

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

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April 15, 2022



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Letter from the President



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Greetings, Washington Waterfowlers!

In true **Washington** fashion, the weather can't seem to make up its mind. But, I'll take whatever sun we get even if it is followed closely by rain and hail. Hopefully it holds out for everyone getting out for the **Turkey opener TODAY!** Be sure to tag us or send us your pictures from turkey season.

Corporate Elections

The state organization needs you! This year the Presidency, Secretary, and all 9 board positions are up for election. Ideally the organization would like to see board representation from all of our chapters. Nominations are due in May, and the election will take place in June. **You may nominate yourself.**

To encourage voter participation from all of our members, we will be publishing a voter's pamphlet. All candidates will be asked to fill out the form linked [here](#).

WWA Photo Contest

Thanks to **WWA Board** members **Kurt Snyder, Al O'Connor, Bruce Feagan**, and our promotion team for your work in administrating the securing prizes for our photo contest. We had some amazing photos submitted. Take a look on Page X of this newsletter for some of the winners and the prizes they won.

Youth Calling Contest

I was able to attend the **Youth Calling Contest** put on by the **Southwest Chapter**. Huge shoutout to **Nathan Neideigh, Bruce Burns**, and everyone else who made this event happen. It was a lot fun to get to meet more of our members and see all the kids get up on stage and give it their all. From the kids who were blowing a call for the first time, to the ones who can call leagues above me, I was really impressed with all of the youth. My son is a little too young to blow a duck call, but hopefully he'll be entering next year.

For the Resource,

James Ono, WWA President

MISSION STATEMENT

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

News for the Flock

2022 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Fri, April 15 Opening Day for WA Spring Turkey Hunt Season. See Regs linked [here](#).
- Sat, April 16 ML Chapter sponsored FREE Youth Shoot in Quincy. See Flyer, Page 20
- Mon, April 25 **In Person** Seattle Chapter Meeting Kenmore Gun Range.
- Tues, April 26 **In Person** SW Chapter Meeting, Education Building, Tacoma Sportsmen's Club
- Thurs, April 28 Usual LC Chapter Meeting. Check for Email blast for particulars.
- Tues, May 3 Usual Whatcom County Chapter Meeting, Laurel Farm & Western Supply in Bellingham; 6:30 pm
- Weds, May 4 **WWA Board Meeting Online Only** — 7:00 p.m. All WWA Members Welcome to attend. **Contact Corp Secretary, Bob Taylor**, for a **WebEx** Online Invitation. See **Page 1**
- Thurs, May 5 Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting, 7 pm., Evergreen Sportsmen's Club,
- Weds, May 11 **In Person** NW Chapter Meeting, Twin Cities Sportsmen's Club, Stanwood, WA
- Sat, May 14 WA Brant Foundation's Decoy Carving Contest and Festival, at Maiben Park, 1011 Greenleaf Avenue, Burlington, WA 98233. See **Page 17**. More Info linked [here](#).

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Midnight Valley Labradors

AKC Registered Labrador Puppies
 Excellent Breeding, Great Temperament,
 Wonderful for the Family or in the Field.
 Puppies due Spring 2022. British Gun Dog Lines,
 Field Trial Championships.

Contact Debbie Page for pedigrees
 at 360-710-4749, or
midnightvalleylabradors@gmail.com

Check out our website at:
<https://midnightvalleylabs.com>



News For the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By Nick Brown

I have been quite happy to see some constant attendance at the **Seattle Chapter** meetings. I have really enjoyed getting to know some of our newer members. Keep up the recruiting efforts because the **Seattle Chapter** has a lot in the works for the near future.

Classroom Work

At last month's meeting we openly shared decoy strategies. Using a dry erase board, we collectively played X's & O's and allowed members to present different circumstances and situations they encountered as well as share some tips for future success. This has become a post season reoccurring topic we'd like to cover more of, so next season keep in mind situations for the board.

Upcoming April 25th Chapter Meeting

For this coming meeting we will be doing a wild bird tasting. We will prepare several types of waterfowl, all

presented in the same fashion. We will blind taste each one, making notes and rank them best to worst.

Spoiler Alert: No one will be tortured with eating **Merganser**, haha! However, this will be **a tasting not a potluck** so don't expect to get full-on duck meat. However, we will have our pizza delivery as usual. Please remember a \$5 donation to cover the costs of pizza.

Kenmore Range Update Re: Ammo

Last month the range had both 12g and 20g shells available for purchase. Although the ammo supply chain appears to be getting better, I wouldn't rely on the range for your ammo exclusively. I recommend calling ahead of time or bringing your own shells.

The **Seattle Chapter** meets on the 4th Monday of the month, at the **Kenmore Gun Club**, with shooting beginning at 5 pm followed by our business meeting at 7.

Nick Brown

Nickibb92@gmail.com



Seattle Chapter members (from L) Harold Abell, James Ono, and Nick Brown (Right) made a long road trip to meet up with an old friend, Brian Hom (back), to get it done back in December.

News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns; Photos by Nathan Neideigh

Youth Duck Calling Contest

Thanks for the yeoman efforts of **WWA-SW Chapter** member, **Nathan Neideigh** — who has been honing his organizational skills the past several years putting on the **WA State Sanctioned Duck and Goose Calling Championships** for the **WWA** — gathered up the trophies and prize donations (including duck calls for ALL contestants from **Pacific Calls**); and then judged the contest!

He also arranged for the generous **FREE** lunch and **FREE Sporting Clays** for all Youth wanting to participate in either, courtesy of the hosts, **Tara Stevens**, and the



Winners of the First Ever WWA Youth Calling Contest, (from L) 1st, Carson Fenton; 2nd, Hunter Anderson; and 3rd, Slade Heinricher!

Sumner Sportsmen’s Club linked here.

Sixteen (16) young people and many parents turned out at 8:00 am on a wet and drizzly Saturday, which later turned into a nice, crisp, sunny day for some 5-stand shotgun shooting!

Many thanks to the following **SW Chapter** members who help **Nathan** put on this event, including his children, **Aiden and Hanna Neideigh**; also Southwest members **Peter Kilburn, Jim Payne and Bruce Burns**. Thanks also to the **WWA Corporate** presence of **President James Ono** and **Treasurer John Arrabito** for their support.



Pacific Duck Calls Donated to Every Contestant.

