

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

501(c)(3) tax exempt

ESTABLISHED 1945

Volume 31, Issue 3

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

March 15, 2022



P.O. Box 40182
Bellevue, WA 98015

Letter from the President



CORPORATE OFFICERS

James Ono, President (425) 233-5936
Mark Pidgeon, VP (425) 221-3986
Bob Taylor, Secretary (360) 798-5342
John Arrabito, Treasurer (425) 894-4080

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rick Billieu (NW) (360) 653-8571
Bruce Burns (SW) (253) 961-8802
Bruce Feagan (ML) (206) 714-8020
Paul McGovern (NW) (425) 361-5050
Earl Mikkelsen (SW) (253) 862-4509
Nathan Neideigh (SW) (253) 229-5794
Al O'Connor (LC) (360) 907-9244
Dick Price (ML) (509) 762-9027
Kurt Snyder (GH) (360) 485-9353

CHAPTER CONTACTS

Grays Harbor Chapter
Chair Kurt Snyder (360) 485-9353

Kitsap Peninsula Chapter
Chair **VACANT**

Lower Columbia Chapter
Chair Ted Blade (360) 573-5259

Moses Lake Chapter
Chair Bruce Feagan (206) 714-8020
Proj. Coord. Dick Price (509) 762-9027

Northwest Chapter
Chair Rick Billieu (360) 653-8571

Seattle Chapter
Chair Nick Brown (425) 765-0151

Southwest Chapter
Chair Bruce Burns (253) 961-8802

Spokane Chapter
Chair **VACANT**

Wenatchee Chapter (NEW)
Chair Cameron Way (425) 941-7853

Whatcom Chapter
Chair Lyle Galloway (360) 201-1775

Yakima Valley Chapter
Chair Marcus Leuck (509) 899-7284

Greetings, Washington Waterfowlers!

It is really starting to feel like spring. The weather is getting nicer, and it is still light when I get off work. With the waterfowl season in the rearview mirror, I am looking forward to getting after some 'thunder chickens' and 'ditch pickles.'

Just as exciting are the many upcoming **WWA** events and work parties. I was able to make it out to service some wood duck boxes with the **Seattle Chapter** and **Boy Scout Troop 573**. I am also looking forward to the **Youth Duck Calling Contest** at the **Sumner Sportsmen's Club**, hosted by the **WWA-Southwest Chapter** this Saturday, March 19th. (See Flyer on **Page 11**)

Thank You for Speaking Up

I want to express my gratitude for everyone who engaged in and continues to engage in our political processes. In the last few newsletters, we have talked about the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Commission**, spring bear seasons (See story on **Page 17**), **WDFW** regulation changes, and a number of firearm and hunting related bills in the **WA State Legislature**. I received multiple emails from people who went through the process to make sure that the voices of hunters are heard. I cannot express how important I think this is. I am very grateful and proud to be a part of an organization where people care and show up to represent hunters.

Complimentary Duck Stamp

The mandatory deadline (**March 31, 2022**) is approaching quickly. If you would like to receive your complimentary copy of the **2021-2022 Washington State Duck Stamp**, mail a copy of your hunting license showing your purchase of the migratory bird permit, along with a self-addressed and stamped envelope to the address below:

WWA Duck Stamp Program
18207 Rhodes Lake Road East
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

(Continued on Page 2)

MISSION STATEMENT

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

News for the Flock

2022 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Sat, Mar 19 Youth Duck Calling Contest
Sumner Gun Club
See Flyer on [Page 11](#)
- Sat, Mar 19 LC Chapter Wood Duck Nest Box
Maintenance Work Party
Vancouver Lake, See [Page 13](#)
- Mon, Mar 28 **In Person** Seattle Chapter Meeting
Kenmore Gun Range.
- Tues, Mar 29 **In Person** SW Chapter Meeting,
Education Building, Tacoma
Sportsmen’s Club
- Thurs, Mar 31 Usual LC Chapter Meeting. Check
for Email blast for particulars.
- Sat, April 2 DU Fun Shoot, Granite Falls
Sportsmen’s Club
- Tues, April 5 Usual Whatcom County Chapter
Meeting, Laurel Farm & Western
Supply in Bellingham; 6:30 pm
- Weds, April 6 **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, April 7 **Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting,**
7 pm., **Evergreen Sportsmen’s Club,**
- Fri, April 8 **Moses Lake Chapter Work Party**
ADA Blind re-assembly at the
Drumheller location. See ML
Chapter News at [Page 3](#)
- Weds, April 13 **In Person** NW Chapter Meeting,
Twin Cities Sportsmen’s Club,
Stanwood, WA
- 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 22](#)
- Sat, May 14 **WA Brant Foundation’s Decoy**
Carving Contest and Festival,
at **Maiben Park, 1011 Greenleaf**
Avenue, **Burlington, WA 98233.**
See [Page 13](#). More Info linked [here](#).

IN THIS EDITION

(Click on the Page Number[s] for Active [Links](#) to be immediately directed to the page of your choice)

- Page [13](#) WA Brant Decoy Carving Contest
- Pages [14 & 15](#) Waterfowling in Mexico
- Page [16](#) Waterfowl News from Nisqually
- Page [17](#) WDFW News—Spring Bear Update
- Pages [18 & 19](#) WA Legislative Report
- Pages [20 & 21](#) 2021-22 Duck Stamp & Print Info
- Page [23](#) Recipe of the Month
- Page [24](#) Flyer, WWA Photo Contest
- Page [25](#) WWA Classifieds
- Page [26](#) WWA Life Members
- Page [27](#) Donations to WWA
- Page [28](#) Turkey Hunt Season Regs [linked](#)
- Page [29](#) WWA Membership Application

(President’s Letter Continued from Page 1)

T-Shirt Design

We are looking to expand our offerings on our online store. We would love to sell some merchandise that has more than just our logo on it, but we do not have much graphic design expertise. If you have an idea for a design or if you have some skill and the tools to help us create the graphic, we could really use your help.

Sign Up to Mentor Someone Next Season

I mentioned it last month, and I will mention it again. This has been a really great program for recruiting new hunters and new members. However, in order for this program to work and grow, we need mentors and are starting early. Please sign up as a mentor for next season by emailing our **Mentorship Coordinator, Paul McGovern**, at Hans1031@frontier.com.

For the Resource,

James Ono
WWA President

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

From: Dick Price and Bruce Feagan

Potholes Pubic Launch Work Party

On Saturday, March 12th, the **WWA-ML Chapter** did a litter pickup at the **Blyth Boat Ramp at Potholes Reservoir**. An unbelievable pickup-load of garbage picked up from a morning's work! Which begs the question – What kind of sportsmen/women dump eight (8) tires as garbage at a public boat launch?

