Oh well, still have time to buy them up until the drawing on October 1st.

(See Flyer on **Page 14**)

News for the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By: James Ono

July Chapter Meeting Online Only

As of press time of this Newsletter on July 15th, **The Kenmore Gun Range** has opened to "Members, Law Enforcement Agencies, and the Military, but is still **closed to the public and guests.** (See Range Notice Below). Accordingly the **WWA-Seattle Chapter** will be meeting online only. See information for the online meeting below.

Kenmore Range Opening Update (as of July 15th)

THE KENMORE RANGE WILL BE REOPENING ON JUNE 12 TO OUR MEMBERS, LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES, AND THE MILITARY.

STILL CURRENTLY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AND GUESTS.

NEW HOURS RIFLE, PISTOL, ARCHERY 12PM TO 7PM,
SHOTGUN 12PM TO 5PM, FRI SAT SUN MON.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR MASK AND WEAR IT.

Seattle Chapter Zoom Meeting

This month we will be diving deeper into fundraising, member programs, and recruitment tools by continuing to brainstorm and further develop some ideas already discussed. We will also be taking input on what types of programs people would like to see in our chapter meetings. All are welcome to join.

If you are unfamiliar or not particularly comfortable with using Zoom, please reach out to **James Ono** at Ohnoitsono2009@hotmail.com and we can set up a practice session beforehand.

Time: Jul 22, 2020 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

To Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71215194728?pwd=dkJHZkZsT1NGWTV2Yk1NdIF1bTBMdz09>

Meeting ID: 712 1519 4728

Password: WAduck

Elections

In our last chapter meeting we held elections for Chapter Chair and Chapter Secretary/Treasurer. We are pleased to announce that **James Ono** will be taking the reins from **John Arrabito** as Chapter Chair and **Timothy Tinghino** will be taking over the Chapter Secretary/Treasurer position as **David Hanson** has moved to the Midwest to pursue an employment opportunity.

Thank you to **John** and **David** for everything that you have done for our chapter and your commitment to the organization in your roles. Our chapter owes a lot to these two (2) gentlemen who kept the chapter running smoothly. We cannot possibly list everything that they have done to support our chapter and **WWA** at large, but we would like to express our deepest gratitude.

WDFW 25-Year Strategic Plan

As you may have seen, the **WDFW** has published a draft of their 25-year strategy plan. An email was sent out encouraging everyone to send feedback with a deadline of July 10th. After a conversation with the department and multiple members providing feedback, the deadline for online feedback has been extended to **AUGUST 8th.**

If you have not done so already, please take a minute to ready the strategy draft, fill out the survey linked in the email, and/or send feedback to strategic.dfw.wa.gov

WWA Promotion and Communication Team

Thank you to everyone who volunteered for the **WWA Promotion Committee.** We received a lot of emails of people who want to be a part of this initiative. We are very excited to get this program up and running and are excited that so many people are willing to help. We have at least one representative from almost all of the chapters. We will be sending out an invite later this month to all of the volunteers.

As part of the promotion of **WWA**, see Flyer for our new Mentor Program on **Page 8.** Think about taking a "Newbie" out this season and introducing him/her to a whole new world!

Seattle Chapter News Continued



Newly elected Seattle Chapter Chairman James Ono, took his newly elected Secretary/Treasurer Timothy Tinghino and Tim's daughter, Maddie, out for some perch fishing at a location that will continue to remain secret! lol

It was a first time for both. Maddie caught a lot of fish and afterwards father and daughter did a "catch and cook."

(Below) A picture of the final product!

Just a cool example of Tim bringing home the lesson of "harvesting your own food" to the next generation.



BECOME A MENTOR TODAY!

Building the next generation of hunters



PLEASE APPLY BY FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH

PARTICIPATE IN 3 HUNTS WITH YOUR MENTEE

MENTOR ANY SPECIES

HELP NEW MEMBERS LEARN:

SAFETY – ETTIQUITTE – SPORTSMANSHIP – REGULATIONS – LICENSES

HUNTING ACCESS – DECOYS – CALLING – CONCEALMENT

TO BECOME A MENTOR OR FOR MORE INFORMATION

PLEASE REACH OUT TO JAMES ONO AT OHNOITSONO2009@HOTMAIL.COM

News for the Flock

Spokane Chapter News

By: Ramon Guel

The **Spokane Chapter** had a short chat with **Turnbull National Refuge**, and most events that were to be held this summer with their nonprofit group, "**Friends of Turnbull**" unfortunately will be **CANCELED** due to COVID-19. We will continue to monitor the situation and attempt to bring people together for some conservation projects if the state begins to open up in the Fall. I hope everyone is staying safe and at least getting out a bit to fish or hike.

