

Washington Waterfowl Assoc.

HUNTERS FOR CONSERVATION

501(c)(3) tax exempt

ESTABLISHED 1945

Volume 31, Issue 8

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

August 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
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
VACANT

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!

The waterfowl hunt season is just around the corner, and I am starting to see more content online and hear more people talking about ducks. I am excited for upcoming season, but not quite ready to let go of summer.

Duck Calling Contest

Thank you to **Nathan Neideigh, Bruce Burns, the Southwest Chapter**, and all of the other volunteers and donors for the **WA State Sanctioned Duck Calling Championship**. This was my first time attending this event, and I was impressed. A good number of people braved the heat to come out and listen to the contestants call.

Congratulation to **Trevor Austin** for winning first place in the **WA State Sanctioned Duck Calling!** Have fun in **Stuttgart** and represent **Washington** well. See **Pages 4 & 5**.

Seattle Chapter Banquet

The **Seattle Chapter Banquet** is confirmed for Saturday, October 8th in **Monroe**. Please see the Flyer on **Page 9** in this newsletter for details. The Seattle Chapter is still looking for raffle/auction item donations and volunteers to help with the the event. I hope to see you all there.

Farewell

As I announced in a previous newsletter, I am not seeking re-election in the current corporate election. I have been honored to serve the organization at a corporate level for the past (two) 2 years. However, between the new, young family, chapter, work, and other commitments — and my hobbies — I have decided that this role is one of the many areas I need to cut back on.

I want to thank the other corporate officers and the **Board of Directors** who I have leaned on heavily throughout my term. Thank you for your hard work and diligence in all aspects of supporting the organization and moving it forward.

(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, Aug 20	Colton Smith Memorial FREE Youth Shoot at the Evergreen Sportsmen's Club near Rochester, WA See Flyer on Page 13
Sat, Aug 20	ML Chapter sponsored FREE Youth Shoot in Quincy. See Flyer on Page 11
Mon, Aug 22	In Person Seattle Chapter Meeting Kenmore Gun Range.
Tues, Aug 23 Note New Date	ML Chapter Quarterly Meeting, 6 pm See ML Chapter News on Page 10
Thurs, Aug 25	Usual LC Chapter Meeting. Check for Email blast for particulars.
Tues, Aug 30	In Person SW Chapter Meeting, Tacoma Sportsmen's Club.
Thurs, Sept 1	Grays Harbor Chapter Meeting, 7 pm., Evergreen Sportsmen's Club.
Tues, Sept 6	Usual Whatcom County Chapter Meeting, at Laurel Farm & Western Supply in Bellingham; 6:30 pm.
Weds, Sept 7	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
Sat, Sept 10	Boy Scouts Mt. Baker Council (BSA) Sporting Clays — Pull for Scouting Granite Falls Sportsmen's Club See Ad on Page 15
Weds, Sept 14	In Person NW Chapter Meeting, Twin Cities Sportsmen's Club, Stanwood, WA
Sept 30 thru Oct 2	Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show, Clatsop County Fairgrounds & Expo Center, Astoria, Oregon. See Ad on Page 12
Sat, Oct 8	Seattle Chapter Banquet at the Monroe Senior Center. See Seattle Chapter News and Flyer on Pages 8 & 9

IN THIS EDITION

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

Page 3	Official Corp Officer & BOD Ballot Still time to VOTE
Page 4 & 5	Results— WA Duck Calling Contest
Pages 16 thru 18	WWA Yesterday and Today
Pages 19	WWA Mentor Flyer
Page 20	Legislative Report
Page 21	WDFW Mourning Dove Banding
Page 22	CA Raises Price of Duck Stamps
Page 23	WA Predator Updates
Page 25	WWA Classifieds
Pages 27 thru 29	2022-WA Duck Stamp Order Form
Page 30	NEW Waterfowl Regs linked here
Page 31	WWA Membership Application

(President's Letter Continued from Page 1)

Most importantly, I would like to thank all of our members. Waterfowl conservation and hunter involvement is vitally important. As a 100% volunteer organization, we have nothing without our members and volunteers who make everything happen on the local level. I am really impressed with the projects and events that have taken place thanks to our members.

I strongly believe in the **WWA** and its mission. In the coming years, I hope to be able to return to the **Board** or other corporate position. I will still be active in the **Seattle Chapter**, and I hope to meet even more of you around at other chapter meetings and events.

Finally, **Don't Forget to Vote** by the end of the month! Use the **Official Ballot** on **Page 3**.

For The Resource,

James Ono

WWA President

Officer and Board Member Elections

NOMINATIONS for Organization-wide WWA Officers and Board of Directors (BOD) closed on June 30, 2022.

On the right you will find a **OFFICIAL** WWA Corporate Ballot of candidates as of the publishing date of the WWA July 2022 Newsletter.

Under the organization’s staggered leadership policy, only two (2) of the four (4) Corporate Office positions are up for election every two (2) years. This year only the Corporate offices of President and Secretary are up for election.

Note: Candidates for Corporate Office must have been either a Chapter officer or a Board member for at least one year prior, in order to qualify for election.

All nine (9) of the Board positions are up for election in 2022 because of prior mid-term appointments and the end of two-year terms.

Note: Chapters who have no elected representation on the Board, are *de facto* represented by either their Chapter Chair, or the Chapter’s designated representative to the Board.

Candidate Biographies are linked [here](#).

Ballots can be emailed to the current WWA Vice-President, Mark Pidgeon at:

marpWWA@gmail.com

or WWA-Corp Treasurer, John Arrabito, at:

jarrabito@comcast.net

or postmarked and addressed and mailed by USPS to:

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

by **August 31, 2022.**

2022 WWA OFFICIAL Corp Ballot

Corporate Offices: (One Vote For Each Office up for election in 2022)

President

(Write In)

(Write In)

Secretary

Bob Taylor (LC)

(Write In)

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

Rick Billeau (NW)

Bruce Burns (SW)

Bruce Feagan (ML)

Paul McGovern (NW)

Nathan Neideigh (SW)

Al O’Connor (LC)

Dick Price (ML)

Kurt Snyder (GH)

(Write In)

News for the Flock

Southwest Chapter News

By: Bruce Burns

On Saturday, August 6th, the Southwest Chapter hosted the 2022 WA State Duck and Goose Calling Championships at the Sumner Sportsmen's Club linked [here](#).

Trevor Austin won the WA State Sanctioned Duck Calling Contest and took home the top prize of a \$1,000 check from WWA Corporate to help him with travel and accommodations while representing Washington State in the World Duck Calling Championships in Stuttgart, AR held annually during Thanksgiving week.



Trevor Austin (right) proudly holds his son in one hand and the 1st Place Plaque representing his win in the WA State Sanctioned Duck Calling Contest. 2nd place winner Logan Boone is center, and 3rd place winner Jacob Hawkin is on the left.



Winner's Box Score

WA State Sanctioned Duck Calling

1. Trevor Austin
2. Logan Boone
3. Jacob Hawkin

Open Goose Calling

1. Jesse Hurley
2. Jacob Warren
3. Trevor Austin

Novice Duck Calling

1. Tony Baker
2. Jacob Hawkin
3. Hunter Anderson

Youth Duck Calling

1. Carson Fenton
2. Alex Goss
3. Evan Smith

Jesse Hurley won the 2022 Open Goose Calling competition, upping his third place finish in 2021.