ADA Blind Reconstruction

On Friday, April 8th, a small crew will reassemble the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** blind at the **Drumheller** location. Small hand tools will be needed for the reassembly effort. Contact either **Bruce** or **Dick** (See contact phone numbers on **Page 1**) to if you are available, and we'll get back to you when we get the crew assembled.

FREE Youth Shoot, April 16, 2022. See the Flyer on **Page 22**.



Fritz Kiemle (Left) — Mark and Stephanie Olmstead (Right)



News For the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By Nick Brown

With late Snow Goose season behind us, its officially a wrap for the year. I wish our members good luck in the pursuit of the gobblers.

Last month's meeting a few were fortunate to hear **WDFW Waterfowl Section Manager, Kyle Spragens**, information loaded presentation. Topics featured were, pintail production, local mallard production, and the role that federal, state and even more local government play in regulation. The **WWA-Seattle Chapter** looks forward to collaborating with **Kyle** on some conservation efforts moving forward.

At the beginning of the month I was offered an invite to set up a **WWA** table at **Skookum Brewery** for a pint night hosted by **Backcountry Hunters and Anglers** and **PNWild**. The event boasted a 200+ attendance which gave me the opportunity of meeting some of our members in person, and recruiting a few more potential members.

I got to have some great conversations with current duck hunters and gave loads of information out to future duck hunters. Given the positions taken by the **WDFW Commission** and the commissioners being appointed, I feel it more important than ever before that we partner with other hunting organizations locally.

Wood Duck Nest Box Work Party

Last month **Boy Scout Troop 573**, were hosted by chapter members **Chris German**, and **Bob Hazelbrook** in an opportunity to do some "hands on" conservation field work on our wood duck nesting boxes in the **Cherry Valley Unit** of the **Snoqualmie Wildlife Area**.

Bob gave me the following report to share with our members. Unfortunately, the boxes maintained at **Cherry**



Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
and PNWild — 200+ Strong!

Valley didn't do great, but we were able to relocate two (2) boxes and repair three (3) more. In the **Stillwater Unit**, we saw much better results with 10 of the boxes being used by wood ducks over the past year. Huge thanks to all of the volunteers on this project!

Next Meeting is Monday, March 28th

Just a heads up for this month's chapter meeting at the **Kenmore Gun Range** on Monday the 28th. Trap and 5-stand shooting all afternoon. We have the range exclusively from 5 pm to 7 p.m. as usual, followed by our business meeting. Pizza is back on the menu, so be sure to bring your \$5 donation for the pizza fund.

Also you might want to continue to bring your own ammo as shells at the range will still most likely be nil.

Hope to see all of you there.

Nick Brown
Nickibb92@gmail.com



Volunteers at Cherry Valley
from Boy Scout Troop 573

Continued Seattle Chapter News

Urban & Rural Nest Boxes

By Paul McGovern



Saturday, March 5, 2021, my daughter **Kaylee** came with me for a canoe ride all the way down from **Bothell Landing** into **Kenmore** and back to view ducks, and helped me put new shavings in the Wood Duck Nest Boxes (with a canoe paddle assist, lol)!

One nest box had feathers and egg shells from last season. The second box had a few feathers and shells. The boxes were put up in the along the trail/slough right in the **Bothell Landing** area by myself two (2) year ago, with no noticeable success their first year. Last year I raised the boxes two (2) feet using 10' 4x4's. This year I recorded my first successes!

I'm trying to work with the **Kenmore Parks Department**. The **City of Kenmore** is doing a restoration there, and I'll be putting duck nest boxes there also when they are finished.

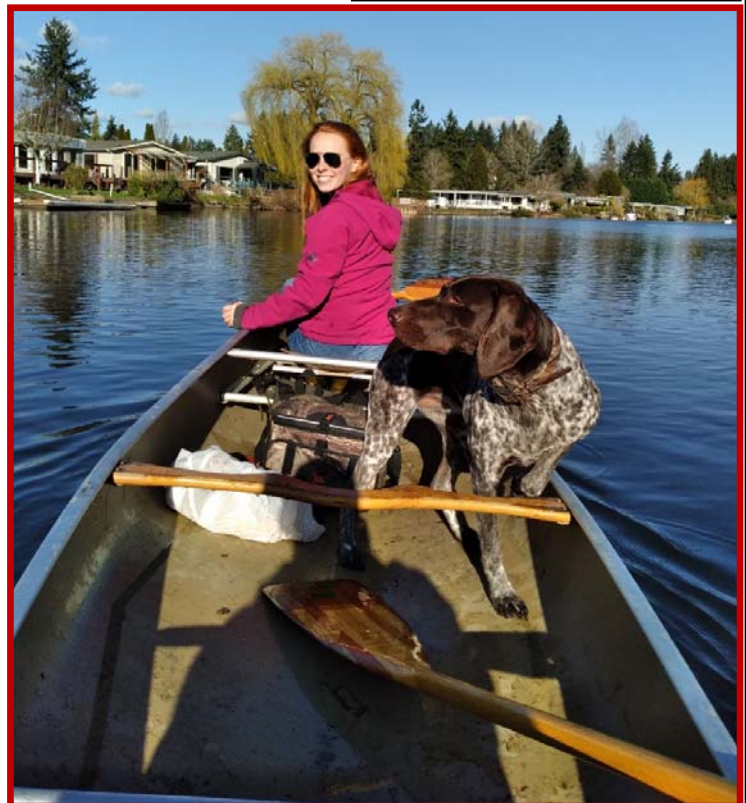
On Sunday, March 6th I found two (2) old wood duck nest boxes at **DeBays Slough** in rural **Skagit, County**, in addition to the box which my Mentee during the 2020-2021 season, **Matt Reat**, and I installed in September of 2021. One needed a new roof board. Someone had used telephone pole spikes on the trees to previously check the nests – no ladder needed, apparently.

There were feathers in the old boxes along with leaves — evidently put here by the ducks themselves as these nests hadn't been serviced with cedar chips and shavings since 2017 and 2019, according to the metal service markers attached to the boxes.

One tree was also marked with tape and also had spike marks, but the nest box at that location is missing. I might go back later this spring by boat and add a 4th box.



Successful Nest Box hatch



Kaylee McGovern and German Shorthair Pointer (GSP) Mabel on the dog's first boat ride!

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

Shillapoo Area Work Party Saturday March 19th

We will gather at 8:00 am, Saturday March 19th at the parking area off **La Frambois Road**. We will be cleaning out and refurbishing as many of the 80 duck boxes as possible. Bring your gloves, waders, buckets and hedge shears, (for possible blackberry vines).

March Chapter Meeting Features Colin Swanson

Colin is the **District Issue Director** for **U.S. Rep Jaime Herrera Beutler's Office**. He will be interested in input and suggestions to increase and improve hunting opportunities with federal dollars available for the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)**.

