

THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING

A DIVISION OF WILDLIFE WATCH, INC.

© 2017 BY WILDLIFE WATCH, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Summer/Fall 2017

MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting - is to accomplish what its name says in the shortest possible time. Understanding that abolishing hunting entails a process, a series of steps taken and not a single action that would effect our goal overnight, a time frame cannot be established. We hope for building a succession of wins, and if not wins immediately then at least a succession of stirrings of consciousness. We hope to encourage those who are still silent to speak out, awakening community after community about the heavy hand of state and federal wildlife management agencies. We hope to alter whatever belief still exists that sport hunters are conservationists and champions of the environment to a realization that they are destroyers of wildlife and ecosystems in the narrow and broad sense. Where the natural feeling for wildlife doesn't exist, we strive to engender among citizens outrage that their own rights are violated by legal hunting and their quality-of-life diminished.

Luke A. Dommer was the founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. He was its president from 1976 until his passing in August 1992. Mr. Dommer's research and publications served as the foundation for the anti-hunting movement. He remains, through this organization, an invaluable and dedicated warrior in the battle to save wild animals, the environment, and general public from the silent economy that encourages and preys on the passion of a few to kill the wildlife that belongs to all.

Wildlife Watch Inc.

a 501(c)3 Not-for-Profit Corporation.
Contributions are tax-deductible.

C.A.S.H. COURIER

PO Box 562 New Paltz, NY 12561
845-256-1400 - Phone
wildwatch@verizon.net

Anne Muller - Editor

Robert Greenough - Desktop Publishing
www.wildwatch.org
www.abolishsport hunting.org

Education, Ethnicity, Gun Ownership, and the Dying Sport of Hunting

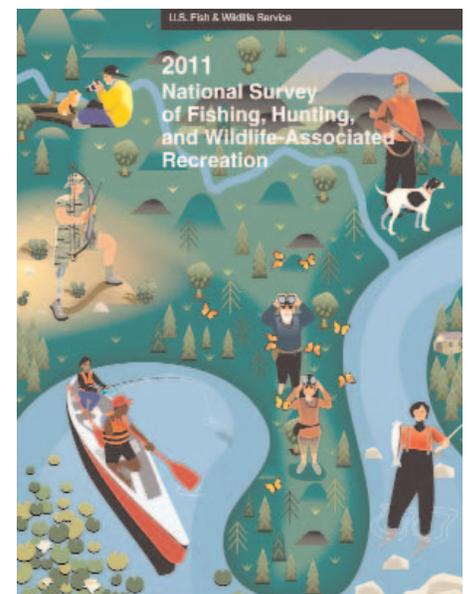
BY JOE MIELE

Every five years, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) publishes its *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*. While we eagerly await the publication of the full 2016 Survey in December, as it will show the further decline in the number of active hunters, the *2016 National Overview* has been published and it shows a 16% decline. We decided to take a look back to the latest full survey for information that tells an encouraging story if you're interested in pushing hunting into the abyss of extinction. This survey dated 2011, can be found at

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2012pubs/fhw11-nat.pdf>.

It's an interesting read if you're a statistics geek.

When we cracked open the publication to page 41, we found some interesting tables. **The first thing we noticed is that, in general, hunters have limited formal education.** Official USFWS statistics show that 47% of hunters have only a high-school education, and 73% of hunters do not have a four-year college degree. Because age is not factored into these numbers, this alone is not an indication that education is the enemy of hunting, but a table on page 39 shows us that 73% of hunters are aged 35 and older. By age 35 most



people are done with formal schooling, so **it may indeed be said that the more educated people are, the less likely they are to enjoy killing helpless wildlife.**

Another telling statistic comes from the US Census Bureau. Hispanics are the quickest growing ethnic group in the United States, and this does not bode well for the future of hunting. Getting back to page 41 we can see that Hispanics make up only 2% of hunters, while non-Hispanic whites (a shrinking segment of American society) are 94% of all hunters. This indicates that kids should be encouraged

Please see EDUCATION Page 2

EDUCATION & THE DYING SPORT OF HUNTING

Continued from page 1

to stay in school and pursue formal education past high school and college and into graduate school. As we've learned, education is one of the nails in sport hunting's coffin.