News for the Flock



Southwest Chapter Chair Bruce Burns (left) and **Grays Harbor Chapter Chair Kurt Snyder** (behind him in the green shirt) man the timing and electronic controls while a Youth Caller opens up the **2022 WA State Duck and Goose Calling Championships** at center stage. It takes a lot of effort from a lot of volunteers to annually produce this annual Sanctioned Event that sends its winner to compete in the **World Duck Calling Championships in Stuttgart, AR** during Thanksgiving week.

It all starts with the Venue — Thanks once again to **Tara Stevens** and the **Sumner Sportsmen's Club** for hosting the event; **Contest Chairman Nathan Neideigh** for repeatedly working his magic in obtaining prize donations from national, regional, and local businesses, as well as organizing and promoting the event.

Behind the Calling Stage and blind to the contestants are the five (5) volunteer judges — some of whom traveled clear across the state to help out — Many **THANKS** to (alphabetically) **Adam Goss, Stuart Hare, Jr., Duke LeVan, Patrick McCormick, and Brad Roberts**, anchored by **Master of Ceremonies and 7-Time WA-State Duck Calling Champion, Robert Strong**.

SW Chapter members came thru in flying colors to support the event volunteering their Saturday to make the whole contest a success – Thank you **Peter Kilburn, Jim Payne, Joe Schumacher**, and call maker and **2004 WA State Duck Calling Champion, Troy Taylor**, who rotated in staffing the registration and “swag” tables. Thanks to **Lance Kintrea** who ran the food table and **BBQ** all afternoon, and former **SW Chapter member Rod Boyer** — though having moved to Idaho — did not forget his **WWA** brethren and donated six (6) framed and matted **WA State Duck Stamp Prints** (with stamps) for the Silent Auction!

An encore Thank You to **Lower Columbia Chapter member Adam Goss** who donated all of the food and soft drinks at the event. Finally as always, a **BIG THANKS** to **Clint White** who continues year-after-year to donate his services as auctioneer for various **WWA, DU and WA Brant Foundation** banquets and fund raisers, including the Live Auction that was part of this event.

Finally we appreciate the attendance support of the event shown by **WWA** members from chapters from all around the state, including but not limited to, **Bob Taylor** of the **Lower Columbia Chapter**; **Earl Mikkelson** from the **SW Chapter**; and **WWA President James Ono** and **John Arrabito** from the **Seattle Chapter**.

Next SW Chapter Meeting

We will be having our August meeting on Tuesday, the 30th of August 2022, at the **Tacoma Sportsmen's Club** linked [here](#) at 6:30 pm in the **Education Building**, where of course the main item of business will be a review and

critique of what we might have done better at this year's **WA State Duck and Goose Calling Contest**, so that next year's event will be bigger and better than ever.

Hope to see you there.

News for the Flock

Lower Columbia Chapter News

By: Doug Hargin

Chadd Smith Joins Ridgefield NWR Staff

Chadd joined the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)** staff last November as an **Engineering Equipment Operator**. He comes here from the **Kilauea Point NWR** on the **Hawaiian Island of Kauai**.

Chadd has been working with the **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)** for 21 years — 19 as a full-time employee. He brings extensive knowledge and experience in designing and building wetlands to enhance them for waterfowl. He received the **Pacific Region “Recovery Champion Award”** in 2014 recognizing his efforts to effectively manage wetlands for endangered **Hawaiian** waterfowl.

Chadd spent part of his early years in the **Ridgefield** area. He hunted the refuge with his dad and brother. He is an avid upland bird hunter and enjoys hunting with his two (2) German Shorthair Pointers. He is also a seasoned waterfowler. We are thankful to have him here at **Ridgefield NWR** and look forward to his work with wetlands here. **Chadd** quickly got to work and installed the **Black Box Pit Blind** — one of two (2) previously purchased by our chapter a couple of years ago.

Black Box Pit Blind Installed!

On Monday, August 1st, **Rich Hannan** and myself met with **Chadd** to scope out what can be done with the remaining time before flood up on the refuge. **Chadd** committed to creating a temporary trail to blind 9 with the idea of a permanent trail repair next summer. He agreed that replacement of blind 6 was doable under the conditions and surprised us with, **“How about Thursday?”** Rich and I returned Thursday morning and assisted with the installation.

Chadd deftly removed the existing two-man pit filled with nasty water and dozens of live and deceased garter snakes. Next he pulled the one-man cylinder. As a veteran of many blind clean ups, I will not miss those old cement pits! The **Black Box Pit Blinds**

are constructed of an advanced **polymer-blend** that are lite weight and guaranteed for life never to rust or corrode. Unfortunately the manufacturer went out of business in 2018. Ours were constructed for four (4) hunters, but we have converted one of the end slots in each for a dog box.

Chadd carefully dug out the hole for the new **Black Box Pit Blind**. We were able to build the anchor system out of 4x4 and 2x6 treated lumber on site at the refuge. **Chadd** layered the bottom of the hole with gravel and lowered the blind into its new home. He added a large “blow down” tree branch to facilitate natural cover on the backside.

The following Thursday we were able to rough up and camo paint this blind and drop in the blind chairs, and it’s ready for the season. The remaining **BB** blind still in reserve will be installed next summer. Hats off to **Chadd’s** willingness to get on this project quickly and carefully preserving the cover around the blind.

Ridgefield NWR Work Party on August 16th

As this Newsletter goes to publication, we will have a work party to paint the other **BlackBox Pit Blind** to be installed next summer. We will also prepare the flatbottom boats provided very reasonably to the chapter by **Jerry Piazza** for blinds #16 and #5. *(Continued on Page 7)*



Chadd Smith prepares to drop the Black Box Blind into place.

LC Chapter News Continued

Ridgefield NWR Work Party on September 17th

We will grass up and clean out the blinds at the Ridgefield NWR in preparation of the upcoming season. Meet at 8 AM at the check station. Bring your waders, gloves, bucket, machete, loppers, zip ties, wire cutter/snips.



Rich Hannan observes as Chadd Smith checks the hole depth prior to installation of the BB Pit Blind.



(Above Left)
"Riley" looks on as Chadd Smith does final prep work for painting.
(Above Right)
The final product — painted lid to the Black Box Pit Blind.

New RNWR Lottery Application Process

The Ridgefield NWR announced they are implementing the "Direct Access" Lottery for hunting this season. Application is online with a \$5 fee and \$1 per pick. This has been a popular system used by other refuges. It will dramatically streamline the process and allow hunters to be notified within a week or so of the end of the application period, August 15th – September 23rd.

Grant Application Unsuccessful

As mentioned last month our chapter had applied for a Covid Relief Grant being distributed by Clark County to small businesses, nonprofits and community serving organizations. The grants are part of a state and local economy recovery program funding included in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 to help with the negative monetary effects of Covid-19.



Ridgefield NWR Area Manager Juliette Fernandez (right) took time out to join Doug Hargin (left) and others to check out the installation of the Black Box Pit Blind.

Our application was based upon the fact that we have not been able to hold our annual fund-raising banquet the last two (2) years because of Covid.

We were not awarded a grant.

We Welcome Your Input!

We're always looking for your input for the WWA Newsletter — hunting stories, unusual experiences, recipes photos, etc. Submit them to me at dlhargin@msn.com.

Thank you!