Ridgefield Shut Down and Clean Up Still on Hold

Covid is still having its way with our ability to work at the refuge. We are close to being allowed to gather and clean up and shut down the refuge. Other future work parties will be to prep the *Black Box Pit Blinds* for installation and build accompanying dog boxes. Stay tuned!

Turkey Talk

At our February meeting chapter member, **Al O'Conner** shared some techniques, insights and personal antidotes to help you get a turkey this spring. **Al** shared his **Klickitat County** turkey hunting experiences. One aspect of his success involved working with land owners over time to build trust and a relationship to get access to productive areas. See photos of **Al's Turkey Trophies!**

He mentioned using wing feathers from a past bird to make two (2) wing fans to attract turkeys. **Al** explained that the wing flapping noises are done behind cover and act much like rattling antlers for deer or elk hunting. He explained that this technique had enticed some big gobblers to finish that previously were too cautious to come within range.

Thank you Ted Blade

We presented outgoing Chapter Chairman (since 2015 and Vice-Chair prior) **Ted Blade** a thank you gift for his many years of service to our chapter and to **WWA**. **Al O'Conner** created a custom frame for the **2018 Washington State Duck Stamp** print with a thank you plaque. As mentioned last month, **Ted** is moving to Alabama. **Former Chapter Chair, Rick Scott**, will serve in his place until we have spring elections.

Please Contribute

We need your input for the newsletter. Hunting stories, unusual experiences and/or photos. New tech help and 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!



(Display by Al O'Connor)
On the left is a 12# hen fan, egg, legs, and beard.
In the center is a painting of a black lab on tail feathers of turkey, which Al received as a gift.
On the right is a 19.5# gobbler fan, legs with spurs, and beard.

LC Chapter News Continued

The spray equipment is mounted on a 1.5 ton truck. Daren hauled water to the spray crew, and this provided more spraying time. The herbicide mixture they used is Triclopyr Amine and Amino-pyralid, which is quite expensive. A blue dye was added to the herbicide mixture to mark the areas sprayed and prevent double spraying. The two blue spray streams are visible in the photograph at the right.



‘Blue’ Blackberry Busters – (Follow Up from Story in [October 2021 WWA Newsletter](#)).

By Albert O’Connor

In late September 2021 the **WWA-Lower Columbia Chapter** voted to provide \$1,500 in funding to pay a Contractor — **Wildlife Habitat Management, LLC** — for a truck and 3-man crew for one day of spraying blackberries on the west side of **Bass Lake** in the **Shillapoo Wildlife Area**. **Bass Lake** is beyond the end of the spray streams (east). A portion of the corn is left by the farmer (with a contract with **WDFW**) in strips for wildlife.

Spraying and burning the blackberries will provide better access for hunters as well as increasing the foraging sight distance for waterfowl. This spraying also allows **Daren Hauswald, WDFW Manager for the Shillapoo**, to plant grass in these areas which will provide forage for geese, sandhill cranes and habitat for other wildlife. **Daren** chose this particular area for professional spraying. He and chapter member **Bob Taylor** sprayed the blackberries on the other

side (lake side) earlier and maintained the required (and mostly greater) buffer distance from the lake.

Bass Lake is beyond the end of the spray streams (east), and the spray crew maintained the required (or greater) buffer distance from the lake. It is an excellent location for winter and migrating waterfowl.

There is typically water in the lake during the late fall, winter, spring, and early summer. **Daren** confirmed the lake usually contains its namesake — bass.

However currently the lake is largely a mudflat. **Daren** — who has been working at **Shillapoo** for more than 20 years — said this is the lowest he has ever seen the water level in **Bass Lake!**



West side of Bass Lake shows where the contractor sprayed the blackberries on the left. They appear as brown vegetation. Daren says that he will probably burn the dead blackberry bushes next spring. WDFW has an agreement with a local farmer to plant corn here, which they cut for silage and recently disked before spraying.

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

March Chapter Meeting

We had two guest speakers from the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** at our March 9th Chapter meeting at the **Twin City Sportsmens Club** in **Stanwood**.

Rob Wingard—WDFW Private Lands Biologist, Region 4,

Rob provided the attendees with information on the **Private Lands hunting Program** linked [here](#). This is a state-wide program that provides the public with opportunities to hunt at private properties. Land owners in partnership with **WDFW** allow public hunting on their properties.

The properties are located in **Snohomish, Skagit** and **Whatcom** counties. There were 75 hunt sites in the program during the 2021/22 season; 65 of the sites were **"Register to Hunt"** locations with the remainder being **"Hunt by Reservation."** Many of the locations were successfully used by **WWA** members during the hunt season and survey cards at each location indicated good hunting opportunities.

The program is currently financed through the **Farm Bill and Duck Stamp** funds. This program currently provides a significant amount of forage crops for waterfowl in our state.

Greg Meis – Skagit Wildlife Area (SWA) Manager

Greg recently accepted the position of Manager for the **SWA**, after spending many years as the assistant manager. **Greg** touched on several of the projects at the **SWA** including grain planting at the **Samish Unit**. The unit will be prepped for this year's plantings, and **Greg** anticipates additional crop acreage this year.

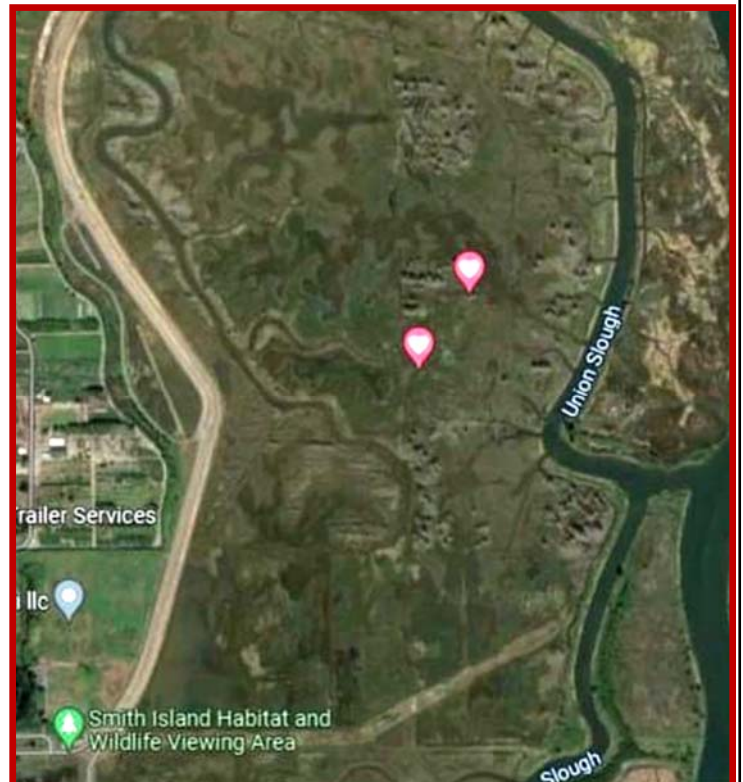
Greg also spoke about future **Milltown Island** restoration development and accessibility for hunting the island. He also anticipates maximizing forage crop planting on the **Island Unit's West Island**, however there will be a reduction in forage crop planting on the **East Island** due to the dike breach last season. No other significant changes affecting other units of the wildlife area are expected.