9722 E Montgomery Drive
Suite 20
Spokane Valley, WA 99206
<https://pacificcustomcalls.com/> (509) 315-4764

SW Chapter News Continued



(Left)
All of the Youth Calling Contest Contestants on the Caller's Stage.

(Below Left)
Contestants came in all sizes with a lotta heart!

(Below Right)
A little Sporting Clays shooting to round out a Blue Bill day!



April Chapter Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 26th at 6:30 pm in the **Hunters' Education Building** at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** linked [here](#).

We will be planning some of this years Chapter events like refurbishing the hunting blinds at **Rapjohn Lake**, and this year's **Washington State Sanctioned Duck Calling Contest**, etc.

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

From: Dick Price and Bruce Feagan

Quincy Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

For those of you that hunt this area and in particular **Flat Lake** I have some good news!

Flat Lake is a seep lake that fills when they turn the irrigation water into the main canal adjacent to the lake. It fills and becomes a very popular nesting and brood rearing lake for Waterfowl.

In 2019 I was contacted by the person that owned two (2) parcels of private land/water around and into **Flat Lake**. Like me he was getting on in years and had always left his properties open for public hunting and was interested in making sure they stayed that way when he passed.

I did some investigation and made a proposal to the **WDFW Region 2** folks that they should try and purchase the two (2) parcels. They put together a proposal to purchase the parcels using **Migratory Bird Stamp & Print** funds in the 2022-2023 budget. The proposal ended up being the **No. 1 Capital Project** for **Stamp & Print** funds.

I got a call last week from the owner thanking me for my efforts, and informing me the **WDFW** properties people had been to the site and were authorizing the purchase to go forward. He said they expect the purchase to be complete by the end of August.

This shows what can happen if we work together with a willing landowner — that only wanted a **fair price** to keep an area open for public hunting — and we work with the right **WDFW** employees to help do the research to make it happen.

Installation of ADA Blind at Drumheller Access

On Friday, April 8th, **WWA-ML Chapter** members **Bruce Feagan, Marvin Leyda, Tom O'Dell, Ken Shields** and **Todd Teeters** along with **NW Chapter** member, **Paul McGovern**, joined **WDFW** staff **Chatten McPherson** and **Ryan Walker** to assemble an **ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)** blind at the **Drumheller Access of Rocky Ford Creek** at the **north end of Moses Lake**. Many thanks to all for your time and efforts!

Don't forget the **FREE Youth Shoot, tomorrow, Saturday, April 16, 2022**. See the Flyer on **Page 20**.

(Continued on Page 7)

Ken Shields works on a front panel of the reassembled ADA Blind. The blind is reservable for hunters on a qualified disabled list, who may call into the WDFW Ephrata District Office; make their reservation; and then obtain the combination to the locked gate.



Moses Lake News Continued



An ADA Blind was disassembled from an unusable location on Crab Creek; transported by truck; and reassembled at this site. WDFW employee Ryan Walker unloads a pre-fabbed portion (above).

(Right) Todd Teeters drills new holes for hinges for the only door at the back entrance of the blind.

(Below) Volunteers shore up the handicap access ramp to the blind, and all take a break to view the finished product, complete with roof.



News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

During the month of March, members of the **NW Chapter** have been performing maintenance on some of the many Wood Duck Nest Boxes deployed in the region. The locations range from local lakes, sloughs, private ponds, state and county wetlands.

Some of the box locations have proven to be successful each year, while others have had limited success. The less successful locations require us to redeploy the boxes to the more successful locations or to new locations. With wood products including cedar at a premium, the chapter didn't construct new boxes this year. If you have a lead on materials let us know.

Thanks to our volunteer members for the time they put forth for this conservation effort. If you would like to volunteer for these activities please contact me.



Ethan Lehman found egg shell fragments in this Wood Duck Nest Box on Ebey Island, a sign of a successful hatch.



Bradley Tormey and Ethan Lehman check this Wood Duck Nest Box on Sixteen Lake before refurbishing it.

Smith Island Cleanup Results

The **Washington Waterfowl Association** held its first **Smith Island** clean up on Saturday, March 26th. Members from several chapters converged on the area by boat, kayak and foot. We found everything from TV's to microwaves, large pieces of foam, abandoned tires, camper and car parts, and plenty more garbage.

Rob Wingard WFDW Private Lands Biologist was on hand with a large dump trailer to haul the trash away. A kayak launch at the south end of the area is one of the many private lands sites in the region.

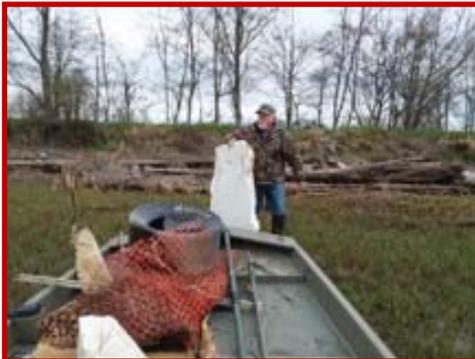
There were over 15 volunteers that made a positive impact on the area. It's a better place due to their efforts. This cleanup will be an annual event. Special Thanks to **Tom Elliott** for organizing the event and a **BIG THANK YOU** to all the volunteers that participated.

(Continued on Page 9)

NW Chapter News Continued



The terrain was tough going for volunteers at the Smith Island Cleanup. The trash that floated in, was blown in, or was just tossed, was varied and voluminous enough to fill a large dump trailer.



Samish Unit Clean Up — Saturday, April 30th

10:00 am, main parking lot

Site location - **12161 Samish Island Road, Bow, WA**

The **NW Chapter** is hosting a post hunting season cleanup of the **Skagit Wildlife Area (SWA)**. This is an annual cleanup and the focus will be on the **Samish Unit** — a large unit that sees a significant amount of waterfowl hunting throughout the season. Each year **WWA** volunteer members and non-members alike gather to remove hot-shell hulls and other trash from hunting blinds and elsewhere throughout the unit.

We will meet at the **Samish Unit** parking lot at 10:00 am. We'll focus on covering the entire unit including all the hunt blinds. Hip boots or calf high (**Muck Boots**) are necessary. **Skagit Wildlife Area Manager Greg Meis** will be on hand, and **WDFW** will provide trash bags and haul out.

We will also assess blind conditions for potential future maintenance. Maps with blind locations will be available. This is a great opportunity to walk the area in daylight and get familiar with for the upcoming waterfowl hunting season.