More to come in the future.

WWA-Spokane Chapter will hold a virtual meeting on Wednesday, July 29th, beginning at 7:00 pm to talk about getting together once Phase 3 is approved for Spokane County. The link will be sent out the week before the meeting

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

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

The **Southwest Chapter** has heard back from **Stuttgart, Arkansas** where the **World Duck Calling Contest** is held. We asked them if we could get a refund or credit for 2021 for our previous paid entry fee for the **Washington State** entry to the World Contest, and they informed us that we would be given credit toward the 2021 fees. Thanks to **Washington Contest Chairman** and **WWA BOD member, Nathan Neideigh**, for taking care of that chore.

July Chapter Meeting Pending

I will be getting in contact with the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** in the next week or so to find out if we will be able to hold our face-to-face meeting on July 28th. If so an email will go out to the **Southwest Chapter** members.

WWA Merchandise For Sale

We have "hoodie" sweatshirts left over from the **2020 Sportsman Show** that are available to buy. They will be \$35.00. If anyone wants one contact me at my email address bwburns36@gmail.com. Payment would be by check made out to **WWA-Southwest Chapter** and mailed to.

Bruce Burns
P.O. Box 1429
Buckley, WA 98321

Moses Lake Chapter News

By: Dick Price

Youth Trap Shoot CANCELED

The free youth shoot co-sponsored by **WWA-Moses Lake Chapter, Friends of the NRA, Brownells**, and the **Quincy Gun Club** and previously scheduled for the 29th of August has been **CANCELED**. Grant County – who has been running double digits in new Covid-19 cases every day since they went to Phase 2 with a total of 550+ cases and counting – will not have progressed far enough to support the shoot.

Tri-Cities Chapter News

No News This Month

Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month

Whatcom County Chapter News

No News This Month

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].

Hunters Heritage Council Pre-Primary Endorsements

This story is written entirely by the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)**. WWA had no input into this article. This article is in this newsletter because of WWA's membership in **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)**. The endorsements of the candidates are entirely those of the **HHC**.

HHC is **NOT** a Republican organization, we support members of both parties. Our highest honor, the **HHC Hall of Fame**, we have inducted 16 people, 10 elected officials and six (6) hunting activist super heroes. Of those 10 elected officials, five (5) were Democrats and five (5) were Republicans, an even 50%-50% mix. Every year when we select our "**Legislator of the Year**" award, we make sure that we have representation from all four (4) caucuses — House and Senate Democratic Caucuses and the House and Senate Republican Caucuses.

It should also be noted that the **HHC** is not a gun-rights organization. We are a hunting-rights organization! We lobby and electioneer for hunting issues. That doesn't mean we don't think that the **Second Amendment** isn't important, but there are plenty of outstanding gun-rights groups like the **NRA**, the **Citizens Committee to Keep and Bear Arms (CCRKBA)**, **Gun Owners Action League—Washington (GOAL)**, and **Gun Owners of America (GOA)** just to name a few. It is their job the advocate for Second Amendment candidates. In fact, in Olympia, the **HHC** has an unwritten agreement with the gun groups: on hunting issues the **HHC** takes the lead on those issues; and on the **Second Amendment** issues we follow the gun groups lead. This keeps unity in the ranks and builds legislative victories.

The following list was approved by the **Board of Directors of the HHC**. Some are Hall of Fame **HHC** members like **Brian Blake**, **Dean Takko**, **Joel Kretz**, and

Mark Schoesler. Others are **Legislator of the Year** recipients like **Lynda Wilson**, **Jacquelin Maycumber**, **JT Wilcox**, **Jim Walsh**, and **Larry Hoff**. We have many first-time endorsements on the list too. It is critical that every hunter get out and vote this primary.

One candidate I want to highlight is **Connie Beauvais**. She is running against **Senator Kevin Van De Wege** in the **24th Legislative District**, encompassing most of the **Olympic Peninsula**, including all of **Clallam** and **Jefferson counties** and most of **Grays Harbor County**. This race is of the utmost importance. **Connie** is an outstanding candidate, and she is running a great race against a tough opponent.