Members bombarded **Rob** and **Greg** with lots of questions and received valuable information. Thank You **Rob** and **Greg** for attending our meeting.

April/May Chapter Activity

We will hold our annual hunt area cleanup at the **Smith Island** restoration area this month, and the **Skagit Wildlife Area (SWA)** in April. During the cleanup activity we will assess the conditions of the hunting blinds for maintenance necessary prior to the next season. Trash Bags will be provided.

Smith Island — Saturday, March 26th



Smith Island Restoration Area

WWA is holding its first **Smith Island** clean up. Boats will be meeting at the **Marysville Waterfront Park Boat Ramp** at 9 am. **Tom Elliott** from **WWA** will be managing the boats from the launch and lead the water clean up off **Union Slough**. Trash bags will be provided. Wear mud boots or waders. Additional boats to transport volunteers to the location would be appreciated.

Kayaker's and hikers will meet at the **Smith Island** habit and wildlife viewing area at 9 am. **Rob Wingard**, will be on hand at the viewing area to answer questions and manage the dike clean up. The goal is to pick up as much trash off the dike and water as possible.

(Continued on Page 9)

NW Chapter News Continued

Johnson/DeBay's Slough— **Saturday, April 9th**

10:00 am main parking lot

Site location - 22767 Francis Road, Mt Vernon, WA

WDFW, Wildlife Program - Waterfowl Section

PO Box 43141

Olympia, WA 98504.

Reports need to be postmarked by the reporting deadlines **even if you did not harvest any birds.**

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.

Rick Billieu

rgbillieu@frontier.com

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

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

Support your Passion – Get Involved



Bucket of Cedar Shavings. Ladder. Dog pointing the way up DeBays Slough. On Sunday, March 6th, Paul McGovern and his trusty GSP, Mabel, found two (2) old wood duck nest boxes at DeBays Slough & refurbished them.

Samish Unit — **Saturday, April 16th**

10:00 am main parking lot

Site location - 12161 Samish Island Road, Bow, WA

Mandatory Reporting Deadlines

Don't forget to report your waterfowl harvest!!

Sea Duck, SW Canada Goose, Snow Goose and Brant due by **March 20, 2022**. You must report hunting activity on your harvest record cards to **WDFW** using the online reporting system at: fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/, or by mailing the cards to:

News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

The **Southwest Chapter** is working on plans for the upcoming **Youth Duck Calling Contest/Clinic** that we are hosting on March 19th at the **Sumner Sportsmen's Club (SSC)** linked [here](#). (SSC actually has a **Puyallup** address — **15711 96th Street East, Puyallup, WA 98372** — for your **GPS** purposes).

This event is for youth 16 and younger. We will have some fun prizes; lunch will be provided; and youth will also have the chance to shoot some sporting clays **FREE** of charge. This is a great chance to get out of the house / school and have a fun day!

We still need some additional volunteers to help out. If you can spare a Saturday morning, the contact information for **Nathan Neideigh** or myself is contained on the **Flyer** on the adjacent **Page 11**.

March Chapter Meeting

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 29th at 6:30 pm in the **Hunters' Education Building** at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** linked [here](#).

(From right)
Billy Walker, his father, Don Walker, and NW Chapter Chair Rick Billieu joined Whatcom Co. Chapter Chair Lyle Galloway (at left) in a Saturday, February 19th cleanup of Lake Terrell.
(Photo by R. Billieu)

Wenatchee Chapter News

By: Cameron Way

The new and recently formed Wenatchee Chapter will be holding their quarterly meeting on Wednesday, March 16th.

Time: 6:30 pm to approx. 8:00 pm
Location: Saddle Rock Pub and Brewery
25 N Wenatchee Avenue
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Spokane Chapter News

Yakima County Chapter News

No News This Month



News for the Flock

2022 Youth Duck Calling Contest

Saturday
March 19th

**FUN
PRIZES**

Calling Seminar
Calling contest
Lunch
Sporting clay
shoot

***MUST PROVIDE
OWN AMMO
AND SHOTGUN***

LOCATION:
Sumner Sportmen's Club
15711 96th Street East,
Puyallup, WA
98372



**Presented By
Washington Waterfowl
Assoc. and Sumner
Sportmen's Club**

**@9AM
Registration
@8:30**

Nathan Neideigh
(253)229-5794
Bruce Burns
(253)961-8802

**FREE YOUTH
EVENT AGES
16 AND
YOUNGER**

News for the Flock

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Hi all.

Well, all the waterfowl seasons are now over and it's time to look forward. Looking forward to the turkey season that is. Check out the beautiful turkey calls pictured here! I hope the wolf population leaves some for the taking!

This past waterfowl season — which got off to a late start for me because of a hand injury — turned out to be a memorable one as I got to hunt with some new people along with the old and in general had a great season! We had some hunts with ducks and geese in our faces, and we solved a lot of the world problems in the blinds.

One problem we have been experiencing is the constant onslaught of anti-hunting and anti-gun people that don't want you to have your right to fish and hunt and shoot your guns. Another problem is that our **Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)** has placed one wild species ahead of another. WAY ahead. The waterfowl have lost a lot of wintering territory to repeated, failed salmon restoration.

Some of these areas were bought, paid for and are maintained just for wildfowl. Not for salmon. Not for frogs, butterflies, gophers or even people.

WATERFOWL !!

And it was all done politically. So, what to do. Some things we can do are joining the fight for the waterfowl; write letters; and join organizations; and produce waterfowl with nesting programs. Is all this enough? Probably not, but on we must go; and politically we must get involved. The waterfowl are counting on **US!**

Our state government has no use for the law when it comes to what **THEY** want. The proof is all around us. We have to prevail, because once we lose a right it is gone forever. I personally believe that our hunting is a right — not a privilege. It's all under attack from organizations that don't think you should have a right to hunt, fish or shoot. All you have to do is keep track of all the many bills that go to legislation each year to see that this is true. Please vote with these things in mind.

At our last meeting we started the planning for our annual "**Colton Smith Memorial Youth Shoot.**" It's a 50-shot course on the trap and sporting clays ranges that is **FREE** for the kids 15 and under. Shooting, prizes, food, and good company will be the order of the day.

I should have an event flyer out by the next newsletter. Right now, the tentative dates are the 21st or 28th of August! Adults can shoot the course also for a small target fee.

Thank you all for your continued support! With your help we will prevail.