Hope for sun and bring the whole family for a good time. I'll bring the donuts, so grab your boots and lend a hand! Please pass this on to others. For information contact **Rick Billieu**, at rgbillieu@frontier.com

The **Northwest Chapter** meets on the second Wednesday each month. Our next meeting will be held on April 13th, at the **Twin Cities Sportsmens Club** starting at 7 pm. Raffle at the end of each meeting. See you there and bring a friend. Support your Passion!

Rick Billieu

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

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

March 19th Shillapoo Work Party Report

We had a small group gathering on March 19th to refurbish wood duck nest boxes on what began as a rainy Saturday morning. We met up at the parking area off **La Frambois Road**, where **Region 5 Wildlife Area Manger Daren Hauswald** and **Assistant Manager Zack Breitenstein** led the group of duck enthusiasts in the endeavor.

We were able to check all the boxes in that area and get them refurbished. Several of the boxes on steel poles were pushed over in an apparent act of vandalism. We found lots of eggs but low hatch counts. We may need to add an additional predator barrier cones on the poles.

Member **Bob Taylor** helped out and had already refurbished a good number boxes in **South Shillapoo** earlier in the week. Thanks to **Bob, Bill Dose, Michael Andreotti, Jack Whitney** and **Doug Hargin** for their help.

March Chapter Meeting

Colin Swanson, the District Issue Director for **US Representative Jaime Herrera Beutler's Office**, spoke at our

March meeting. He was there to receive input and suggestions to increase and improve hunting opportunities with federal dollars available for the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)**.

The issues discussed were increasing the blinds available to hunt and safer access to several blinds that are challenging to get to. We discussed the possibility of crops being reintroduced to the hunt area. The current model is natural sustainable plants and grazed/mowed pasture. Finally, the always obvious issue — finding federal dollars to fund any of these items.

Thanks to **Rick Scott** for putting together an outstanding gourmet roasted chicken salad buffet for the chapter meeting!

Other Ridgefield NWR News

Shut down and clean up of hunting blinds at **Ridgefield** — tentatively scheduled for an April 23rd work party have been bumped considerably down the calendar. In a recent update from **Ridgefield NWR Manager Juliette Fernandez**, we were informed that Cranes are nesting on the **Kiowa Trail** so we can't disturb them until late summer at the earliest. Any further update[s] will be sent by a bulk email to our chapter membership.

Other future work parties at **Ridgefield** include prep work and installation of the Black Box composite Pit Blinds including retro-fitting them with stairs and dog boxes. Stay tuned!

Turkey Season

If you're lucky enough to get out today or sometime before the season ends on May 31st, we need your input for the newsletter. Send us some of your photos; share a hunting story, and/or unusual experience. Found some new tech help or gear; advice and ideas you can share; experiences hunting other venues — whatever would interest you to read about in this newsletter.

Submit them to dlhargin@msn.com. Thank you!



(From Left) Michael Andreotti, Bill Dose, Zack Breitenstein, Jack Whitney, Daren Hauswald and Bob Taylor.

News for the Flock

Waterfowling Down Mexico Way...

By John Otto

a meadow with a huge pond on the left, and through the thin trees a massive salt water bay to the right.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article is reprinted with permission from WWA member John Otto from Facebook posts he made previously. Three (3) days of waterfowling in Mexico with the fine writing of John is presented for your enjoyment. Day #1 was published in the March 2022 Newsletter linked [here](#). This month features Day #2, and Day #3 will be presented in the May WWA Newsletter.

Day 2

After a successful first day, **Dave Drewry** and I now took what we learned and could expect into day two. Once again we met in the lobby of the resort at 5:30 am, only this time we were only going an hour away in a totally different area. Excited, we were off!

Arrived in full daylight and parked at the end of a grove of trees with a little trail... got ready... and headed off into the bush. Eighty (80) yards in and the trail opened into

We were instructed to shoot over the pond, and not back on the bay as that is a refuge. The bay was expansive and beautiful with only glimpses visible as we were in a bowl of cover. Of course we kicked 1,000 birds off the pond and flights off the bay were bombing in. The bird boys set up our chairs and simply said..."shootem!"

Our chairs were about 20 yards apart, and they threw about 20 decoys on the edge in front of us. We would later learn the water was about 4 feet deep in the entire pond. Dave and I threw our **Cinnamon Teal** dekes out in front of us, and the hunt was on. The teal were coming from our backs and the hope was they would see the decoys and circle back. The **Shovelers** and other puddlers came directly at us... some decoying, some 20 yards up on their way to the bay.

(Continued on Page 13)



(Above) The Pond on our left, only about 4 feet deep over its entirety. Saltwater Bay on our right (below)



Waterfowling in Mexico Continued



John's first Blue Wing Teal of the Day!
 "I was able to upgrade... If the day before belonged to the Green Wings... today was all about the Blues. Looking for nice crescent moon's was somewhat like hunting Barrow's... love it."



Unfortunately right now we are not able to bring back Black Bellied Tree Ducks over the border... so we didn't ask to target them. That said, we did say we would like to see some. I was down to 4 birds to complete my "Hunt41" list... BB Tree Duck, Fulvous Tree Duck, Mottled Duck... and a Swan. "Was" is the key word. Our guide took us to a green pepper field with a water run off and sure enough there was a pond with a few Black Bellied Whistlers on the edge. After a rather stealth sneak, both Dave and I were able to knock one down a piece... and for the first time in more than 15 years I was able to knock off a NEW SPECIES. Then... there was 3.

Rather a dull bill... but how strange?
 A cross between a duck and a goose really...
 cool and unique...

First bird my way was a nice **Blue Wing Teal**... I made short work of it and could tell it was a nice bird. I motioned "trophy!" and it was quickly retrieved. One minute later, I connected on another one... "trophy!" With a smile, he jumped back in the water. "**Muy Frio!!!**" Then the BIG flocks of **Shoveler** came...

Wanting to keep as many birds within my control at my seat, I purposely let the birds coming at me work deep so they would drop on land. Also this time, it was drake only. I remember the first **Pintail** that came was a hen... I hear... "**Pintail!** Shootem! Shootem!" I smile and passed only to see the look of what are you doing sir!!! all over **Oscar's** face... I tried to explain where I come from I shoot too many **Pintails**, and a hen is definitely not on the agenda. He nodded as to understand... until another came... "**Pintail!!** Shootem! Shootem!!" Haha... He wasn't getting it. That's ok...



Dave with a Mature, Cinny in Prime Colors!