Senator Van De Wege is the most anti-hunting senator in the state senate, and unfortunately he wields considerable power on hunting/fishing issues as **Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources Committee**. If we could beat him this election cycle, it would be a major win for "hunters and fishers" statewide! The commercial fleets are supporting **Connie**, so are the charter boat operators, and there are a coalition of other groups too. The **HHC Political Action Committee (PAC)** has already contributed the pre-primary maximum of \$1,000 to her campaign. Her [website is https://connieforsenate.com/](https://connieforsenate.com/)

See the complete list of HHC Endorsements on **Adjacent Page 11**.



WDFW News for the Flock

HHC 2020 Pre-Primary Endorsement List

United States House of Representatives

Name	District	Party
Jaime Herrera Beutler	3	Rep
Dan Newhouse	4	Rep
Cathy McMorris Rodgers	5	Rep
Jesse Jensen	8	Rep
Rian Ingram	10	Rep

Washington State Insurance Commissioner

Name	Party
Anthony Welti	Lib

Washington State Senate

Name	District	Party
Mark Schoesler	9	Rep
Lynda Wilson	17	Rep
Ann Rivers	18	Rep
Dean Takko	19	Dem
Connie Beauvais	24	Rep
Keith Wagoner	39	Rep

Washington State House of Representatives

Name	District	Pos	Party
Andrew Barkis	2	1	Rep
JT Wilcox	2	2	Rep
Leonard Christian	4	2	Rep
Jacquelin Maycumber	7	1	Rep
Joel Kretz	7	2	Rep
Greg Gilday	10	1	Rep
Bill Bruch	10	2	Rep
Larry Hoff	18	2	Rep
Jim Walsh	19	1	Rep
Brian Blake	19	2	Dem
Cyndy Jacobsen	25	2	Rep
Drew Stokesbary	31	1	Rep
Luanne VanWerven	42	1	Rep
Jennifer Sefzik	42	2	Rep
Mark James	44	2	Rep

Thurston County Commissioner

Name	District	Party
John "Hutch" Hutchings	1	Ind

Computer Virus Delays Election Results

There were two (2) alternative ways — by email or by USPS — for members to vote for Officers and Directors of **WWA** in elections promoted for three (3) consecutive months in Newsletters for April, May, and June. However a computer virus has taken down the computer of **WWA-Corporate Secretary, Bob Taylor**, thus delaying the reporting of results of the election.

On top of that, extremely few voters (hopefully because of Covid-19 concerns on members' minds and not indifference to **WWA**) could drastically skew results.

Final Elections Results will be published in the **WWA** August Newsletter.

2020 Corporate Election Results

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

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)

News for the Flock

Who Knew?

Ducks Plant Highland Lakes *aka* Experimental Evidence of Dispersal of Invasive Cyprinid Eggs Inside Migratory Waterfowl

Published by National Academy of
Sciences of the USA (PNAS) on July 7, 2020;
first published June 22, 2020

Contributions from **Ádám Lovas-Kiss, Orsolya
Vincze, Viktor Löki, Felícia Pallér-Kapusi, Béla Halasi-
Kovács, Gyula Kovács, Andy J. Green, and Balázs András
Lukács**

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Abstract

Fish have somehow colonized isolated water bodies all over the world without human assistance. It has long been speculated that these colonization events are assisted by waterbirds, transporting fish eggs attached to their feet and feathers, yet empirical support for this is lacking. Recently, it was suggested that **endozoochory** (i.e., internal transport within the gut) might play a more important role, but only highly resistant diapause eggs of killifish have been found to survive passage through waterbird guts.

Here, we performed a controlled feeding experiment, where developing eggs of two cosmopolitan, invasive cyprinids (common carp, Prussian carp) were fed to **captive mallards**. Live embryos of both species were retrieved from fresh feces and survived beyond hatching. Our study identifies an overlooked dispersal mechanism in fish, providing evidence for bird-mediated dispersal ability of soft-membraned eggs undergoing active development.

Only 0.2% of ingested eggs survived gut passage, yet, given the abundance, diet, and movements of ducks in nature, our results have major implications for biodiversity conservation and invasion dynamics in freshwater ecosystems.