Kurt Snyder
kurtsnyder@outdrs.net



Tools of the Turkey Hunting Trade.
WA Spring Season runs from April 15th thru May 31, 2022. See Regs linked [here](#).
Photos courtesy of Ohio call maker Dave Nebraska. Check out his Facebook page, linked [here](#).

WWA News Briefs

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 such as **Jerry Corrión**, **Dennis Fisk**, and **Craig Cimmiyotti** from **Oregon**. Food booths and kids' activities available.

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.wabrnt.org/>

WWA-LC Chapter Hosts Wood Duck Nest Box Work Party

Saturday, March 19th, at: **Vancouver Lake**
 Meet at 8 am at the end of
LaFrambois Road, near the
Vancouver Lake boat launch

Vancouver Lake is located just west of **Vancouver**, Washington, north of the **Columbia River** and **Portland**, south of **Ridgefield**, WA, and the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)**.

TAXIDERMIST FACEBOOK 

- BIRDS
SPECIALIZING
IN WATERFOWL
- MAMMALS
- TANNED SKINS/ RUGS
- SKULLS/ ANTLERS



**Whidbey Island
TAXIDERMY**
 1685 CARLTON WAY
 OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON
 98277

SHOP 360.675.9008
 CELL 360.672.5100 WWW.WHIDBEYISLANDTAXIDERM.COM

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

Waterfowling Down Mexico Way...

By John Otto

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article is reprinted with permission from WWA member John Otto from Facebook posts he made previously. Each day of three (3) days of duck hunting in Mexico will be printed in this and the next two (2) consecutive Newsletters.

Day 1 – Two hours south of Mazatlan on the Pacific Coast

My wife, **Toni** and I just recently got back from 8 days in sunny Mexico...a much needed get away and timed for obvious reasons. Within those 8 days were some of the most amazing ducks hunts I have ever experienced. Accompanying us were [WWA member] **Captain Dave Drewry** of [Peninsula Sportsman](#) and his wife, **Tiffany**.

Each hunt was designed for two. We arrived on a Wednesday afternoon and were able to spend a day and a half getting acclimated. Day 1 was Friday morning...

We left the hotel resort at 5:30 am as the sun was coming up and were told we had a 1.5 hour drive. After some sketchy highway combat driving, then through an endless rough desert road, we reached the marsh that seemed to be hidden in the middle of no where. It was clear we were going to hunt a fresh water marsh that was only a mile away from a big salt water bay. The birds were trading back and forth to get a drink and rest. We literally kicked off 5,000 birds, which also included MANY different storks, pelicans, you name it. A bird watchers paradise!

Twenty minutes into the hunt I was concerned. It was already 70 degrees...ZERO wind...glass water...and NO birds returning. My first thought...oh boy...my luck, the first



Started on a high note! John Otto with his first bird of the trip — a nice drake Cinny!

guy to hunt Mexico and get SKUNKED. HAHA. **Dave**, who is always the optimist, was like, “don’t worry, it will happen...” with a smile.

And happen it did. First it was a hen shoveler here, a hen GWT there. A really nice Drake Shoveler dive bombed our rickety blind solo...not seeing drakes of this magnitude very often, it was stark and raw. The white was beaming! Little did we know what we were in for. **Dave** knocked down the first bird of the trip, and it was like turning on the faucet. After he shot that, he put me on the Cinnamon and Shoveler pot for my first.

We were told Cinnamons will come, but unlike the other species, they are the trophy here and unlike what everyone has heard, are not “everywhere.” The bird boys who were now behind us came alive... “Shootem! Shootem!” (This phrase with that accent will be burned into my mind forever!) Then in unison they were yelling “Cinny! Cinny!”

I panicked! I haven’t panicked in quite some time! I have shot many Cinnamon Teal through the years, but only 1 or 2 with any decent color...and this...well this one was COLORED. I pulled up...bang! Miss! Bang! Miss! I focused... third shot...Bang! Hit!! What was amazing was **Dave’s** restraint...most would have shot after that first miss!! (Talking to you **Sean Carr!!** HAHA) and deservedly so! I think I thanked him for that the rest of the trip, my first bird in country was a red teal.



John and Dave each shot the Teal Slam on the first day of the trip. Pictured is John’s Slam framed by the 2 hand carved decoys they brought to Mexico with them!

(Continued on **Page 15**)

Waterfowling in Mexico Continued



really didn't care, but they did. A teal hit the outside of the rig with the sun in my eyes, and skirted away just as quick...I gave it a Hail Mary and dropped it stone dead. Done. Upon hiking out to get the last bird myself, I came to realize I had shot the only Blue Wing Teal we saw! Super excited I shot the **Teal Slam** on my first day...(and ended up doing it every day!)

We were fed homemade tacos over a fire with cold beer before the ride back. We learned a lot that first day, and one was don't let them rush you back...we didn't get the pics we wanted but got some. That changed as we were better prepared of what to expect.

We were back to the resort by 11:30 am to meet the ladies who spent day at the spa. Great start for sure!! Afternoon was at the beach smoking **Cuban** cigars and drinking **cervesa's**...what I wouldn't give to be back. And we had two more days to hunt!



My pool buddy... a very nice White Winged Dove (closed here btw). I snuck him a little chip and now he won't leave me alone. I've had him within 5 inches... and he has no idea I need a White Wing for the life list!!! Love this little guy... beautiful birds... They are clearly bigger than the Mourning doves ... more like Euro size. Love the white in the wings and tail... We had the little Inca Doves flying around too... His compadres are lucky they are closed... had them fly by every morning...

Dave Drewry Retrieving Two...
We were told to let the birds sit until the bird boys picked them up, and anything we wanted to save to simply say "trophy" and they would get them immediately. The action never stopped, but it was a tough transition for Dave and I not to retrieve our birds... so... we just retrieved them anyhow...

After that we literally had flocks and flocks of Shoveler and Green Wing Teal. We wouldn't see any more Cinnys that day, and that was ok...the day belonged to the Shoveler. I upgraded drakes after each bird taken and was able to harvest some prime examples. When I was down to my last bird I was hoping for another Shoveler.

Just as fast as the flights began, they stopped... immediately. We waited for probably 15 minutes and I could tell the locals were restless. Having had an amazing shoot I

News for the Flock

Waterfowl News From Nisqually

By Bob Jorgenson
2022 WDFW WAG Chairman
Photos by John Pleau

We have ducks!!!!