Dave on the other hand was being really picky and also letting them get deep. He decided after he shot his **BWT** and his **Cinny** of the day that he was holding out for "different." He was able to take a nice **Wigeon**, a big **Gadwall**, and a nice **Pintail**. All I wanted was **Shoveler** and **BWT**, but couldn't pass the one pillow of a **Cinnamon** teal. "Trophy!"

After we reached our limit I quickly got some decent pictures, and it was back to the truck where we had our taquitos waiting for us... and some much needed cold beer. The hunt was again just the beginning of the day... back to the wives... beach... sun... and pool.

Have I mentioned **I WANT TO GO BACK!!!** One more day of hunting... and I can't imagine it gets better.

WWA 2021-22 Season Photo Contest



We had 21 people enter with 47 photos submitted for judging. First place went to a photo submitted by **Kurt Snyder**, but as **Kurt** was involved in the contest planning he did the generous (and honorable) thing and gave the win to the guy that took the picture — **Steven Frost!** **Steve's** photo is of 83-year-old **WWA** member **Captain Dick Jensen** getting plenty of love from **Steve's** lab **Maizy** as thanks for being allowed to retrieve **Dick's** bag limit of ducks!

In total there were 12 prizes awarded, and those winners and their chosen prizes are set forth on this and the following page. A complete viewing of the 47 submitted photos can be seen at the link [here](#). Who knows. Check them out. Your *fave's* may differ from the Judges!

Thanks to all the contestants as well as the prize donors, **Pacific Calls**; **Bruce Feagan**, who made the custom leather duck straps; and **WWA Stamp and Print Committee** — **Mike Bell** and **Earl Mikkelson** — for donation of the WA State Duck Stamp Prints.

(Continued on Page 15)

1st Place — Steven Frost — Chose a Pacific Duck Call as his prize.

3rd Place — Kevin Danis. Prize — 2021 WA State Duck Stamp Print.

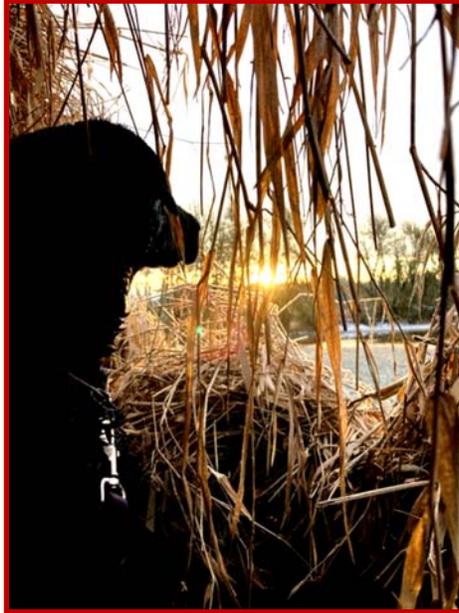


2nd Place — Jeffery Whitehead Prize — Custom Framed Print of his Photo.

WWA Photo Contest Continued



**4th Place — Harold Abell
Prize — Pacific Duck Call**



**5th Place — Craig Sheets
Prize — Duck Strap**



**6th Place — Logan Boone
Prize — 2020 WA Stamp Print**



**7th Place — Logan Boone
Prize — Duck Strap**



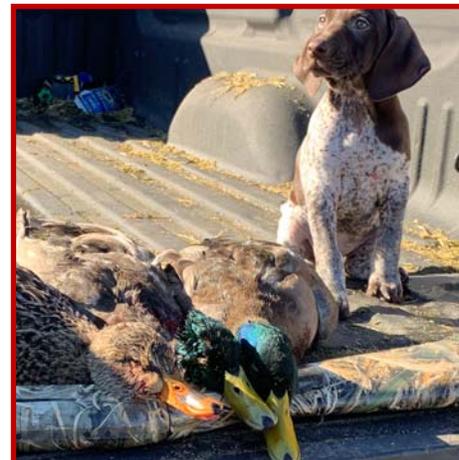
**8th Place — Nathan Neideigh
Prize — Duck Strap**



**9th Place — Harold Abell
Prize — Duck Strap**



**10th Place — Grant Duchesne
Prize — Filet Knife**



**11th Place — Chance Opsahl
No Prize Chosen Yet**



**12th Place — Terry Raynes
Prize — Duck Strap**

WDFW News

WDFW Commission Sets 2022-23 Migratory Gamebird Seasons

From Kyle Spragens
WDFW Waterfowl Section Manager

On Friday, April 8, 2022 the **WDFW Fish and Wildlife Commission** adopted proposals related to the **2022-2023 Migratory Gamebird Seasons and Regulations**. The adopted changes included:

Two specific adjustments related to sea duck and brant:

Harlequin duck will be closed to harvest based upon results of winter aerial surveys and the compliant-component of harvest record cards indicating annual harvest is above the 5% harvest threshold per the **WDFW Sea Duck Harvest Strategy**.

The Brant season in Skagit County will start closed as the most recent 3-year winter index has fallen below 3,000 brant. Brant season dates are shifted as late in the allowable framework window resulting in the potential open dates in **Skagit County** and known season dates in **Clallam and Whatcom counties** to move to January 21, 25, and 28, 2023.

You can watch the four (4) hour **Commission's April 8th Meeting** in full, or skip to Part 2 of the meeting between time marks, 2:58 and 3:21 re: **the setting the 2022-23 Waterfowl Seasons** [April 8, 2022 - Decision meeting](#)

Link to the Summary Sheet, which specifies the adopted recommendations above: [Migratory Waterfowl Seasons and Regulation - Summary Sheet](#)

Link to the Presentation slides: [Migratory Waterfowl Seasons and Regulations - Presentation slides](#)



Washington Wolf Packs top 200

From Staci Lehman
WDFW Public Affairs

As of Dec. 31, 2021, **WDFW**, partner agencies, and Tribes counted 206 wolves in 33 packs in Washington. Nineteen (19) of these were successful breeding pairs. This is up from 178 wolves in 29 packs and 16 breeding pairs in the 2020 count. The count marks the 13th consecutive year of increased wolf population in Washington, topping the 200 mark for the first time in modern history!

In 2019 and 2020, **Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR)** provided numbers based on hunter, trapper, and public observation. For 2021, **CTCR** reverted to counting wolves through activities like track, aerial, and camera surveys — the same methods **WDFW** uses for the annual wolf count. As a result, numbers from the two counts have been merged together for this most recent count.