Looking at the 2016 National Overview, we've found data showing that despite the best efforts of the hunting cartel, hunting is less popular now than it has been in decades. Some may wish to disagree, but the proof is in the data. In 2016, 11.5 million people 16 years old and older went hunting. This is only 5% of the U.S. population and a 16% decrease from 2011 to 2016. The numbers of big game hunters fell 20%, and hunters seeking "other animals" decreased by 39%. **Interestingly, and despite ever increasing costs, total hunting-related spending decreased 29% between 2011 and 2016. For the first time the report is tracking non-hunting firearm and archery target shooters, and the number of people who participate in these forms of recreation exceed the number of active hunters. In 2016 there were 32 million target shooters using firearms and 12.4 million archery target shooters. The number of non-hunting archery shooters is larger than the number of all hunters combined.** I like that.

Predictably, hunting apologists are coming up with the same old excuses for why interest in hunting is waning.

Hunting columnist Ken Perrotte of the *Free Lance-Star* in Fredericksburg, VA, blames forest mismanagement, anti-logging "tree-huggers," and kids who are increasingly burying their faces in smartphones and video games for the lack of interest in hunting. **One thing hunters consistently fail to see is that hunting is dying because today there is greater access to information than ever before.** Back in the day, when a child was taken hunting for the first time and became upset over the needless death of a harmless and helpless animal, it was much easier for the adult accompanying that child to brainwash him by saying "deer are dying of starvation and we have to thin the herd; nature is cruel; this makes them healthier; it's a proud and noble tradition, blah blah blah." **Today nearly every child and teenager has access to the Internet where truthful information about hunting is posted everywhere. They can learn for themselves how hunting creates overpopulation, devastates the environment, and causes horrific suffering. They no longer see hunting in the same distorted light that was shining 40 years ago. Is it any wonder why hunters want to keep kids off their computers and smartphones?**

Joe Miele is a board member of C.A.S.H. and former President.

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE LAS VEGAS MASSACRE AND HUNTING

WHO FINANCIALLY BENEFITTED FROM THIS DEVASTATING CRIME? ANSWER: THE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AGENCIES!

C.A.S.H. has been writing about this for a long time, but isn't it time for the media and anti-gun groups to understand the connection between the purchase of firearms and ammunition and the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)?

If bullets aren't expended, the "wildlife conservation economy" would come to a screeching halt.

Normally animals are the recipients of bullets, and the game agencies' purpose is to continue to create animal victims to keep the firearms manufacturers in business...

But every weapon used in crime, every bullet shot into a person, pays into the USFWS and is then doled out to the states depending on the number of hunting permits sold relative to the state's land area.

Shouldn't Congress now be appropriating what is needed for people's funerals, medical bills, hospitalization, and families left without breadwinners when someone is killed



or maimed by firearms in urban crimes?

The Pittman-Robertson Act places an excise tax on firearms and ammunition regardless of the use (except military and law enforcement equipment) which then goes to the USFWS. **The P-R Act needs to be revisited in the light of how many people are being killed or injured by firearms.**

BEARS ARE SAFE IN CONNECTICUT FOR NOW

BY JANET PISZAR

As a longtime NJ bear protector, I have followed Connecticut's defeated bear hunt proposal.

Twice I completed black bear field studies with Dr. Lynn Rogers in Ely, Minnesota. Dr. Rogers studied black bears for 50+ years and is the world's foremost expert and researcher. **Black bears are shy and skittish. Their survival instinct is to run away or up a tree at the slightest perceived threat** (www.bearstudy.org and www.bear.org). **However, more important, was learning the predictable political plays behind instigating a bear hunt.**

Fish & wildlife agencies employ wildlife biologists who are hunters. Agencies are in desperate need for hunting license revenue and millions annually from Pittman-Robertson federal grants. In part, apportionment is contingent on the number of hunting licenses sold. More species in the game code equals more licenses sold.