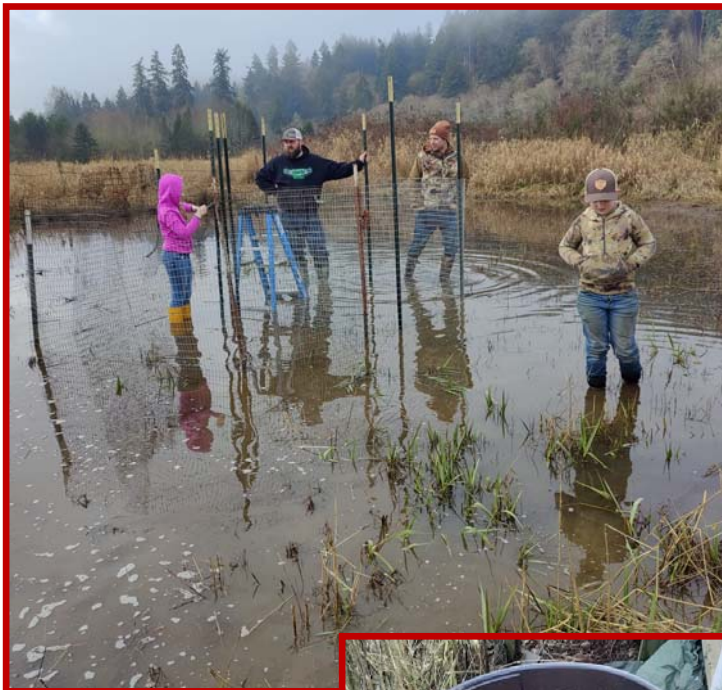
After setting up the trap the previous week and baiting that trap with 20 pounds of grain per day, the trap was closed up on Saturday, March 11, 2022.

WDFW Biologist Matt Wilson met with the group on Saturday morning near the barns at **Nisqually** for our first attempt at banding on our properties. Turns out the ducks cooperated, and we had seven (7) teal and two (2) greenheads in the trap. There were about 75 ducks on the ponds Saturday, and we were hoping to find a few more in the trap on Sunday, but alas it was empty.

Several parents reached out to me and looks like will have lots of kids to participate. In addition to the banding, we will have plenty of other activities for the kids as well.



Bob Jorgenson spreading some of the 20# of grain daily to bait the ducks into the Banding Trap.



Travis Smith (middle left) and George Miller (middle right) setting up the Banding Trap on March 5th with some young help learning hands-on conservation!



(Above) WDFW Biologist Matt Wilson (right) explaining to Travis Smith how to age mallards, over a tailgate full of banding materials. The crops of the greenheads were full of grain!

(Left), a day's ration of 20 pounds of grain to bait the Banding Trap.

WDFW News

WDFW Commission to make Decision on Spring Bear Rule Making at March 17-19 Meeting

Date Mar 11, 2022

OLYMPIA – The **Washington Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Commission** will make decisions on spring black bear rule-making, and hear briefings on the 2022 season setting process and other topics during its March 17-19 virtual meeting.

The **Commission** will have a **Wildlife Committee** meeting on Thursday, March 17, to hear a briefing from **WDFW** staff on the 2022 hunting season setting and **Game Management Plan** planning processes.

On Friday, March 18, the full **Commission** will consider approval of land transactions recommended by the **Department** to enhance conservation and public recreation opportunities. **WDFW** recommends three (3) land Acquisitions:

1. Including 1,035 acres in **Thurston County** of prairie-oak woodland and wetland habitat;
2. 1,513 acres in **Douglas County** to protect and conserve shrubsteppe habitats; and
3. 94 acres in **Pacific County** to provide recreational access to the **Nemah Beach** and over 300 acres of tidelands.

Additionally, the **Department** is requesting to transfer a 3.5-acre parcel to the **City of Sultan** in **Snohomish County** to allow the city to manage the water access area as part of their public park. More details on the recommended land transactions will be available on [WDFW's website](#).

The **Commission** will also hear a variety of briefings from **WDFW** staff on Friday, March 18, regarding landowner hunting permits, big game general seasons and special permits, migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations, hunting equipment rule changes, and chronic wasting Disease.

On Saturday, March 19, the Commission will select a new Chair. The Commission will also decide on spring black bear special permits rule-making. More information on the proposed rule change is available on [WDFW's webpage](#).

The **Commission** will also listen to **public comment** on the mornings of both Friday, March 18 and Saturday, March 19. Members of the public interested in providing

verbal public comment can pre-register on [WDFW's website](#).

All of these meetings will be conducted online and be available to the public to watch or listen via webinar or conference call. Find more information on how to comment and to see agendas, visit [WDFW's website](#). The meetings will also be recorded and posted online so people

Still Time for Public Comment on 2022-2023 Hunting Seasons

OLYMPIA – WDFW is still seeking public comments through Saturday, March 19th on proposed recommendations and proposed rule changes to hunting regulations for 2022-2023 hunting seasons. The proposals and comment forms will be posted on the [Department's website](#).

Most of the proposals address minor changes in big game special permit levels and hunting area descriptions since the **WDFW Commission** approved the state's latest three-year hunting package in 2021.

More substantial proposals, including changes to the importation of animals to prevent chronic wasting disease and some proposals previously proposed but withdrawn during the 2021-2023 hunting regulation setting package, are also under consideration during this process.

The public can watch **WDFW's** video on the proposed rule changes to prevent chronic wasting disease on the [Department's YouTube channel](#).

"We encourage everyone interested in the upcoming hunting seasons to review the proposed changes and send us your feedback," said **Anis Aoude, WDFW Game Division Manager**.

The **Commission**, which sets policy for **WDFW**, will also accept public comments on the proposed recommendations at its March meeting. The **Commission** is scheduled to make a decision on the proposed rules at its April 7-8 meeting.



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)**.

Legislative Session Wrap-Up Report

The **2022 Washington Legislative Session** ended on March 10, 2022, and what a session it was! As I mentioned in the month's legislative report the animal-rights (**AR**) groups, specifically **Washington Wildlife First (WWF)**, pushed the most aggressive legislative **AR** agenda in in the history of the legislature. I've used the title to the **Clint Eastwood** spaghetti western before to sum up the session, so I'll use it again — "**The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly.**"

The Good:

The good was the **Hunters Heritage Council**. Plain and simple. We kept our perfect record intact, and made 24 consecutive sessions of killing every piece of anti-hunting legislation introduced. This is every year that we have been in existence. I am proud of that record, and I will match that against any lobby group in Olympia.

This session was no cakewalk either, with tough numbers against us. I want to highlight two (2) bills that weren't in the legislative report last month that were killed, one them wasn't introduced until after the report was published, and the other couldn't be in because of political reasons.

ESSB 5613: This to me was the worst **AR** bill of the session. This bill would have removed the county sheriff's right to kill cougars, bears, or bobcats with the aid of a dog or dogs in a public safety response. This bill violated the **Washington State Constitution** regarding the sheriff being the chief county public safety officer, and would have

challenged the county sheriff as chief executive officer and conservator of the peace of the county in **RCW 36.28.010**. This bill would have taken away what little predator control we have. The bill passed the state senate on a straight party-line vote. After a lot of hard work, the **HHC** killed this bill in the **House Committee on Rural Development, Agriculture & Natural Resources**.