News For the Flock

Seattle Chapter News

By Nick Brown

Program for August 22nd Chapter Meeting

Seattle Chapter meeting attendance remains on the up and up this summer. I am excited to announce that at our upcoming August 22nd meeting we will be hosting **WDFW Private Lands Biologist, Rob Wingard**. Rob's presentation last year was very informative, and as I always say, "*full of insider trading tips for ducks.*" Have your questions ready as this is a great forum to get feedback to his office.

Work Party Opportunity for Chapter Members

On the conservation side of things, **Wyatt German** will be installing some wood duck nest boxes at the **Cherry Valley Unit** of the **Snoqualmie Wildlife Area** for his **Eagle Scout** project. Chapter member **Bob Hazelbrook**, who has headed up the chapter's wood duck nest box program for over a decade+ will be there to offer some guidance as well.

If any of our members would like to get involved in the installation process I encourage you to meet them out there on Saturday, August 27th at 10 am., at the **Cherry Valley Unit** parking lot

Seattle Chapter Banquet Planning

Things are moving along with the Seattle chapter banquet very quickly. As a reminder to get it on your calendar, our banquet is on Saturday, October 8th, at the **Monroe Senior Center**. See Flyer on adjacent **Page 9**. Tickets are now available for

purchase from the **WWA** website linked here as well as from myself and **James Ono** in person at our chapter meetings.

We have secured lots of items for the auctions (live and silent), and the multiple raffles. If anyone is interested in getting involved with banquet planning, we still can use your help. Please contact me as set forth below.

Shells Still a Guessing Game at the Kenmore Gun Club

As stated above, our August meeting will be on Monday, August 22nd at the **Kenmore Gun Range**, and while it seems they are getting shells for purchase regularly, I never count on it. Shooting will begin at 5 pm, followed by a brief business meeting, and **Rob's** presentation at 7 pm. Please remember the \$5 donation for the pizza fund.

We now have **Square** payment processing, so for most applications you no longer need cash or a check to pay for hats, raffle tickets, swap meet items and things of that nature. **Square** can also be used for the \$5 pizza fund donation.

Hope to see you there.

The **Seattle Chapter** meets the 4th Monday of every month — January thru October — at the **Kenmore Shotgun Range** with shooting beginning at 5 pm with a pizza feed and business meeting following at 7 p.m.

Nick Brown

Nickibb92@gmail.com

425-765-0151



Banquet Teasers — Henry Brass Finish Single Shot 410 shotgun, and Ken Harris carved decoy, circa 1965 in incredible condition!

News for the Flock

WWA Seattle Chapter Banquet



Saturday Oct. 8th 2022

**Monroe Community Senior Center
276 Sky River Pkwy, Monroe WA 98272**

Doors Open at 5pm, Dinner served around 6pm

Tickets:

Single—\$50

Youth—\$25

Hunter Table Package—\$600

Includes: 8 Tickets, WWA Hat,
Commemorative beer glasses
+ free beer, and \$200 worth of
raffle tickets

Tickets can be purchased by
registering on our website on
the calendar page or by
clicking [here](#)

Tickets can also be purchased
by contacting

Nick Brown—425-765-0151

James Ono—425-233-5936

Dinner
Beer/Wine
General Raffle
Ladies Raffle
Gun Raffles
Auction Items

Venue is limited to 120
people so get your tickets
early

**Dinner Catered by Larry's Smokehouse:
Salmon, Chicken, Pulled Pork, & Sides**

News for the Flock

Moses Lake Chapter News

From: Bruce Feagan and Dick Price

Don't forget the next **FREE Youth Shoot** at the **Quincy Gun Club** on Saturday, August 20th. See Flyer on adjacent **Page 11**.

The following Tuesday, August 23rd [**Note the New Date**], the Chapter will be holding its Quarterly meeting beginning at **6 pm** at the **O'Sullivan Sportsman Resort Clubhouse** (near **Potholes State Park** — 6897 Hwy 262 SE, Othello, WA 99344 for **GPS** purposes).

The meeting will feature a presentation by **Marc Maynard**, the **Ephrata Field Office Manager** for the **Bureau of Reclamation**. Marc manages the water systems of the **Columbia River** as well as all the reservoirs and canals in the **Columbia Basin**.

Flat Lake Acquisition

The **WDFW Commission** just authorized the **Department** to go forward with the purchase of two (2) private inholdings on **Flat Lake**, just south of **George, WA**. **Flat Lake** is a seep pond that is literally a “duck factory” in the spring and has good waterfowl harvesting opportunities during the hunt season until the irrigation canal is drained.

This purchase was came as a result of the 2021-2022 **Migratory Bird Stamp and Print Fund** expenditures authorized by the **WDFW's** citizen **Waterfowl Advisory Group (WAG)** in 2020.

Gretchen Fitzgerald, a retired **WDFW** biologist and **Dick Price** met with the property owner, **Woody Trihey**, in 2019 as he had expressed a desire to sell the property to **WDFW** for fair market value. From there **Dick** worked with **Sean Dougherty** in the **WDFW Ephrata Office** to put together a proposal for the purchase of the property. This was presented to the **WAG** in 2020 for the 2020-2021 budget approval and was unanimously supported by the **WAG** members. Currently **WAG** has four (4) members and five (5) former **WAG** members on the **WAG**.

This is another example of what your “Duck” Stamp funds are used for.

Area WDFW Summer Banding Projects

WDFW staff has busy with duck and dove banding projects in the area over the course of the summer. The **Department** has already banded some 200 ducks toward a

goal of 1,000 ducks, and are nearly at their goal 600 doves. (See **WDFW News** on **Page 21**).

Primarily they have been banding mallards but occasionally some red heads and pintails show up in the mix. Trapping and banding ducks will continue until just before the waterfowl hunt season in early October.

Good luck with that as all hunters find it extra special when they can harvest a banded bird. One can often call in the data while still the field!



(Top)
WDFW
Biologist Sean Dougherty & Tech, Aaron Kleinhenz
banding a pair of redheads.

(Left)
Believe it or not —that's a Mid-Summer Molt Drake Mallard.

News for the Flock

BROWNELL'S/NRA **FREE** YOUTH TRAP SHOOT



When: Saturday August 20th, 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 with soft drinks 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@gosi.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

Grays Harbor Chapter News

By: Kurt Snyder

Hi all.

Donation of Shot Shells for Youth Shoot

Our Chapter's annual **FREE** youth shotgun event, the **Colton Smith Memorial Youth Shoot** is coming up quick — Saturday, August 20th at the **Evergreen Sportsman's Club** linked [here](#).

We had two (2) cases of target loads donated for the event, so the first ten (10) **Youth RSVP's** will get to use **FREE** loads! The new Flyer on adjacent **Page 13** reflects this change. We are not having a lunch at this year's event, but maybe next year as we put the Covid outbreak farther behind us. As of August 11th, we already have three (3) **RSVP's**!

Work Parties Scheduled for Later in August

I am scheduling some work parties starting the 21st, 27th and 28th of August. The dates are **tentative** at this time until I get the volunteers needed to change several nest boxes at the **Scatter Creek Wildlife Area** linked [here](#).

Also, I would like to schedule some weekends in September to finish the nest boxes and get three (3) new hen houses erected.

Let me know if you can help, and I'll get a new updated volunteer list going.