Bear hunts restrict seasons and bag limits to ensure there will be bears for the subsequent years' hunts. Hunters buy licenses when there is *shootable surplus* for likelihood of success. Selling licenses is fish and game's covert goal.

Connecticut's Lt. Governor, Nancy Wyman, deserves accolades for her deciding dissenting vote in the Senate. However, **fish & wildlife agencies will persist to resurrect the proposed bear hunt by furthering public acceptance.**

Connecticut bear protectors must prepare for the heightening of the bear-scare campaign. This biased agency collects/compiles statistics, and can manipulate, fabricate, conceal or reveal what fulfills its purpose. Most often, fish & wildlife agencies are autonomous and without constraints of accountability.

Unsurprisingly, fish & wildlife will publicize increased nuisance complaints, escalated bear-human interactions, supposed aggressive behaviors, bears visiting parks and schools, etc. The latter will serve to evoke fear in children, parents, and administrators. **The agency will grossly exaggerate danger to children so politicians will look criminally negligent to not support bear hunts.**

Bear protection activists should visit parks/schools in Litchfield County/bear country and photodocument the unprotected dumpsters that lure bears. Onus must be placed on school administrators/township officials for negligence in not deterring bear foragers – not the opportunistic bears who are just being bears.

Contrary to what was published in Connecticut, bears are one of the slowest reproducing species. Sows (females) first breed between three and eleven years of age and thereafter every other year. Cubs remain with their mother for 17 months before dispersing, when the mom is then able to mate again.

Bears, according to law, are a publicly owned natural

resource, are indisputably a self-regulating species.

According to Dr. Rogers' research, despite having mated, sow reproduction will fail if, when going to den, she is under 147 pounds. The sow would not be able to sustain herself and a pregnancy without food and water for five or more months of hibernation/torpor. Sows weighing 148-176 may have cubs but with higher mortalities.

This is a precise example of how population follows food supply. Less food translates to a lowered ability to reproduce.

Bear problems are human problems. Research by Dr. Edward Tavss, Rutgers University professor, proved hunting is ineffective in lowering bear complaints. Removal creates a vacuum whereby surviving bears fill in vacated territory and continue to scavenge for food. **Human provided food/garbage, bird feeders, pet food left outside, etc. are invitations!** Regardless of the population, bears will find the food sources in human environments.

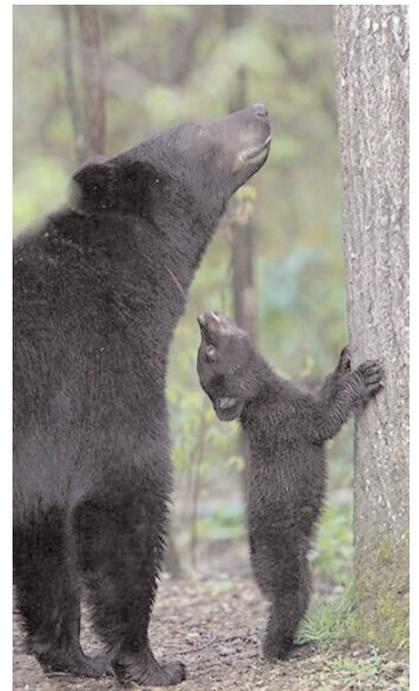
Hunting a black bear who may be aberrant and dangerous is comparable to firing a gun into a crowd of people to kill a dangerous person who **may be lurking** within.

Connecticut's increasing fragmentation of wildlife habitat brings bears closer to homes. **Nonlethal bear management works at the core of the issue—removing the attractants that lure bears into human environments. In other aspects, people behavior affects bear behavior. Residents in bear country must enlighten themselves, adapt to coexist, and accept that bears are their other neighbors.**

“Hunting is not for wildlife management; wildlife management is for hunting” (Humane Society of the United States). **I hope that Connecticut's animal rights activists persevere to keep black bears safe from what would be purely recreational hunts.**

<http://www.indianpointcamp.com/dryden-black-bear-hunting.htm>

Janet Pizar is founder of PUBLIC TRUST Wildlife Management, est. 2011
PO Box 646, Chatham, NJ 07928



WILDLIFE WATCH COMMENTS ON THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION'S (DEC) THIRD DRAFT PLAN FOR MUTE SWAN MANAGEMENT IN NEW YORK

BY ANNE MULLER, WILDLIFE WATCH INC.