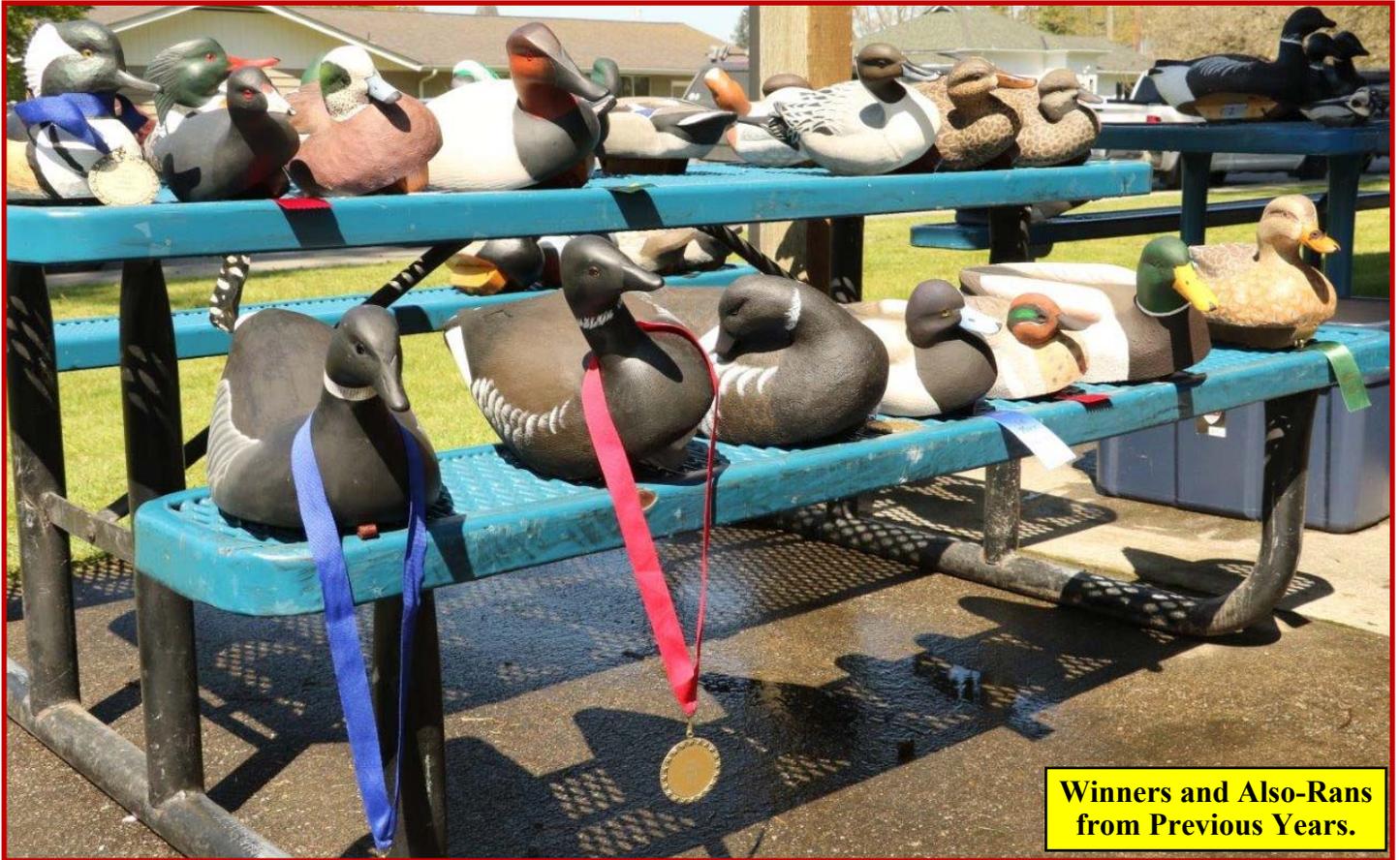
Because this is a minimum count, the actual number of wolves in Washington is higher. Since the first **WDFW** wolf survey in 2008, **the state's wolf population has grown by an average of 25 percent per year**.

Seventy-six percent (76%) of the known wolf packs in **Washington** were not involved in any known livestock depredation in 2021. Although eight (8) packs were involved in livestock depredation, six (6) of the eight (8) were involved in two (2) or fewer events each. As a result of depredations, two (2) wolves from the Columbia Pack were lethally removed in 2021; one by the **Department** and one by a landowner with a permit to lethally remove a wolf.

- Since 1980, gray wolves have been listed under state law as **endangered** throughout **Washington**.
- In January of 2021, wolves were federally **delisted** from federal **Endangered Species Act (ESA)** protection and **WDFW** resumed statewide management of the species.
- On February 10, 2022, wolves were federally **relisted** in the western two-thirds of the state and **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** once again has the lead role in the recovery of wolves in the **North Cascades** and the **Southern Cascades** and **Northwest Coast** recovery regions.

Contributors to **WDFW's** annual wolf report include the **USFWS**, the **National Park Service (NPS)**, the **Spokane Tribe of Indians**, and the **CTCR**.

WWA News Briefs



**Winners and Also-Rans
from Previous Years.**

Washington Brant Foundation Decoy Carving Competition

Saturday, May 14th, at: Maiben Park
1011 Greenleaf Avenue
Burlington, WA 98233

After a two-year hiatus due to **Covid-19**, the annual **Puget Sound Open Decoy Carving Contest / Festival** returns this May featuring entries from across the U.S.

This year's guest of honor is **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)** biologist **Chris Nicolai** from **Reno, Nevada**. **Chris** is well known as one of the most prolific banders of wild waterfowl ever in North America, and his involvement with cutting edge tracking technology. Also a master carver, he will bring some works to display and visit over.

Other special guests include nationally recognized carvers **Marty Hanson** from **Wisconsin**, and local **World Champion Tom Newell** of **LaConner**. Also attending will be expert **Mike Miller** with his books documenting the history of west coast decoys.

Competition classes include Novice, Pro, a special Mini Floating Decoy Swap, and the **Ducks Unlimited (DU)**

State Championship. Other displays will include our **WWA** mounted waterfowl display; **Air Strike Bird Control** live raptors, and various outdoor and decoy vendors as well as food booths and activities for kids' activities.

Judging ongoing from 10 am until noon, then at 12:30 pm the awards, live auction of decoys and related items, scholarship winners, and sponsor gun raffle.