As always, **THANK YOU** for your continuing support!

Kurt Snyder

kurtsnyder@outdrs.net

TAXIDERMIST

FACEBOOK 

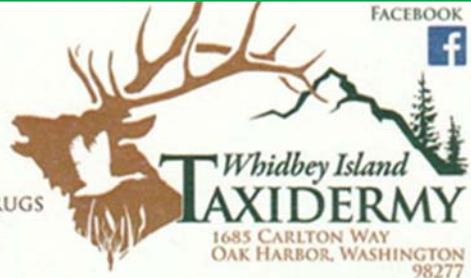
- BIRDS
SPECIALIZING
IN WATERFOWL
- MAMMALS
- TANNED SKINS/ RUGS
- SKULLS/ ANTLERS

**Whidbey Island
TAXIDERMY**

1685 CARLTON WAY
OAK HARBOR, WASHINGTON
98277

SHOP 360.675.9008
CELL 360.672.5100

WWW.WHIDBEYISLANDTAXIDERM.COM



Tacoma Sportsmen's Club



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

Midnight Valley Labradors

AKC Registered Labrador Puppies
Excellent Breeding, Great Temperament,
Wonderful for the Family or in the Field.
Puppies due Spring 2023. 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>



Columbia Flyway Wildlife Show

Clatsop County Fairgrounds and Expo Center

Astoria, Oregon

September 30 - October 2

Admission is Free



"I can't believe it's wood!"

ASTORIA
WARRENTON
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
The Spirit of the Columbia

News for the Flock



AUGUST 20TH 2022

COLTON SMITH MEMORIAL

Free youth SHOOTING EVENT

Free for 15 years of age and under

Get the 2022 waterfowl season off to a great start with this **free** youth shot gunning event! Lunch and kids' prizes provided by the *Grays Harbor Chapter of the Washington Waterfowl Assoc.*

***12 Gauge loads provided FREE to the first ten kids that RSVP**

Limited instruction for inexperienced shooters.
Kids should bring their own shotguns.



***Military adults shoot for \$15.00**

Free to all
kids age 15 and
under! Parents
can shoot with
the kids for a
\$20.00 target fee.

*

Prizes for all kids!

RSVP

**Required to
get free
shotshells***

Hosted by the
**Evergreen
Sportsman's Club!**

12736 Marksman St SW,
Olympia, WA 98512

RSVP TO;
**KURTSNYDER@OUTDRS.
NET**

360-485-9353

August 20 2022,

10:00 AM

News for the Flock

Northwest Chapter News

By: Rick Billieu

P.I.T.A. Grand Pacific

WWA manned an informational booth at the 91st **P.I.T.A. (Pacific International Trapshooting Assn.) Grand Pacific** trap shooting competition on July 23 and 24th at **Evergreen Sportsman's Club** in Olympia. This event is held annually and draws top trap shooters from all across the western states and Canada. We hauled the **WWA Trailer**, setup the **Duck Mount Display** and plastered the table with **WWA** information, including handouts.

There were less competitors participating in this year's event and two (2) days in the 90 deg temps was all we could handle. We passed out information and shared the story of the **WWA**. Thank you **Grays Harbor Chapter Chair Kurt Snyder** for supporting the event.

Youth Hunts

The **NW Chapter** is once again planning to host **Youth Hunts** at a couple private club locations this fall. With low tides in the morning of Sept 24th many tidal areas will be difficult to hunt. Were in the planning stages. I'll send out notifications once the plans are firm. Also please support the related **2022 Sporting Clays for Scouting**. See the **Mount Baker Council's** Flyer on adjacent **Page 15**.

August Chapter Meeting

We had a good turnout of members at our August meeting. After the short business portion of the agenda, guest speaker **Glen Bartolotti** took the floor. **Glen** spoke about a horrific incident that occurred many years ago while waterfowl hunting on **Puget Sound**. He, his hunting partner and dog decided to hunt from his small boat on an adverse weather day out of **Port Susan**. The small boat took on water after a couple large waves and capsized. **Glen's** hunting partner and good friend along with his dog lost their lives in this incident.

Glen, after 4 and a half hours in the water made it to shore — waders and life jacket on.

Glen wanted to share this terrifying ordeal with other hunters not only in memory of his lost friend, but to also talk about the mistakes made that day and to lead a discussion on safe hunting practice on the water.

Thank you **Glen** for sharing your story and keeping safety in the forefront of our waterfowl hunting adventures.

Welcome to all the new WWA members!

Welcome to the recent new members of the **WWA!** Chapter members look forward to getting to know you. A good way to get to know the club and its members is by attending a chapter meeting or event.

Membership Renewal and Next Meeting

If you have not renewed your membership you can do so online on the **WWA** website linked [here](#), or you can also renewal at the next chapter meeting.

The **NW Chapter** meets on the second Wednesday each month at the **Twin Cities Sportsmen's Club** in **Stanwood**. Trap at 6:00 pm and business meeting starting at 7pm. 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/>



Grays Harbor Chapter Chair Kurt Snyder gets ready to test folks on their Duck ID knowledge!



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

www.tcsportsmanclub.org

News for the Flock

**Mount Baker Council
2022 Sporting Clays
Pull for Scouting**

Saturday, September 10, 2022
Granite Falls Sportsman's Club
Games begin: 9:00am
Event Kickoff: 10:00am
www.mountbakerbsa.org

Register for the
2022 Sporting Clays Eve

News for the Flock

WA Waterfowl Association, Yesterday and Today

By Bob Taylor and Dick Price

Yesterday:

The **Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA)** was founded in 1945 as the "**Washington Duck Hunters Incorporated (WDHI)**." The founders were convinced that "Only through the united efforts of its members would the voice of the wildfowler be heard." The organization's goals were:

1. To conserve our waterfowl and preserve and improve our hunting opportunities, and
2. To secure more hunting areas from state and federal agencies.



The first newsletter of the newly formed **WDHI** stated that the organization had one objective: "To do everything possible to provide more and better duck and goose hunting for hunters of the Northwest." This newsletter also pledged that the organization would, "Keep in touch with activities of both the-then **Washington Department of Game (WDG)** and the **U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)** and try to protect our rights as hunters." The newsletter noted that, "We are the only group in the state devoting all its efforts to obtaining better waterfowl shooting." Additionally added was the statement, "We are exerting every effort to establish duck refuges in **Washington**, and wherever possible, to have public shooting grounds in conjunction therewith."

This newsletter declared, even in 1945, that more resting and feeding areas were needed to hold birds in our state and to aid them during migration. The newsletter ended with the plea to **Washington** waterfowl hunters, "The organization needs you as much as you need them. They're your ducks, and it's your duck hunting, protect them both!"

The 12 founding members of **WDHI** all owned or were part of a group that had "Duck Shacks" on the **North Fork of the Skagit River** along **Fir Island**. Their concern was that ducks did not stay in the area very long, so in 1954 they convinced **U.S. Senators Warren Magnuson** and **Henry "Scoop" Jackson** to pressure the **Washington Legislature** to spend **Pieman-Robertson** funds to buy **Fir Island** for the then **Washington Department of Game (WDG)** as a resting and food source for migrating ducks.