The Plan addresses how to contain, limit, or eliminate mute swans regionally. There are two regions of concern. The first is the downstate region consisting of about 1500 mute swans (DEC Draft Plan, pg. 3, Figure 1) ranging across NYC, Long Island, Westchester, Putnam, and Rockland counties. The second region is upstate which, according to the Audubon Society Christmas count, has less than 200 mutes.

To understand the Bureau of Wildlife's (BOW's) near hysteria over the low number of mute swans, we have to look at it in the context of BOW's agenda, which is to increase waterfowl populations including two other swan subspecies: tundra and, especially, trumpeter swans FOR THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF HUNTING.

Waterfowl are managed across the country including NYS in cooperation with Canada to create an overpopulation of game species for sport hunting. Waterfowl and their management are of great importance to BOW for the firearms and ammunition excise tax yields from killing waterfowl.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), and state game agencies including BOW (operating within the DEC), are mandated by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, first announced and promoted in 1986, to increase waterfowl populations (ducks, geese and swans) for hunting <https://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/pdf/management/NAWMP/2012NAWMP.pdf>. Evaluation of their progress and changes to strategy occur about every five years. Waterfowl managers must manage our waters and lands to send millions



Mute Swan

of ducks, geese, and swans to the skies for eager hunters. While the NAWMP is touted as a "waterfowl conservation" plan, in fact it is the promotion of strategies to produce high numbers of waterfowl for hunters, while leaving a population to continue the cycle the following season.

Between the mid-90s and 2004, as an interested civilian, I attended an International Canada Goose Symposium in Madison, Wisconsin, and three Atlantic Flyway Council meetings that were held in Florida, Pennsylvania, and Georgia. At least one was a joint meeting of both the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyway Councils. I was privy to discussions at the general meetings, as well as the closed committee meetings, and filmed a number of these meetings prior to the existence of YouTube and the popularity of the Internet. The videos captured the inner workings of what self-congratulatory wildlife managers referred to as "world-class science." During the meetings, waterfowl managers shared what their state was doing to promote increases in waterfowl hunting and discussed how to satisfy their own hunters without lessening impacts on other states. In other words, since waterfowl migrate south in the winter and north

in the spring, if, for example, Maryland were to allow high bag limits, it would impact the hunting in NY as waterfowl migrated northward. Basically, I witnessed what was the sharing of management techniques, observations of waterfowl population status, and, shockingly, a bartering game of species and bag limits. The meetings were attended by the waterfowl managers of the states within the Flyway, as well as by representatives from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS). During the period I attended, Jerry Serie was the Flyway representative of the USFWS. He is now an advisor to The Trumpeter Swan Society (TTSS)

<http://www.trumpeterswansociety.org/your-society-at-work.html>

The goal of TTSS is to increase the trumpeter swan population to a hunt-able level. At that point, they would become a "game" species with seasons and bag limits for their killing.

TTSS is one of the driving forces behind the introduction of trumpeter swans in NYS. They describe their mission this way:

The Trumpeter Swan Society brings together private citizens, organizations, and public agencies to help meet challenges facing Trumpeter Swans today. It takes partnerships and collaboration to continue to restore and conserve these magnificent birds across North America.

TTSS has been North America's leader of Trumpeter Swan conservation since 1968. For nearly 50 years, TTSS has played a pivotal role by providing expert science based technical support in most of the major restoration programs. Our vibrant "swan network" of researchers, swan man-

Please see MUTE SWAN
COMMENTS, Page 5

MUTE SWAN COMMENTS

Continued from page 4

agers, and biologists have gathered and shared the best science based information and research to help bring back the Trumpeter Swan in areas where they have not been seen in more than a century. [They continue in that vein.]