SJM 8009: Senate Joint Memorials (SJM'S) don't do a thing in terms of policy. **SJM 8009** wasn't introduced until after our last legislative report was published. **SJM 8009** called for a national biodiversity strategy, supporting the policy of **Biden Administration**. This just means that our state agrees or signs onto that policy agenda. The **Center for Biological Diversity** was pushing for this hard. This was plain and simple, a political muscle vote — which side had enough muscle to come out on top. We won!

The Bad:

The **Second Amendment** didn't fare that well this session. Before I go any further, to protect myself from liability, and as a voting member of the **Washington Firearms Policy Coalition**, I must state the following disclaimer:

DISCLAIMER

The HHC has been, is, and always will be a hunting-rights organization. We have never been, are not now, and will never be a Second Amendment organization. The Second Amendment is very important to us, but there are Second Amendment organizations whose sole purpose is to fight the gun-rights battle, just as it is the HHC's sole purpose to fight the hunters-rights battle. In fact, we have an agreement with the gun-rights lobby, that on hunting issues the HHC takes the lead, and on Second Amendment issues the gun lobby takes the lead, and we follow. What follows is legislative victories, toes not being stepped on, and quick decisions being made in the heat of battle. In one Second Amendment newsletter, a question was asked to the editor why he never reported on hunting legislation. His reply was that Title 77 issues were under the preview of the HHC.

The bad anti-gun bills **that passed this session**.

Bill descriptions provided by the **National Rifle Association (NRA):**

(Continued on Page 19)

Legislative News Continued

ESHB 1705: “Ghost Guns” Ban, further restricts the practice of manufacturing firearms for personal use and self-defense by imposing requirements that exceed those in federal law. It prohibits private individuals from possessing certain unregulated components commonly used by Americans to make their own firearms for self-defense, sport, and hobby, and from possessing currently legal firearms that don’t have serial numbers. This bill made lawfully built firearms retroactively illegal, if built after 2019.

ESHB 1630: Bans Firearms from Election-Related Places, School Board and Municipal Meetings, prohibits open carry at school board meetings, municipal meetings and election-related places. Further, **ESHB 1630** bans all firearms at ballot counting centers, including by **Concealed Carry Permit (CCP)** holders.

Now for the really bad news, the news, the totally terrible anti-Second Amendment **bills that passed** this session, the bill description provided by the NRA. These are truly...

The Ugly:

SHB 1901: Expands Red Flag Laws Through Civil Protection, would allow petitioners for civil protection orders to assert that another has “coercive control” over them, leading to an unconstitutional revocation of firearm rights without due process of law. This bill is ripe for abuse.

ESSB 5078: Ten-Round magazine Ban — bans the manufacture, sale, transfer, importation, etc., of magazines that “are capable of holding,” or hold more than, 10 rounds of ammunition. This includes conversion kits or parts from which any such magazine may be assembled.

These so-called “high capacity” magazines are, in fact, standard equipment for commonly owned firearms that many Americans constitutionally and effectively use for an entire range of lawful purposes, such as self-defense or competition. For example, the **Glock 19** was the most commonly purchased firearm of 2021 and has a standard-issue magazine that holds 15 rounds of ammunition. Any violation of this measure is a gross misdemeanor, punishable by a maximum of 364 days in jail and/or a fine of up to \$5,000.

I have been repeatedly asked why did these bills pass, especially the high capacity magazine ban? I don’t want to touch that question; I don’t want to dwell on the

negative. The gun lobby worked extremely hard this session, and pointing fingers never helps. They had a lot of successes too. They are great at what they do, just like the **Hunters Heritage Council (HHC)** is great at what we do.

I have to give kudos to our lobbyist, **Tom Echols**. I know how hard **Tom** has worked this session on the huge volume of **AR** bills, and I can also add that this was my hardest session ever! This session has been grinding, but the **HHC** couldn’t have done it alone. We depend on the strength of our member groups. We couldn’t exist without them.

This is the broken record repeating itself, the only way we can counter the **AR** movement is for all the **HHC** member organizations to be strong too. We need you to be part of the **Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA)**. The threat to hunting **IS real**. **Washington Wildlife First (WWF)** is well-funded, and they are well-organized, and they are the biggest threat hunting has ever faced in this state.

If your membership to **WWA** is lapsed, please renew it; if you are a current member, please consider upgrading. If you are in the financial position to donate or become a **Life member of WWA**, now is the time to do it.

We need a strong and vibrant **Washington Waterfowl Association!** **WWA** is **THE** premier waterfowl organization in this state and **EVERY** dollar they receive stays within Washington to protect your waterfowl rights. The ducks and geese have no one but **WWA** to speak for them.

Absolute Last Chance

to

Get your **FREE** WA State Duck Stamp

To receive a complimentary (as in **FREE**) WA State Duck Stamp, mail a copy of your 2021-22 License (showing an authorization to hunt Migratory Birds) along with a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope (SASE) to:

WWA Duck Stamp Program
18207 Rhodes Lake Road East
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

(Absolute Deadline is March 31, 2022)
(Unclaimed Stamps will be destroyed in April)

News For the Flock

2021/22 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

The Washington Waterfowl Association is pleased to present the 2021 Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp and Limited Edition Print.

Artist Denise D. Nelson



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 on the adjacent page and send with check to:

**Washington Waterfowl Association
Duck Stamp Program
18207 Rhodes Lake Road
E. Bonney Lake, WA 98391**

News For the Flock

2021 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

Please send me:



Quantity ____: unframed print(s) and stamp(s)

Quantity ____: frame for print & stamp



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

Please Ship Prints to:

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

I have included \$70.00 for each unframed print & stamp for a total of \$ _____.00

I have included \$175.00 for each framed print/stamp for a total of \$ _____.00

*Shipping and Handling \$ 10.00

Total Amount: \$ _____.00

-- Easier Yet --

Go to

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

to place your order

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

By Kurt Snyder

Good Gravy, Miss Molly!

In my last post about frying duck, I mentioned that you could and should make a great gravy afterwards. It's really easy to do even if you have little cooking skill. I don't know who made the first gravy, but I would give them a hug for sharing it. The **Cajun** in Louisiana seem to have the skill down very well. Along with Navy cooks. I think it's a requirement to know how to do in both those parts of the world.

I learned how to make gravy from a cookbook that the now dissolved **North American Hunting Club** offered for their members. The same guy that wrote that also published a super biscuit recipe (in the same book) that has never failed me. Maybe I'll post that biscuit recipe in a later publication. Anyway, if I can make gravy, so can you.

All you have to remember is 2-2-2 and 2 tablespoons of fat, 2 tablespoons of flour, and 2 cups of milk makes 2 servings. I can easily eat 2 servings so apportion appropriately for your appetite.

The fat can be any kind of fat, but not with this recipe. I like the fat from frying as the crusty stuff in the frying pan gives a flavor unique to what you have fried. My personal favorite is breakfast sausage gravy but this one will be with wild duck meat.