This was the first of several attempts by **WDHI** to increase harvest potential. The second attempt was they paid **WDG** to trap mallards in the **Columbia Basin** and transport them to the **Skagit Flats**. **WDG** trapped 50 pair and released them on the **Big Ditch** area. The ducks were back in the **Basin** before the **Department** employees returned home. lol

The Beginning of Funding for WWA

WDHI has had many homes over the years, when **Dick Price** first joined in 1960 we were meeting at the **Paine Field Gun Club** in **Everett**; then the **Sea Isle Gun Club** in **Redmond**; then back to **Paine Field**. From there one of the founders, **Ferd Nist**, bought the **Clearview Gun Club**, and **WDHI** met there for many years until **Ferd's** death. As part of the original deal, every time **WDHI** had \$1,000 in the bank, **Ferd** would sell it a share of the **Gun Club**.

At **Ferd's** passing **WDHI** was able to continue operations for another year or two before **Ferd's** widow, **Ione**, gave us an ultimatum — either buy the **Gun Club** or she would sell it. We were not in a position to buy it nor run it so it was sold, and **WDHI** received our share of the proceeds from the sale which became the seed money, the bulk of which **WWA** still has.

(Continued on Page 17)

WWA Yesterday & Today Continued

The Beginning of the WA Migratory Bird Stamp

In 1984 **WDG Director Jack Whalin**, convinced **John Scott** and **Dick Price** that we should approach the **Senate Natural Resources Chairman** to draft a bill for a **State Duck Stamp** to create and maintain a separate fund dedicated for strictly for waterfowl projects. As **John** and **Dick** were co-chairs of the **WA State Sportsman's Council** we drafted a resolution to do just that and got approval of the entire **State Wildlife Committee**.

So in 1984 **Dick Price**, **John Scott**, **Robert Hood Hickok**, then-**WA State Ducks Unlimited (DU) Chairman Johnny Walker**, and the paid lobbyist for the **Wildlife Committee** all met in the office of the **Senate Natural Resources Committee Chairman**. After he looked at our draft bill, he said no way would he consider our bill.

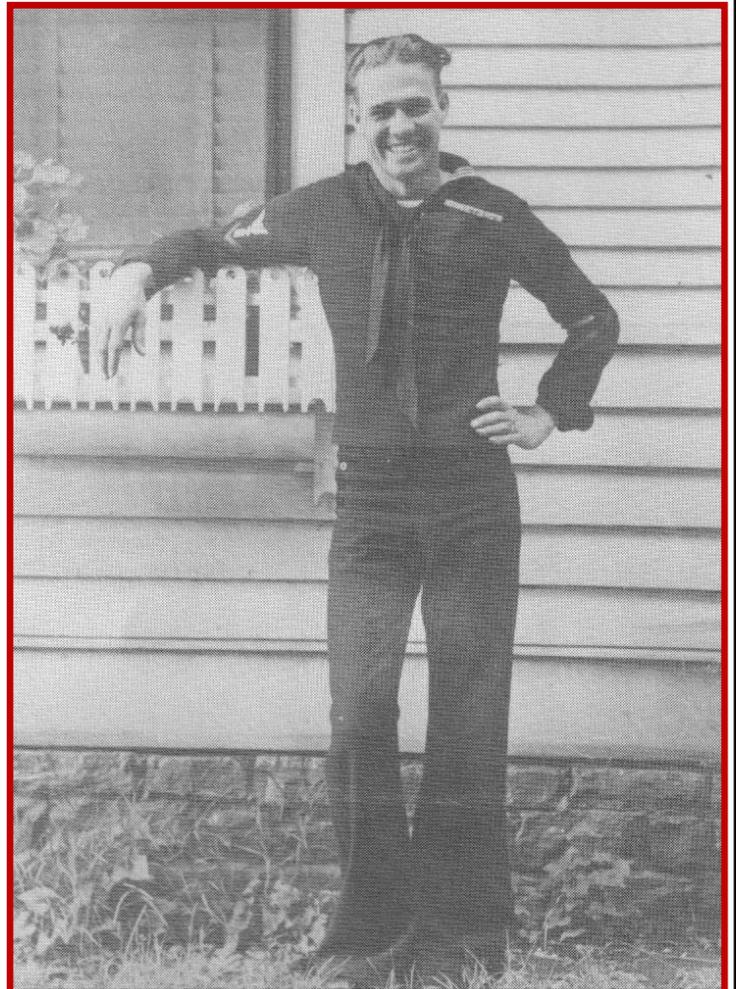
However he said he would have one of his people rewrite the bill, and if we would approve it, he would move it forward. Frankly he didn't think hunters could get the support of other hunters to "tax" themselves beyond the existing federal duck stamp. In 1986 the bill became law, and the **Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Program** was created and has generated a lot of money for multiple waterfowl projects around the state.

Today:

WWA has strayed little from the original goals set in 1945. We still focus entirely on our state and do everything possible to preserve our waterfowling heritage. We pride ourselves in being the voice of the Washington waterfowler and every dollar we receive stays in our state.

As explained on our website linked [here](#), we are focused on **Conservation, Hunter Advocacy, Access, Education**, and providing a **Community** where Washingtonians interested in waterfowl and waterfowl hunting can interact together.

Conservation: Our motto is "**Hunters for Conservation**," and this is the work we most enjoy. Our habitat improvement efforts include spraying and removal of invasive plants, installing and maintaining wood duck boxes, mallard nesting tubes, and goose nesting platforms. In addition our "**Hands-On Conservation**" includes volunteer work on bird banding projects with the **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)**; performing waterfowl population counts for the **USFWS**; planting crops vital for waterfowl during both the fall and spring migration. Many of our members serve on the state's **Waterfowl Advisory Group (WAG)** to provide advice



One of WWA's Founders, Robert Hood Hickok.

to the **WDFW** regarding hunting regulations, and bag limits, and directions for expenditure[s] from the dedicated fund established by the **Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Program**. Since 2012 **WWA** has also run the **Washington State Duck Stamp and Print Program**, linked [here](#), which garners more conservation funds and supports the **Junior Duck Stamp Program**, which encourages young artists.

Community: Our dedicated members are what make **WWA** "tick." We are a "**boots on the ground**" organization with much to offer for those who love the waterfowl and wildlife heritage with which we are blessed, and who are **willing to "give back"** to these resources so they may be **enjoyed by future generations**.

We have chapters all up and down the I-5 corridor from **Vancouver, Gray's Harbor, Tacoma, Seattle**, the **Skagit Area**, to **Whatcom County**; and across the **Cascades** in **Spokane, Moses Lake, Wenatchee** and the **Yakima Valley**. We are actively seeking to add to this list!

(Continued on Page 18)

WWA Yesterday & Today Continued

Our chapters provide monthly meetings and other social events where our members may gather, often shoot trap or 5-stand, swap hunting stories, and generally enjoy each other’s company. Besides the **website**, we also maintain **Facebook** and **Instagram** accounts for those who enjoy waterfowl.

Hunter Advocacy: As in 1945, we are still the only waterfowl hunter advocacy group focused exclusively on Washington State. In recent years we’ve found ourselves fighting to preserve and protect areas where waterfowl hunting has historically been allowed. Recent victories include defeating a proposed **Thurston County** ordinance which would have effectively closed hunting to much of **southern Puget Sound**.

We succeeded in getting the **Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)** to withdraw a plan to drain **Shillapoo**, a large state-run **Wildlife Management Area (WMA)** in **southwest Washington**. Had this plan gone to completion, it would have reduced **Shillapoo** waterfowl usage by two-thirds and hunter area by one-third.