TTSS' EFFORTS FOCUS IN FIVE MAJOR AREAS

Protecting and increasing the restoration progress already made

Working with Flyway Councils and swan managers on swan issues

Habitat assessment and protection
Public information/education

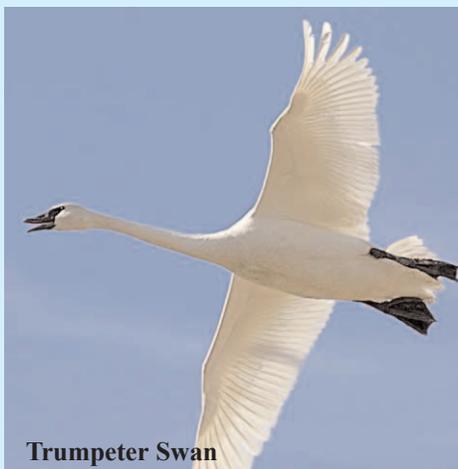
Swan research and its dissemination

At the second flyway meeting I attended, I was told I could videotape the general meetings, but not the committee meetings. At one of the committee meetings a small group of managers met for the purpose of demonstrating that the trumpeter swan was native to NY. The group included Jerry Serie representing the USFWS and Bryan Swift, who was the NYS Waterfowl Manager. Bryan had an exciting announcement to make: he asserted that there had been a sighting of a trumpeter swan in NYS in the 1800s. What a boon to the flyway council and to BOW, as that single sighting thus allowed NYS to claim that management efforts were for the purpose of the *REintroduction* of an extirpated species rather than for the *introduction* of a new species to the state, as the latter form of management is not legitimate.

Bryan Swift's trumpeter-sighting source is questionable in the light of a paper titled: THE STATUS OF TRUMPETER SWANS IN NEW YORK STATE IN 2007 by Dominic Sherony 51 Lambeth Loop, Fairport, NY 14450 dsherony@frontier.net Jeffrey S. Bolsinger 98 State St., Canton, NY 13617

<http://www.nybirds.org/KBsearch/2007v57n1/2007v57n1p2-8sherony.pdf>

The paper throws the legitimacy of BOW'S claim that it is "re"introducing trumpeters to NYS into question and has a significance that should



Trumpeter Swan

cause the NYS Legislature to take a hard look at wildlife management today.

The Sherony/Bolsinger paper's highlighted quotes below are excerpts for a quicker read. Their paper reveals that trumpeters are in fact being **INTRODUCED** into NYS state through a deliberate collaboration of the Canadian Wildlife Service, provincial wildlife agencies, the USFWS, BOW within the DEC, and private cooperators who are breeding trumpeters. One major breeding ground called Savannah Dhu doubles as a private hunt area for other species and is adjacent to the Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge, which is open to hunting during the season. Of particular relevance is the following:

Although most of these programs style themselves as "reintroduction" or "restoration" programs, and they are referred to in this manner below, the original breeding distribution of this species remains a contentious subject (Carroll and Swift 2000; Whan 2000; Rising 2001). Page 1 of the Sherony report.

The first reports of Trumpeter Swans (Cygnus buccinator) in NYS were of wing-tagged birds at Dunkirk Harbor, Chautauqua Co., in the fall of 1988. Since that time sightings have increased and breeding has been confirmed in at least six locations. Most likely, these NY birds are derived from two sources: the Ontario reintroduction program for this species,

and a private reserve in Clyde, Wayne Co., NY [Savannah Du] where unbanded fledglings have been allowed to roam freely since around 1990. Although less likely, swans from reintroduction programs in Ohio, Michigan, and Minnesota could also be a source for NYS birds. According to the DEC, tagged Trumpeter Swans in NYS are presumed to be from the Canadian reintroduction program north of Lake Ontario. Page 1 of the Sherony report.