The flour can be of any type. I like general purpose self-rising white, but feel free to experiment. I tried mesa flour after frying **Andouille** sausage, and it was great! Guess what I'm having for tomorrow's breakfast!

The milk should be whole milk at least. Half and half will give the gravy more heaviness but doesn't add any particular flavor improvement so I just use whole.

I suggest strongly that you use a cast iron fry pan. You can take the temps up far beyond what a Teflon pan can take safely. The main thing is to stay with your stovetop through the whole gravy making process. Don't get distracted by shiny things. I also like to use a metal fork instead of a whisk. But if you prefer a whisk then by all means use it.

Just wet it with a bit of milk and heat in the microwave. One note is that if you make a lot of **roux**, let's say six servings, you can save it in the fridge for a month or so and make several servings of some future gravy. Just add the milk and cook up in a sauce pan!

What you do with your gravy is only limited to your imagination. Over noodles, over rice, biscuits, fried eggs or that seared up duck and goose meat! Cream of duck and mushroom soup anyone?

Look, not everyone is going to be able to make gravy. But if you do, I guarantee satisfaction! Just don't blame me if you start needing bigger pants! Enjoy!

Ingredients

Fond (browned bits left in the pan)

- 2 Tbs Fat
- 2 Tbs Flour
- 2 Cups Whole Milk
- Spices (See notes)

Instructions

1. Fry your duck or goose meat on high in three (3) tablespoons of oil. I prefer bacon fat which as actually lard from cured bacon! Don't go for the brown. Go for the char. That will sear in the ducky goodness and create a great base for your gravy at the same time. The more meat you sear, the stronger your gravy will be. You can't overdo this!

2. Set aside the meat and add more fat until the pan has at least two tablespoons in it. Just guesstimate. More is better than not enough.

3. Turn heat down to medium high and whisk in a tablespoon of flour. Don't stop whisking until all the lumps are gone. If it dries out add a bit of the milk.

4. Add the second tablespoon of flour and whisk it in. What you are doing is making a **roux**. (Pronounced **roo**). When the **roux** becomes lump free and gets to be a medium brown, add the milk a quarter cup at a time while constantly whisking. Don't look at that shiny thing! Keep whisking. Your diligence will be rewarded!

5. After everything is mixed and smelling good it's time to add any spices that you want. Rubbed sage? Yep. Salt and pepper? Yep. Keep whisking and tasting! Some **Cajun** seasoning? Sure. Whatever you want! Add cumin and chili powder if you want your gravy over eggs! **Huevos Rancheros, Muy Bueno!**

6. Your gravy should start to thicken after about five (5) minutes of dutiful whisking and can then be turned down to low to keep hot. If you wish, you can cool it and store in the fridge for use within a couple of days. Just wet it with a bit of milk and heat in the microwave. One note is that if you make a lot of **roux**, let's say six (6) servings, you can save it in the fridge for a month or so and make several servings of some future gravy. Just add milk and cook up in a sauce pan!

News For the Flock



2008 WA State Print



2021 WA State Print & Stamp



Duck Calls, Duck Straps, WWA Logo'd Caps and more Prints...

WWA PHOTO CONTEST

WATERFOWL SEASON PHOTOS
•
WIN PRIZES!



We think that with almost everyone having a camera with them, especially hunting, that we could give some prizes for this year's best hunting photos. This contest is **FREE** and open to all that hunt and their guests. WWA members will choose from the available **prize list**:
Game lanyards, duck stamp prints and duck calls. Non-members receive an annual WWA membership and a hat!

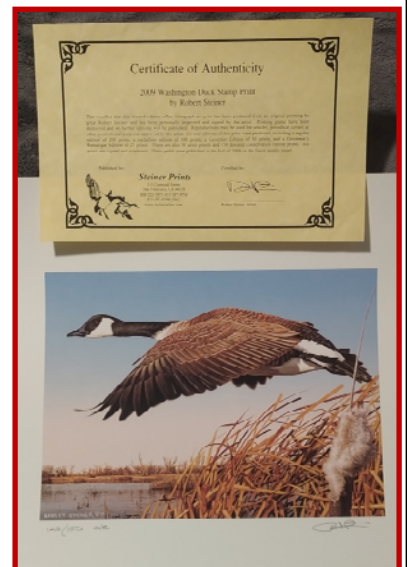
- Entrants can submit three images.
- Photos must be taken during the 2021/22 waterfowl season.
- Your three images must be submitted electronically with a submittal form.
- All images will become property of the WWA and may be used for advertising and/or to promote safe and fun hunting! (Originals can still be used by the contestant)
- Winning images will be posted in the WWA monthly newsletter.
- Judging will be performed by the WWA Promotion Team and will take place at the end of the season, the second week of March.
- **Submit your photos electronically, with your name to the email address below. Type "Photo Contest" in the subject block. You can just use first names for those in the photos if you wish.**

wawaterfowlmedia@gmail.com

Check us out at www.waduck.org

Submitted images should reflect the hunt, hunt prep, travel to and from, dogs, decoys, sun rises and sunsets, camps and anything else water-fowling hunting related. Images should show good sportsmanship and comradery!

Some things to think about: open gun actions; safe gun handling; safe boating; avoid showing alcohol and remember that kids will be looking at these images so keep it clean and classy!



2009 WA State Print

Classified Ads – For Sale / Wanted

Wanted

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

For Sale

1. **Final Attack layout boat. \$575.** Improved with shotgun holder; pop open frame and covering for camo; cover is faded and needs new paint or grass; wiring system for *Minn Kota* trolling motor, (motor not included).
2. **Winchester Super X magnum shotgun, 3 1/2" \$500**
3. **8 boxes Speed Ball Goose loads, \$25 per box, 10 shells per box, 3 1/2" — BB's, 1650 fps**
4. **Call Tom, 425-299-8160, or text for photos.**

Mustang Flootation 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 Flootation 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.



Yellow to Fox Red hunting AKC lab pups; 3 males, 1 female; available to good homes May 1st. 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.**

NEW Sitka Gradient Hoody - Color Marsh - Size XXL, \$125,
Call or text Mike for pic, 253-632-0105

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

18 mallard decoys ,rigged w/ bag \$100
Call Tom, 425-299-8160

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**.

News for the Flock

The **WWA** is based on volunteer efforts and donations from folks that care about the waterfowl hunting heritage. Our success rides on the shoulders of these volunteers and generous benefactors. Below in **red** is a listing of recent contributions to the five (5) primary funds established by the **WWA** since publication of the **February 2022 Newsletter**.

WWA General Fund — \$1,548
Jack Sherwood — \$15

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 TAXIDERMISTRY

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 Out; Linked [Here](#)



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



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



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 Sportsmen’s 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 Sportsmen’s 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.