We also stopped a plan to connect **Post Office Lake** on the **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (NWR)** to the **Columbia River**. This would have introduced carp and other invasive plants into the lake and destroyed a habitat frequently used by Canvasback ducks.

Our most recent victory — in which we received a lot of help from various tribes — involved shelving a proposed **Whatcom County** ordinance to ban hunting in **Drayton Harbor**, a great place to hunt sea-ducks.

Unfortunately, we have also suffered some defeats. We couldn’t stop an action — greatly deleterious to Waterfowl — on the **Farmed Island** segment of the **Skagit Wildlife Area** in **north Puget Sound**.

We have been trying for years to limit or stop indiscriminate eelgrass spaying in **Pacific County’s Willapa Bay**. Eelgrass is essential to the **Black Brant** and many other waterfowl and is also important as nesting cover for forage fish vital to salmon, such as herring. There’s strength in numbers and, as in 1945, we could use more numbers!

Access: We maintain blinds and access trails in many **WMA’s** as well as the **Ridgefield NWR** and in more local places as well. We have purchased and built numerous blinds including several intended for those with limited mobility. Our chapters re-camo these blinds in the early fall and clean them up after season’s end.

Education: We have an active hunter **mentorship program** focused on introducing waterfowl hunting to those who have never tried it, and we also partner with other organizations in holding various “**wounded warrior**” hunting events for disabled veterans.

We are in the process of completing a “**Waterfowl 101**” course to be displayed on our website.

We hold the official **Washington State Duck and Goose Calling Championship** every year — the winner of which goes to Stuttgart, Arkansas, to compete in the **World’s Championship Duck Calling Contest**, and we sponsor a **junior calling contest** to encourage youth.

We also count among our membership quite a few **Hunter Ed instructors**.

Over the years **WDHI/WWA** has made a lot of progress on habitat projects and made sure that the **Voice of the Waterfowler** has been heard. Unfortunately over the past several years our voice on the West Side has been overshadowed by that of the Federal Government and their ability to throw money at **Salmon Recovery** without much success, but the loss of several prominent waterfowl hunting, feeding and resting sites.

We love the natural bounty found in our state and wish to preserve, protect, and enjoy it!

Spokane Chapter News

Wenatchee Chapter News

Whatcom County Chapter News

Yakima Valley Chapter News

No News This Month



News for the Flock



2022 - 23

MENTORING KICKOFF

Mentors and
Mentees - Sign
up now

Contact Paul McGovern for
sign-up
hans1031@frontier.com

Pizza Party for
the Chapter with
the most
participation

**DON'T MISS THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO PASS ON
THE TIME-HONORED TRADITION OF NORTHWEST
WATER FOWLING AND TO IMPART YOUR KNOWLEDGE
ON THE NEXT GENERATION OF WATERFOWL
HUNTER/CONSERVATIONISTS.**



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)**.

Did You Do Your Duty?

"The price of freedom is eternal vigilance."

-- Thomas Jefferson

The **Washington State Primary** is over. In the April 2022 **Legislative Report**, I urged Washington hunters to get involved in state politics. **Hunters Heritage Council Hall of Fame Member Brian Blake** asked, *"Hunters have one chance. Will they get out on the ground and work for pro-hunting/conservation candidates from August through the election?"* From the election analysis, sportsmen and sportswomen unfortunately voted in very low numbers and also unfortunately answered **Blake's** question with a resounding **"NO!"**

If you didn't know who to vote for the **WWA** gave you the **HHC's** endorsement as recommendations. The **HHC** fully vets and researches its endorsements to make sure that they are endorsing the best candidates for the hunting community.

There was no reason for not voting. If you didn't like the **HHC** endorsements, then vote your own ticket, but vote. **Blake** implored, *"Hunters/conservationists need to work for the future of our heritage or not. It is their call."* This starts by voting. This is not a guilt trip. This is asking to take a hard look in the mirror. We have seven (7) short weeks until the general election, and we need a more friendly **Senate Natural Resources Committee**.

One really bright spot for the hunting community, especially the waterfowl hunting community, our public enemy number one, **Alicia Rule** only received 48.68% of the vote, and the two Republicans combined received

51.26% of the vote, with the **HHC-endorsed** candidate, **Tawsha Dykstra Thompson** receiving the vast majority of the Republican vote at 35.24%.

If you remember, while serving on the **Blaine City Council**, **Alicia Rule** was the prime sponsor of the **Drayton Harbor No-Shooting Ordinance**. We need to work for Tawsha — help her even if you're not in her district. *"The entire house is up this year and half the Senate,"* notes **Brian Blake**. *"Every seat matters."*

Blake foresees another wave election building this fall and advises sportsmen to 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.

I beat this drum before, and I will beat it again. I will sound like a broken record. Do you care enough about our sport to fight for it? Hunters need to get involved with electioneering. We all need to get involved this fall and work for pro-hunting candidates. Listen to **Brian Blake!** *"Elections and hunting season happen simultaneously and hunters need to participate in both if we are to retain our heritage."*

A Democrat and multi-year **HHC 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."* Help our **HHC-endorsed** candidates like **Tawsha Thompson**. We can defeat **Alicia Rule!** Majorities matter! Whether you doorbell for them, make phone calls for them, send them a contribution — help them in some way.

I have repeated the **three "T"s** a candidates needs to win a campaign, and I will repeat them again; *"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 are have outstanding fundraising skills, pro-hunting candidates can use your *"Talent,"* the second **"T."** Finally, pro-hunting candidates need money — a lot of it — 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 have a very, very bad **Fish and Wildlife Commission**. We all have to do our part. Not everyone has the finances to contribute to a campaign. The one thing everyone can do is **VOTE**. You have no excuse for not voting. If you can commit to a campaign, do it. Our hunting future depends on all of us.

(Continued on Page 23)

WDFW News

2022 Mourning Dove Banding

By: Matthew Wilson
WDFW Statewide Waterfowl Specialist

on the west side as well. Trapping occurs at state wildlife areas, national wildlife refuges, and on private properties, up until 10 days before the hunt season.



Wing coverts and primaries with white edges and spots are Hatch Year (HY) markings.

Beginning around July 1st, WDFW staff and volunteers have been capturing and banding **Mourning Doves** as part of our effort to monitor harvest and survival of this migratory game bird, — who along with **Band-Tailed Pigeons** — usually receive about five per cent (5%) of “**Duck Stamp**” monies in Washington State.

Most mourning dove are captured using a simple walk-in trap baited with wheat grain. Birds are aged as **Hatch Year (HY)** where sexing is not determinable by plumage, or **After Hatch Year (AHY)** where sex determination is easier but not always possible.