To date there are at least four confirmed breeding locations for Trumpeter Swan in Wayne Co. The initial nesters were birds introduced at the Savannah Dhu, a 5000-acre private reserve at 2500 Noble Rd. in Clyde, NY, in 1990; one or possibly two pairs have been breeding there annually ever since. The original 4 birds were pinioned but subsequent breeding pairs there are all free ranging. Page 4 of the Sherony report.

As an example of nesting success, single nests in 2005 and 2006 produced six cygnets each year. &I The Savannah Dhu location has served as a most likely source for other Wayne Co. pairs. The longest known nesting site outside this private reserve is near the property of Don Colvin on Hogback Rd. just south of Rt. 31 in the township of Savannah, where one pair has successfully bred annually since 2002. This property contains a large pond, islands and a marsh, all visible from Hogback Rd. Six cygnets were hatched in 2007; four remained by the end of June. Another pair has bred in a marshy area behind the home at 4427 Boynton Rd., Walworth, in 2004, 2005, and 2006 and has fledged cygnets successfully in both 2004 and 2005. ... These three confirmed breeding sites are documented in the NYS Breeding Bird Atlas (in press) and are all believed to pertain to

Please see MUTE SWAN
COMMENTS, Page 6

MUTE SWAN COMMENTS

Continued from page 5



Tundra Swan

progeny of the birds from the Savannah Dhu reserve. Page 4 of the Sherony report.

... According to the most recent information from the Montezuma NWR and the Northern Montezuma Wildlife Management Area, there has not been any confirmed breeding at these locations, but both are near the main source of swans in Wayne Co., the Savannah Dhu reserve (L. Ziembra,

pers. comm.), and could host future nesting sites. Frequently, young swans will remain into early winter in the area of the Savannah River on the Northern Montezuma WMA. ... Page 4 of the Sherony report.

REINTRODUCTION PROGRAMS IN THE NORTH-EAST ... At Wye Marsh, swans are fed a mixture of corn and duck grower pellets twice daily, both to provide a reliable source of food, and so that volunteers can more easily record swan tag numbers. The feeding program continues to the present time... Page 5 of the Sherony report.

LITERATURE CITED: Carroll, D., and B. L. Swift. 2000. *Status of the Trumpeter Swan in New York State.* Kingbird 50: 232-236. Henslee, K. A., 2005. 2005 Seney NWR Trumpeter Swan Monitoring Project. Seney NWR Report, Seney, MI. 49883. Rising, G. 2001. *The Questionable Wisdom of Introducing Alien Species.* The Kingbird 51 : 575-578. Whan, B. 2000. *Did Trumpeter Swans Ever Breed in Ohio?* The Ohio Cardinal 24: 30-46. Page 8 of the Sherony report.

It's clear that managers who are trying to grow a trumpeter swan population sufficient for hunting have a hard row to hoe. While at a flyway meeting in 1996 or 1995, an enormous loose-leaf binder was handed to me by an agent. It was titled: **Waterfowl Habitat Restoration, Enhancement and Management in the Atlantic Flyway.** That publication provides insight into the methods employed by waterfowl managers to create high numbers of waterfowl for hunters. The following partial table of contents, informs the readers of the breadth and depth of land, water and wildlife manipulation for that purpose:

HABITAT RESTORATION, ENHANCEMENT AND MANAGEMENT IN CANADA
Beaver Pond Management
Artificial Fertilization



Photo Anne Muller

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge 9-25-17

Managing Small Wetlands for Waterfowl (Ducks Unlimited Canada)
Wetlands Stewardship in Atlantic Canada
HABITAT MANAGEMENT IN THE US
Waterfowl Breeding Habitat Management Techniques
Waterfowl Wintering Habitat
Management of Brackish and Saline Tidal Wetlands for waterfowl

Greentree Reservoirs (creating unnatural wetlands through flooding for attracting waterfowl to food source)
Use of Water Level Control in Habitat Management
Construction of Potholes for Waterfowl Habitat
Fencing Stream Corridors for Wildlife
Canada Goose Management
Wood Duck Management
Nest Box Management

IMPOUNDMENT MANAGEMENT
Tide Marsh- Estuarine Interchanges and Impoundments
Construction, Maintenance, and Water Control
Structures of Tidal Impoundments
Small Impoundments for Waterfowl.