Check in for contest entries is at 9 am. Funds generated support the **WA Brant Foundation's** scholarship program, field research, and public outreach which includes decoy carving classes through **Burlington Parks and Recreation Department**.

The "**Puget Sound Open**" is an opportunity for you to show off your carving skills or just have fun enjoying the decoys on display, vendors, raffles, silent and live auctions.

Carving contests are of Working Class decoys and include a Open Division and of course a Brant Division.

For more information including Contest Rules, Judging Criteria, Registration or the Festival go to: <http://www.wabrant.org/>

WWA Legislative News

WA Legislative Report

By Mark Pidgeon
President, Hunters Heritage Council

Editor's Note: This article is written entirely by the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)**, a Washington State based organization dedicated to political action on behalf of the hunting and related communities of Washington. The **Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA)** had no input into this article. This article is in this newsletter is because of **WWA's** membership in **Washingtonians for Wildlife Conservation (WWC)**. **WWC** is a member organization of **HHC**. The opinions contained in this article are entirely those of the author, and the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)**.

A Democrat and multi-year Hunters Heritage Council Legislator of the Year), **Blake** was a backstop in Olympia on hunting as well as gun laws (he's an **NRA Life Endowment Member**).

"Majorities matter, I am no longer there to protect our heritage," **Blake** states. "Hunters / Conservationists need to work for the future of our heritage or not. It is their call."

"Hunters have one chance. Will they get out on the ground and work for pro-hunting/conservation candidates from August through the election?" **Blake** asks. "Elections and hunting season happen simultaneously, and hunters need to participate in both if we are to retain our heritage."

Washington Hunters Urged To Get Involved In State Politics

I took this headline directly from an outstanding online editorial written by **Andy Walgamott** of **Northwest Sportsman Magazine** of the exact same name. The editorial focused on how hunters are losing opportunities, and the only way we are going to stop our rights from being taken away is by getting politically involved.

They quoted two (2) people specifically in this editorial — **Brian Lynn** from the **Sportsmen's Alliance**, a **Spokane** resident, and former **WA State House Legislator** and **HHC Hall of Fame member Brian Blake**.

I am going to take some quotes from **Brian Blake** as contained in that editorial:

*"The entire house is up this year and half the Senate," notes **Brian Blake**. "Every seat matters."*

*He should know. He's a former state legislator from **Aberdeen** who represented Washington's **South Coast** before being voted out of office during 2020's Republican sweep of the region.*

***Blake** foresees another wave election building this fall and advises sportsmen harness it.*

"Hunters should be door-belling for candidates and marching in parades with candidates. Work to elect legislators who can stop the anti-hunting agenda," he says.

The new animal-rights (**AR**) umbrella group, **Washington Wildlife First**, is very well-funded and well-organized, and they are a threat to our hunting heritage. Hunters have to be vigilant at all three (3) levels; the **Legislative** level, the **Commission** level, and the **Electioneering** level. The **HHC** is the political arm of the hunting community with their lobbyist in Olympia. **HHC** has a perfect record of killing every anti-hunting bill every year of their existence. They have done the work in the Legislative arena. It would be great if the **HHC** had pro-hunting majorities to work with. **Brian Blake** hit the nail on the head — majorities matter! We in the hunting community need to work hard to elect pro-hunting legislators and put the **AR** community on the defensive.

The Commission fight looks tough with the three (3) new radical anti-hunting Commissioners appointed by **Governor Inslee** and combined with rabidly anti-hunting **Commissioner Lorna Smith**; the prospects look even darker. Getting involved in electing pro-hunting candidates solves this problem too. The **State Senate** is the people's check and balance against the Governor. Right now, we have an **AR** person as **Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee**. Elections can change that. We can bring these radical Commissioners before the state senate and remove them.

This brings me back to my main point — Hunters need to get involved with electioneering! We all need to get involved this fall and work for pro-hunting candidates.

(Continued on Page 19)

Legislative News Continued

Whether you doorbell for them, make phone calls for them, or send them a contribution — help them in some way!

The Three T's

I have been involved in the political process for 46 years, and I can tell you it takes three "T's" to win a campaign; "Time," "Talent," and "Treasure." Pro-hunting candidates need volunteer hours to put up signs, doorbell, and other tasks. They need your "Time," the first "T."

If you are an outstanding graphic artist, have special press skills, or have outstanding fundraising skills, pro-hunting candidates can use your "Talent," the second "T."

Finally, pro-hunting candidates need money — a lot of it — in order to win their races. They need your "Treasure," the third "T."

As **Brian Blake** said, every seat matters, and this should be a wave election. We should fare very well this election. Get involved. Re-read the **Blake** quotes. Don't get discouraged by the **AR** groups, we will win.

"We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air, we shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills; we shall never surrender, and even if, which I do not for a moment believe, this Island, or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle, until, in God's good time, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old."

-- **Winston Churchill**

"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."

-- **Edmund Burke**

How Was Your Season

By Ross Barkhurst

Editor's Note: The article below is a follow-up to the previous article by Ross Barkhurst, "*Continuing Eelgrass Issues in Willapa Bay Affect Waterfowl*," published in the WWA January 2022 Newsletter and linked [here](#).

Worst Ever in Willapa Bay

In addition to eelgrass being sparse, it has now succumbed to *eelgrass wasting disease*. Ducks would not touch it. Opening day some 1,000 of ducks went by. Not one turned to work decoys in the sick grass. First time ever for an opening day!

After the tops died and washed away, some regrew from roots, and we got a few ducks. About 30% of our normal season numbers. There is a little grass out there now — 100% diseased again. Trace amounts of pesticides is one of the two (2) leading causes of eelgrass wasting disease.

Great to see **WA State Senate** bill [2SSB 5619, linked [here](#)] to map and restore kelp and eelgrass meadows both Puget Sound and Coast. Sponsored by six (6) Democrats, it passed almost unanimously and Governor Inslee signed it and its budget into law. A multi-year phased project, with the **WA Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** reporting to our WA Senate annually on progress.

Thank goodness the **WA Department of Ecology (DOE)** and **WDFW** were not put in the lead position. Maybe we have done some good?

Appreciate **WWA's** help in publishing information. However, we still will need to pay attention that **Gray's Harbor and Willapa Bay** do not get put on bottom of a long recovery priority list. The goal of bill is to restore 10,000 acres total — **Sound** and **Outer Coast** together.