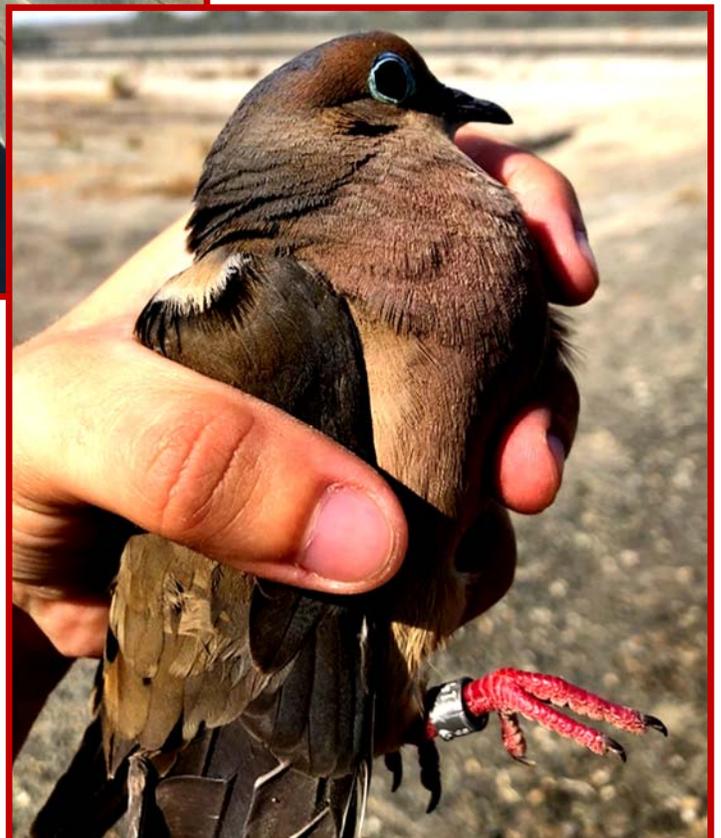
We actively trap in multiple areas, mostly on the east side of the state, but we have some banding occurring

Mourning dove are the most widespread and abundant game bird in North America, and hunters harvest more than 20 million per year. Washington has a 60 day hunt season beginning September 1st.

[Daily Limit of 15; Possession Limit of 45]. See link to **Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Seasons** [here](#).

While they may be challenge to hit, they make for some great table fare!

Please check those legs for bands and report them to ReportBand.gov.



Banded adult male set for release. Note the rosy chest and blue/gray crown.

CDFW and WDFW News Briefs

California Raises Cost of Duck / Upland Stamps for Nest Habitat

JOINT NEWS RELEASE:
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
California Waterfowl Association

State legislation to incentivize the creation of upland nesting habitat for ducks and other ground-nesting game birds in California will result in a **\$10 surcharge** on the price of both the **California Duck Validation** and the **Upland Game Bird Validation** next hunting season.

For the 2022-23 hunting license year, the cost of the California Duck Validation will increase to \$34.56 (\$23.25 in 2021-22).

The Upland Game Bird Validation will cost \$21.60 (\$10.54 in 2021-22).

The bird hunting validations, along with 2022-23 hunting licenses, tags and related items, were made available for purchase beginning April 15th. The \$10 surcharge is added to the annual price increase mandated by state law (\$1.31 for the **California Duck Validation** and \$1.06 for the **Upland Game Bird Validation**).

The legislation requiring the \$10 surcharge for each validation does not apply to validations included with the **Lifetime Bird Hunting Privilege Package** purchased by **Lifetime Hunting License** holders.

AB 614 by Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (D -Winters) was sponsored by the **California Waterfowl Association (CWA)** and signed into law by **Gov. Gavin Newsom** last October.

The resulting \$10 surcharge is expected to generate more than \$2 million annually to fund the **Nesting Bird Habitat Incentive Program**, which will be administered by the **California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW)** to benefit nesting mallards and other puddle ducks, wild ring-necked pheasants, pollinators and other grassland-dependent species.

All revenue generated from the validation surcharge must be dedicated to the program by law and cannot be diverted to other uses.

"I am proud that **CWA** sponsored this important legislation, and I am excited to see it implemented on the ground," said **CWA President John Carlson Jr.** "Once again, hunters are taking the financial lead to ensure that our

nesting bird populations have the habitat necessary to be successful."

The **Nesting Bird Habitat Incentive Program** is designed to provide financial incentives to California landowners to cultivate or retain upland cover and other vegetation to benefit nesting wildlife. The funding can also be used to support habitat work on state wildlife areas and national wildlife refuges open to public hunting.

As a result of drought and water shortages, thousands of acres rice fields and other farmland throughout the state were fallowed last year. The **Nesting Bird Habitat Incentive Program** will soon be able to offer those farmers financial payments to plant their fallowed fields in cover crops and other beneficial vegetation to provide productive nesting habitat for ducks, pheasants and other wildlife.

To see what California waterfowl hunters are saying about the surcharge, use these active link ([link 1](#) and [link 2](#)) to view some 23 pages of Hunter Comments — both pro and con — on the California Refuge Forum.

Potholes Reservoir Water Access Area to Close thru mid-December

August 10, 2022

SPOKANE – The popular **WDFW-managed Glen Williams Access Area** on the **Potholes Reservoir in Grant County** will close for construction from August 15th until December 15, 2022.

People from all over the state come to **Glen Williams** to launch boats and take advantage of great fishing and water recreation opportunities. The ramp is in poor condition and improvements are necessary to keep it safe and usable for the public. Work on this project will include installing a new boat ramp and **ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act)** loading area and paving and striping the **ADA** and launch area. This work is happening now to take advantage of low water levels. New toilets and a board float will be installed at a later time when materials become available.

For those who use the **Potholes Reservoir**, there are alternative launch areas nearby including at **MarDon Resort, Potholes State Park** and at the nearby **WDFW-managed Blythe Water Access Area**. **MarDon** and the **State Park** launch are accessible at low water.

WA Predator Updates

Legislative Report Continued from Page 20

"If you will not fight for right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when your victory is sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."

-- Winston Churchill

Update on Whatcom County Black Bear Attack

**Updated Aug. 10, 2022
WDFW News Release**

On Wednesday, August 3rd at about 8:30 a.m., **WDFW** Officers received a report of a human-black bear incident that occurred on a trail in a forested area north of **Lake Whatcom in central Whatcom County**. The person involved is an adult male who was jogging on a trail. He sustained multiple injuries to his hands and feet and received medical care at a local hospital.

"We are extremely thankful that the victim is recovering and receiving medical care from this unfortunate encounter," said **Captain Jennifer Maurstad, WDFW Police North Puget Sound**. *"He did everything right during the incident and we wish him a speedy recovery. Wild animal encounters are unpredictable but, in most cases, they wish to avoid conflict as much as we do."*

The victim was released from the hospital later that afternoon. That evening, officers with the use of a **Karelian** bear dog located and lethally removed an adult black bear near where the incident occurred.

That evening, officers with the use of a Karelian bear dog, located and lethally removed an adult black bear near where the incident occurred.

In Washington state, the only recorded fatal black bear attack on a human was reported in 1974. Since 1970, state authorities have recorded 18 other human-black bear encounters that resulted in a documented injury. The most recent was in 2015.

Advice if You Contact a Bear in the Wild

WDFW officials offer the following advice to minimize the risk of injury if a bear is encountered in the wild:

In general bears avoid people, but they're naturally curious animals. If a bear walks toward you:

- Identify yourself as a human by standing up, waving your hands above your head, and talking in a low voice.
- Back away, avoiding direct eye contact.
- Don't run from a bear.
- **WDFW** recommends making noise and leashing pets while hiking.
- Be aware of your surroundings as to not accidentally startle a bear.
- While recreating, **WDFW** recommends carrying bear spray that is readily accessible and knowing how to use it. More information on how to use bear spray is available on WDFW's blog.

For more information on living with black bears go to the following active link [here](#).