How organisms are able to overcome barriers to dispersal is a central question in biology (1). Dispersal events are key to gene flow, distribution ranges, metapopulation dynamics, speciation, and invasiveness (2). Among these, long-distance dispersal events are generally

rare and stochastic (1), but have major influence over species range expansions (3). It is especially intriguing how aquatic organisms move across an inhospitable terrestrial matrix between river catchments (4). Fish are often able to colonize remote lakes or ponds, but suggested mechanisms have gained little empirical support (5, 6).

It has been speculated that the most likely dispersal mechanism for fish over dry land is the external transport of eggs on the feathers or feet of waterbirds (5). Nonetheless, there is almost no evidence for this (7), calling for the investigation of alternative mechanisms that allow fish to disperse to isolated waterbodies.

An ability to disperse inside terrestrial vertebrates following ingestion (**endozoochory**) is one such mechanism. Endozoochory by waterbirds has been demonstrated for a range of aquatic invertebrates, including insect larvae (8), as well as soft plant parts and seeds (9–11).

A recent study found that diapaused eggs of annual killifish survive passing the gut of **coscoroba swans** (6). That study provided the first evidence that endozoochory might play a role in the long-distance dispersal of vertebrates.

However, killifish possess adaptations that enable them to survive hostile environments. Killifish zygotes often enter diapause for years during periodic droughts in their ephemeral habitats, while the highly specialized chorionic membrane isolates the embryo and allows it to survive anoxia, hypersalinity, or desiccation (12).

The water permeability of diapausing embryos can be orders of magnitude lower than that of other teleost fishes, while the enveloping cell layer acts as a highly efficient barrier to ion exchange (12).

It is therefore not so surprising that these resistant eggs were able to survive the acidic, anoxic environment in the waterfowl digestive tract, but the enveloping cell layer of annual killifishes is unique among teleost fish (12). Thus, it remains to be determined whether endozoochory can be a dispersal mechanism in soft-membraned eggs found in the overwhelming majority of freshwater fish.

To view the full scientific article (complete with the footnotes referenced above which were required in order to republish this article) click on the active link below:

<https://www.pnas.org/content/117/27/15397>

WWA & WDFW News Briefs

The Duck, the Eagle, and the Rockfish

By Art Kendall
WWA-NW Chapter Member

One morning a few years ago I went duck hunting with a buddy at the **Samish Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area**. It was forecast to be a windy day, and we set up before dawn in a sheet water pond in a field with little cover nearby. Things started out great with the sounds and silhouettes of widgeon filling the dark sky as we arranged our decoys and got hidden. By shooting time most of the ducks had flown out to the bay, but a few mallards did come in.

As the day got lighter, we realized that we were not the only hunters in the fields that day: northern harriers glided around; raucous ravens let their presence be known; a short-eared owl flew by noiselessly; and majestic bald eagles soared overhead. In a little while a single mallard paid us a visit, and I thought I missed an easy shot, but my partner said he thought the bird went down a couple of fields away.

Shortly thereafter an eagle flew right over us and dropped something from its talons. It hit the ground with a thud not 20 yards from us. After a while I went over to see what the eagle dropped and can you believe that there lay a 14 inch copper rockfish, fresh as a daisy! No damage at all except for a couple of small puncture wounds (talons and beak).

We added it to our bag, and that night we enjoyed it for dinner steamed the Asian way. As we left the hunting area we walked over to where my partner thought the hit mallard had landed. The dog was very intrigued in the area, and we found a few duck feathers, but no duck.

My story, and I'm sticking to it, is that the eagle traded us a rockfish for a duck!

WDFW closes Irving Lawson Access Area For Public Safety Reasons

June 25, 2020

OLYMPIA – The **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** is temporarily closing the **Irving Lawson Access Area in Snohomish County**. The 12-acre site on the **Snohomish River** will be closed through December 25, 2020.

WDFW staff have seen increased illegal trash dumping and damage to natural resources at the 12-acre site, and it has become a public safety risk.

“Water access areas provide important public recreation opportunities, but this site has seen a dramatic

increase in illegal activity,” said **Fenner Yarborough, WDFW North Puget Sound Wildlife Program Manager**. “We need to make it a safer place for visitors and our community and to protect valuable habitat.”

WDFW restricts campfires in E WA

July 1, 2020

SPOKANE – WDFW will restrict campfires and other activities on department-managed lands in Eastern Washington beginning July 1 to help reduce the risk of fire on state wildlife areas and water access areas.