I firmly believe the **WA State Senate** now knows **WDFW** and **Ecology** would never self-start on such a recovery. **Senator Kevin Van De Wege** (D-Sequim) as **Chairman of the Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee** and others took the lead.

Thanks again for **WWA** involvement.

News for the Flock

BROWNELL'S/NRA FREE YOUTH TRAP SHOOT

When: Saturday April 16th, 2022,

Time: From 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Where: **American Legion Quincy Gun Club**

14550 Road Q, N.W., Quincy, WA 98848

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

Youth Shooters must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Prizes, Give Aways and Food:

Youth Shooters will receive assorted **FREE** merchandise.

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

Have questions or for more information, contact either:

Dick Price: 509-762-9027 or **Tom O'Dell:** 509-764-8557

or: 206-465-6943

dickhunts@hotmail.com

Mallard1@qosi.net

Co-Sponsors

**Moses Lake Friends of the NRA,
Moses Lake Washington Waterfowl Assn,
Columbia Basin Pheasants Forever,
and the Quincy Gun Club.**

News for the Flock

The Hunter's Table

Pato En Mole!

By James Ono

I would never claim that this recipe is an authentic mole, but it seems to do the trick and is relatively easy to make. In this case, I used an **Instant Pot**, however it could easily be adapted for use in a crock pot, dutch oven, or stovetop pressure cooker.

It is pretty well known that the thighs and wings on a duck can be pretty tough. I have also found some recipes end up a little **gamey** when slow cooking to well done. The bold flavors of the mole sauce combine with the duck to eliminate any gaminess and create a rich, flavorful dish. I made this recipe with the thighs, legs, and wings from about two (2) ducks, but there is enough sauce to accommodate more. I would say you could safely use legs and wings from four (4) ducks or just legs from eight (8) ducks.

Ingredients

- 4 ducks worth of legs/thighs and wings
- Oil For Searing (use a high smoke point oil. I use Canola)
- 1 Yellow Onion chopped
- 4 Cloves Garlic chopped
- 1 cup of water or stock
- 1 can of Fire-roasted diced Tomatoes
- 2 Chipotle peppers + 1 Tbsp additional adobo sauce
- ¼ cup sliced almonds
- ¼ cup raisins
- 2 Tbsp unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 tsp Kosher Salt
- 1 tsp Cumin
- ½ tsp Ground Cinnamon; and
- Salt and Pepper



Instructions

1. Preheat your instant pot on sauté Hi, or preheat a skillet to med-hi and add oil to coat your pan.
2. Season your duck with salt and pepper
3. Add your duck to the pan. Be sure not to crowd the pan. Do it in batches if need be.
4. Brown your pieces of duck on both sides. About 3 minutes a side. You will want to see them really start to brown and caramelize.
5. Once done, set the duck aside.
6. Add the onions to the pan and sauté until softened. About 4 minutes
7. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant. About 30 seconds
8. Scrape the onions and garlic into a blender.
9. Add your stock to the pan/pot and scrape up any browned bits.
10. Pour this liquid into the blender as well.
11. Add the tomatoes, chipotle peppers, adobo sauce, almonds, raisins, cocoa powder, salt, cumin, and cinnamon to the blender.



12. Blend until smooth.
13. Lightly coat your instant pot with oil and place the duck in.
14. Pour the sauce over the top of the duck. Do NOT stir.
15. Set your instant pot to pressure cook Hi for 12 minutes then vent. (**Spoiler Alert:** Here is where the recipe will differ for crock pots, dutch ovens, and stovetop pressure cookers. Unfortunately I don't have any additional guidance for these methods, but I would guess for a crockpot 6-8 hours on low and about 2 hours in a dutch oven at 325).
16. Pull the duck out of the sauce and set aside.
17. Simmer the remaining sauce for about another 10 minutes until the sauce is nice and thick.
18. At this point you can pick the meat off the bones or leave it on.
19. This recipe can be eaten right off the bone, served with rice and beans or you can pick the meat and reincorporate it into the sauce and use it for tacos, burritos, enchiladas, or nachos.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Renew Online at www.waduck.org

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 Pidgeon** at marpwwa@gmail.com or call 425-221-3986.

WWA Life Members

#1 Gary Talbert G	#2 Paul Bunn S	#3 Austin Addicoat S	#4 Rone Brewer S	#5 Fritz Kiemle S
#6 Jim Cortines S	#7 Neco Villella S	#8 Roger Bennett S	#9 Bruce Feagan S	#10 Larry Gordon SD
#11 Rich Greenshields S	#12 Mike Lovelace S	#13 Larry Voeks D	#14 Jack Westerfield S	#15 Bud Hufnagel S
#16 John Arrabito S	#17 Jenny Lutz G	#18 Mike Lutz G	#19 Reserved on Time Payments	#20 Anonymous S
#21 Earl Mikkelson S	#22 US Rep Jaime Herrera Beutler H	#23 Ken Packard G	#24 Jan Sabin S	#25 Lance Kintrea
#26 Jim Kline	#27 Leon Kollman	#28 Derek Melton S	#29 Dan Stearns S	#30 John Hanson
#31 Mark Hackett	#32 Logan Sanday	#33 Mickey Clary	#34 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2022)	#35 Reserved for BQT Presentation (2022)
#36 Doug Graef S D	#37 Robb Stack S	#38 Rod Boyer	#39 Paul Sullivan	#40 Jessica Dunn Kant
#41 Dave Farley	#42 Will Goldsmith	#43 Shaunie Cochran	#44 Claudean Talbert	#45 William Dunlap S
#46 Analise Arrabito	#47 Robert Zeka	#48 Ron Watkins D	#49 Ken Boyer S	#50 Henry Field
#51 Ric Wray	#52 Rich Phillips	#53 Ross Barkhurst S	#54 Michael Bess	#55 In Memory of Anne Grichuhin
#56 Frank Gallo S	#57 David Irons S	#58 David Ragsdale	#59 Tim Koehler S	#60 Brad Davis
#61 James Ono	#62 Ann Bullard	#63 Vance Boyer	#64 Albert O'Connor	#65 Dick Smith

New Levels of Life Membership

Effective June 1, 2021, WWA converted to three (3) different levels of Life Membership acknowledging that **ALL** WWA Life memberships are **"Sustaining"** to the organization. Those three (3) new levels along with their respective emoluments are:

Bronze Level Life Membership — \$500.00 (USD)

Includes one **WWA Logo'd Belt Buckle** OR one **Pacific Calls WWA Logo'd Duck Call**.