Predatory Wildlife Incident Reports

From WDFW

State law requires **WDFW** to post on its website all reported incidents involving "predatory wildlife," **defined as cougars, wolves, and grizzly bears**. As directed by **RCW 77.12.885** linked [here](#) this includes accounts of "safety confrontations or sightings, as well as the known details of reported depredations by predatory wildlife on humans, pets, or livestock" within 10 days of receiving a report.

WDFW bases this information on reports by citizens to the **Department**. Multiple reports that are very close in time and geographic location may be recorded as one incident. All reports are sited in the general vicinity of the incident.

For incidents occurring **on or after** August 1, 2022 click [here](#) to view the map.

For incidents occurring **before** August 1, 2022 click [here](#) for **Wildlife Conflict — Dangerous Incident Reports**.

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.

P-Platinum Level — \$5,000; G-Gold Level — \$2,000; S-Silver Level — \$1,000; B-Bronze Level — \$500

H-Honorary Member; D-Deceased

WWA Life Members

#1 Gary Talbert P	#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 P	#18 Mike Lutz P	#19 Reserved on Time Payments	#20 Brett Stark S
#21 Earl Mikkelson S	#22 US Rep Jaime Herrera Beutler H	#23 Ken Packard P	#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 P	#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
#66 Marc Bruno	#67 Todd Teeters			

New Platinum Life Membership and Life Member Building Fund

At its monthly meeting of May 4, 2022 the WWA Board of Directors — at the request of **Gold Life Member, Gary Talbert** — voted unanimously to create a **new Platinum Life Membership at the \$5,000 level.**

Gary, then immediately donated of \$7,000 to WWA to establish a **Membership Fund** challenging existing WWA members to step up and become Life Members at any level, and the Fund will pay the first \$200.00!

Already two (2) WWA members have taken advantage of Gary's most recent round of generosity and have stepped up their regular memberships to the Bronze Life Member Level.

In previous years at WWA banquets and other gatherings, **Gary** challenged other WWA members to step up to **Life Memberships**, and again put his money where his mouth was by agreeing to pay the first \$125 (later upped to \$150) installment towards that step up! **Twenty-three (23)** Life Members on the list above were recipients of **Gary's** current and previous dedicated donations and membership building efforts as WWA's first Membership Chairman.

Life Memberships of those like **Gary** who have previously donated substantially in excess of \$5,000 will be upgraded to the new **Platinum Level Membership.**

Thank you **Gary** for your continuing generosity to WWA.

Classified Ads – For Sale / Wanted

Wanted

20 gauge autoloader, 28" barrel. Call Bruce, 206-714-8020

A waterfowl boat blind that would fit an 18' foot Lowe boat. Contact Regan, 209-283-0804

Shotgun for new duck hunter. Contact Bryan, 253-590-3301

For Sale

INMAR 380-TS, 12'6" Inflatable. Option for a 5 HP Nissan short shaft outboard to go with it. \$1,500, Contact Dan, 425-286-7768



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.



5th Wheel Trailer / Truck Combo — \$60,000; 2003 Ford F350, 1 owner, 84,000 miles; 2004 Mobile Suites 33RS3, 1 owner, Extras Contact Dick, 425-501-8166

Mud River Dixie Insulated Kennel Cover, used but in good condition. Large Extended Size is 37" x 27"; Located near Lynnwood. \$75, Contact Paul, 425-361-5050

1. Remington Model 11 Auto in 16 Ga., completely refinished, nice wood, looks new, full choke, **Legal Transfers Only**, \$495. Contact Robert, 206-940-7777
2. Ithaca Model 37 pump in standard 12 ga. With **Poly-Choke...** works with steel shot, lightweight classic, in VG condition. \$495. Contact Robert, 206-940-7777
3. Ithaca Model 37 Deluxe Grade 20 ga. pump, like new w/ vent rib and Full Choke, beautiful wood, \$795, Contact Robert, 206-940-7777

4. Winchester Pre-64 Model 70 in 300 H &H, rare gun in near new original condition, Mfg. in 1948. This is a Classic, \$3,400. Contact Robert, 206-940-7777

Duck Decoys, Goose Decoys, & a Custom Packhorse Game / Decoy Cart. Contact Mel, 206 818-4230

(Photo at Right)

Large Dakota, 283 Dog Kennel, \$375

Compare at \$499 — \$529
Call Zach, 253-691-9368

(Photo at Left)

3 Dozen Canada Goose Shells; 12 Sentinels, 24 Feeders, with metal stakes; Will deliver to La Connor or Conway. \$50
Call or Text Art, 206-755-1441



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 **July 2022 Newsletter**.

WWA General Fund — \$1,727

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 \$350.
- Seaducks & Mergansers are \$380.
- Goose mount is \$500.
- One pheasant mount is \$320.

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, so as not to leak ink.
- 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.



News for the Flock

2022-23 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print

The Washington Waterfowl Association is pleased to present the 2022-23

Washington State Migratory Bird Stamp
and
Limited Edition Print

Artist Donnie Hughes



Revenue received through this program will be used by the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) 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 a check to:

WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION
DUCK STAMP PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 7823
BONNEY LAKE, WA 98391

News for the Flock

2022 Washington Migratory Bird Stamp Print Order Form

Please send me:

Quantity _____ 2022 Signed & numbered print with
matching stamp \$70.00



Quantity _____ Frame (**ONLY SOLD WITH
PURCHASE OF PRINT & STAMP**) \$105.00

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

Please Ship Prints to:

Name _____

Address _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

2022 Signed & numbered print with matching stamp	\$ 70.00
Frame (ONLY SOLD WITH PURCHASE OF PRINT & STAMP)	\$ 105.00
Shipping & Handling	\$ 10.00
Total Amount:	\$ 185.00

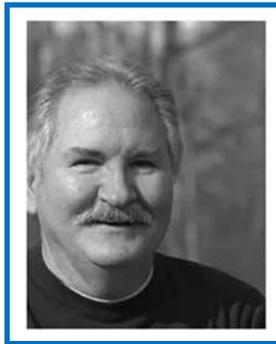
Easier Yet
Go To The Active Link Below

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

To Place Your Order

News for the Flock

MEET THE 2022 WASHINGTON STATE DUCK STAMP COMPETITION WINNER AND WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION'S ARTIST OF THE YEAR



Donnie Hughes

Donnie Hughes is from Lexington, SC. Hughes graduated from Anderson College and the University of South Carolina with a BA degree in Art. He worked as the Art Director for a printing company for 35 years before concentrating on painting full time 11 years ago.

Donnie and his identical twin brother Ronnie both were raised with an hugh appreciation for the beauty in nature's environment, and like most brothers of similar age both are very encouraging of the other, but also very competitive in their artistic endeavors in many state and national competitions and shows.

In addition to being the winning artist for the 2022 WA State Duck Stamp, Donnie was also named 2015-2016 Artist of the Year for Idaho Ducks Unlimited as well as the artist for 2014-2015 SC Duck Stamp. Waterfowl is not his only Subject as his resume also includes being a two-time winner of the Delaware Trout Stamp.

Thanks for Your Support

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.

2022-2023 Migratory Game Bird Regulations 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 SPORTSMEN'S 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)**
- Platinum Lifetime* — \$ 5,000.00 (New, 5/4/2022)**
- ** 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.