Cynthia Wilkerson, WDFW Lands Division Manager said the threat of wildfires and smoke is even greater this year given the compromised health of those with the COVID-19 virus. The ongoing pandemic also puts firefighters at a greater risk to respond to human-caused wildfires, she said.

Firearm Use — Except for Legal Hunting — Prohibited

A temporary restriction on firearm use also starts Wednesday, July 1 on **WDFW-managed lands**. Target shooting and other gun use will be prohibited, but discharge of a firearm for legal hunting will still be permitted. Overall, the emergency order that imposes restrictions east of the Cascades prohibits:

- Fires or campfires, including those in fire rings. Personal camp stoves and lanterns fueled by propane, liquid petroleum, or liquid petroleum gas are allowed.
- Smoking, except in an enclosed vehicle.
- Welding and operating chainsaws, including the use of an acetylene torch or other open flame.
- Operating a motor vehicle away from developed roads. Parking is permitted within designated parking areas, including developed campgrounds and trailheads; and in areas without vegetation that are within 10 feet of roadways.

Baker Lake to Open for Sockeye

Effective date: **July 18 through Sept. 7, 2020.**

Location: (Whatcom County) Catch Record Code 825

Rule: Daily limit two (2) sockeye. Min. size 18". Anglers may fish with two poles with a **two-pole endorsement**. Each angler aboard a vessel may deploy salmon angling gear **until the daily salmon limit for all anglers aboard has been achieved.**

If lake escapement — 1,500 sockeye remain in the lake for natural spawning — appears to be in jeopardy the lake fishery **may be closed.**

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.

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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:

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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 \$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

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<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.

Please find pasted below the most recent e-mail from **Richland Rod & Gun Club (RRGC)** with a recording of this June 30, 2020 Wood Duck Jump of six (6) ducklings hatch and jump from box 393 located along the Yakima River near West Richland, WA. Bandwidth limitations result in buffering which causes some skipped frames and blurring on the video.

Here is the recording of duckling jump from box 393:

<https://youtu.be/1O-eW1XKJEI>

Thanks for watching, and thanks to our landowners for all their support in providing Wi-Fi and power to make the live streams possible.

Dale Schielke
RRGC Wood Duck Project Coordinator

Some History of the RRGC Nesting Box Program

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.

In one box checked on March 22, 2020 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 geo-locator on this hen last year on April 23, 2019. Her nest hatched out and jumped from the box on May 19, 2019.

Apparently the ducklings perished and she re-nested in the same nest box which jumped on July 15, 2019. The geo-locator 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 geo-locators that were deployed last spring when we get further into the nesting season.

Thanks for watching,

Dale Schielke
RRGC Wood Duck Project Coordinator

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.

Remington 760 Gamemaster pump in .270 with Leopold 4X scope, very good condition, \$395; FFL Legal Transfer only, Contact Robert, 206-909-7189

Minn Kota Edge 45lb thrust bow mounted trolling motor. Good Condition. Weedless Prop. \$250 OBO. Open to trades. Contact Nick, 425-765-0151

Everything is for steel shot reloading: Mec 12 gauge steel reloader 2 3/4 and 3 inch **NOT 3 1/2**. Like new. Alliance Steel powder 2 1/2 lbs.; Wads 300; 50 lbs of shot #2 and others; 700 felt spacers; 600 + empty shells, Rem, Win, Kent fast steel, Activ; 2 adjustable charge bars 2 steel charge bars. **\$350 for all — \$50 goes to the Grays Harbor Youth Activity fund.** Contact Dick, 360-491-3761

Midnight Valley Labradors

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Available for reserve in August 2020. British Gun Dog Lines, Field Trial Championships on both sides, excellent temperaments, very smart. Contact Debbie Page for pedigrees at 360-710-4749, or

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Washington Waterfowl Association

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* H = Honorary Members

WADUCK.ORG

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#31 Mark Hackett	#32 Logan Sanday	#33 Mickey Clary	#34 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2021)	#35 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2021)
#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 **June Newsletter**.

WWA Youth Fund — \$2,565

WWA Legal Fund — \$19,192

WWA Habitat Fund — \$1,140

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$11,077

WWA General Fund — \$943

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.

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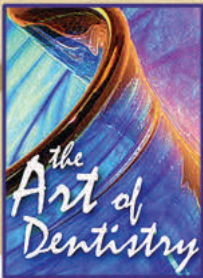
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FARMLAND AND PUBLIC ACCESS PRESERVATION

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

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Mail with a check to:

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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.