Silver Level Life Membership — \$1,000.00 (USD)

Includes one **Pacific Calls WWA Logo'd Duck Call** AND one **WWA Logo'd embroidered "Life Member" Jacket**.

Gold Level Life Membership — \$2,000.00 (USD)

Includes one **Pacific Calls WWA Logo'd Duck Call**, AND one **WWA Logo'd embroidered "Life Member" Jacket**, AND one guided Duck or Goose hunt for one.

All will include the option to decline the gift[s] accompanying their respective membership in order to provide maximum financial support to **WWA**.

All formerly \$750 "Sustaining" Life Members were automatically "bumped up" to the new Silver Life Member Level with no additional necessary payment nor any new emoluments of membership awarded.

If you have a question about the level of your Life Membership as listed above, please contact **John Arrabito** at jarrabito@comcast.net or **Mark Pidgeon** at marpwwa@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you by researching **WWA** records to make sure that we have the correct information about your existing Life Membership support of **WWA**.

THANK YOU ALL for your "sustaining" support of the **Washington Waterfowl Association**.

Classified Ads – For Sale / Wanted

Wanted

Wanted shotgun & decoys. Contact Bryan, 253-590-3301

For Sale

Benelli 828 Over/Under 12ga. Beautiful gun. \$1900

Vortex Viper HSLR 4-16x50 Riflescope. \$500 obo
Trades considered.

Contact by email: stevecopps@gmail.com

Decoy collection. 6 wooden, 1 paper and 1 two-dimensional goose decoy. **Best offer.**

Text Ed at 1-360.489.8629 for photos

Mustang Floation Suit and Jackets. Unused – just stored.
These are \$200.00+ when purchased new.

\$ 50.00 each! Only Three (3) Left !!!
All proceeds go to Washington Waterfowl Association

Qty 1 – MJ6212 Size L (42-46) Bomber Style - Red/Yellow

Qty 1 – MC1530 Size S (34-38), Orange

Thermotic Floation Suit, GR Woodford, Also only \$ 50.00

Qty 1 – S3X-X35 Size S, Orange

Contact Rick at (425) 299-6704 or rgbillieu@frontier.com



FREE

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.
- Wanted and 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.



UPDATE: Yellow to Fox Red hunting AKC lab pups; Only 2 AKC male pups still available. Dad is a great pointing Lab. Best Hunting dog I have owned in 60 years. Puppies will be ready the end of April. Will be wormed, vaccinated and dewclaws will have been removed. Full registration will be

well taken care of by my son, who is a Dvm. We hunt our dogs.

Contact Steve, 509-303-9003.

Browning Citori, Model 725, S-3,
30" Barrells, Like New. Pictures and details upon request. **\$2,900**
Call or text Tim, 206 369 9105

Large Dakota, 283 dog kennel, \$375
Compare at \$499 — \$529
Call Zach, 253-691-9368

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 2022 Newsletter**.

WWA General Fund — \$1,727
Amazon Smile Contributions - \$178.73

WWA Habitat Fund — \$1,640

WWA Heritage Lands Fund — \$11,077

WWA Legal Fund — \$20,753.52

WWA Youth Fund — \$1,810

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.

TWIN RIVERS BIRD TAXIDERMÝ

Basic quotes for the mount are set. The customer is tasked with deciding a habitat and pose for their bird and a final quote can be decided once the habitat scene is narrowed down.

Bases are entirely custom, and the cost is also custom, by quote only!

Regular prices for the bird mount only (without a base) are:

- Duck mount is \$320.
- Seaducks & Mergansers are \$350.
- Goose mount is \$500.
- One pheasant mount is \$280.

Other Terms and Conditions:

- Bird sent in before Thanksgiving **NEED TO BE FROZEN** and **SHIPPED OVERNIGHT**. Afterwards two (2) day mail is OK.
- Birds **MUST** be placed in double ziplocks, with a filled out federal tag in the outer bag. Pen ink can bleed onto the bird.
- A list of other requirements will be sent and is to be signed by the hunter **PRIOR TO** any shipping and engagement of my services.
- I will not be held responsible for a bird that is lost to rot, extensive damage, heavy amounts of pinfeathers, dog bite or slobber damage, freezer burn nor any other damage caused by improper storage by the hunter prior to my receipt of the bird.



loran.navarro@yahoo.com

970-988-4717

Active Link to >>>: [Twin Rivers Bird Taxidermy FB Page](#)

Link to WDFW Regs

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.

2022 Spring Turkey Hunt Regs Are [Linked Here](#)



OLD SKAGIT GUN CLUB
 14933 Josh-Wilson Rd
 Burlington WA 98233
 (360) 757-4326



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




TWIN CITY SPORTSMENS CLUB
 STANWOOD WA

26933 64th Ave NW
 Stanwood, WA 98292
 (360) 629-3474

www.tcsportsmanclub.org



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
 - Bronze Lifetime* — \$ 500.00 (New, 6/1/2021)**
 - Silver Lifetime* — \$ 1,000.00 (New, 6/1/2021)**
 - Gold Lifetime* — \$ 2,000.00 (New, 6/1/2021)**
 - ** Please check box if you do not wish to receive a gift.**
 - Senior (65 or over) - \$ 15.00
 - Junior (under age 18) -- \$ 15.00
 - 2-Year Regular \$ 50.00
 - 2-Year Family \$ 60.00
- (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 Quarterly TBD.
- Northwest Chapter** meets year round the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the **Twin City Sportsmen’s Club**, 26933 64th Ave NW Stanwood.
- Peninsula Chapter — VACANT**
- Seattle Chapter** meets the 4th Monday of the month (Jan – Oct) at **Kenmore Shotgun Range**, 1031 – 228th Street SW, Bothell.
- Southwest Chapter** meets on the last Tuesday of the month (Feb – Sept) at the **Tacoma Sportsmen’s Club**, 16409 Canyon Road E., Puyallup.
- Spokane Chapter — VACANT**
- Tri Cities Chapter — VACANT**
- Wenatchee 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
- Nine (9) active 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 Hunter Mentor one-on-one waterfowl hunting activities for those new to the sport
- 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 Sportsmens’ Shows painting decoys, and with seriously ill youngsters on a decoy painting project
- Providing full 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 waterfowling hunt 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 Sportsmens’ Shows annually
- Donation of funds and volunteer man hours for Swan Mortality Mitigation Studies
- Donation of funds and volunteer 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, boots on the ground” conservation projects.