HABITAT RESTORATION AND ENHANCEMENT
URBAN-SUBURBAN HABITAT MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN DISTURBANCE

MULTIPLE USE MANAGEMENT
WATERFOWL HARVEST MANAGEMENT
Innovative Regulations for Managing Waterfowl Hunting

Regulation of Harvest and Hunting Practices for Quality Experiences on Managed Wetlands
FURBEARER MANAGEEMNT FOR WATERFOWL HABITAT

Beaver Pond Management
Beneficial Uses of Beaver
Managing Beaver to Benefit Waterfowl and Other

Please see MUTE SWAN COMMENTS, Page 7

MUTE SWAN COMMENTS

Continued from page 6

wildlife

Muskrat and Marsh Management in the Manipulation of Waterfowl Habitat

DISEASE, PREDATION, DEPRE-
DATION

Mute Swan Control in the Atlantic Flyway



Photo Anne Muller

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge 9-25-17

MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT,
WATER CONTROL STRUCTURES
AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

*Wetlands Restoration Equipment
Aquatic Vegetation Cutter Use in
Freshwater Wetlands*

*Amphibious Hydraulic Rotary
Excavator*

*Wooden Trunk Water Control
Structure*

*Materials and Cost of Canada
Goose Platform Newest Structure*

*Nesting Structures for Puddle
Ducks*

Water Level Control Structures

*The Herbicide Glyphosate for
Phragmites, Purple Loosestrife ad
Cattail Control*

*Authors listed write: The advent of
glyphosate-based herbicides has
given waterfowl managers another
tool for controlling plants that have a*

*tendency to dominate wetland areas
and form a monotype such as phrag-
mites, purple loosestrife and cattail.
This chapter is not intended to advo-
cate the use of glyphosate over other
mechanical, biological or chemical
control substances...*

There's no doubt that huge
resources are devoted to increasing
waterfowl populations and the "rein-
troduction" of species to satisfy the
appetites of sport hunters.

In the above publication, in Section
J titled *POPULATION MANAGE-
MENT AND CONTROL* with a sub-
section *Mute Swan Control in the
Atlantic Flyway*, it states,
"**Opposition to mute swan manage-
ment will develop from animal
rights groups...politicians might be
swayed to opposition because of
their constituents and emotional-
ism.**" Page J-149. All of the sugges-
tions that are in the current draft plan
are the same suggestions from that
1995 publication.

TRUMPETER BREEDING,
WATERFOWL PRODUCTION,
AND THE MUTE SWAN CONNEC-
TION

**If we need more convincing that
there is a connection between
BOW's efforts to rid NYS of mute
swans to in part provide space for
trumpeter swans, the Wisconsin
DNR put out the following state-
ment: *The presence of mute swans
in the wild has the potential to inter-
fere with the restoration of the native
trumpeter swan.* Mute swans also
compete for resources with other
waterfowl such as loons, ducks, colo-
nial waterbirds, tundra swans, and
geese and will sometimes completely
displace, or even kill, native water-
fowl. While trumpeter swans may also
compete with other waterfowl, this is
a natural occurrence because it is
between native species. **Mute Swan
Issues Wisconsin - Wisconsin DNR,**
dnr.wi.gov/files/pdf/pubs/wm/wm047
3.pdf**

A Canadian publication:

https://www.ec.gc.ca/nhb-com/1f70e11e-f48b-463b-930a-d0c979837990/Mute_Swan_E_04-1_WEB.pdf

states the following: *Although uncom-
mon, Mute Swans and native swan
species can interbreed and produce
hybrid offspring that can threaten the
genetic integrity of native species;
Trumpeter Swans may be most at risk
due to overlap in breeding range and
habitats.*

BOW's trumpeter swan introduc-
tion efforts, as well as other water-
fowl production projects, deserve
scrutiny because it is the only way to
understand the urgency of BOW's
draft plan for Mute Swan
Management, and because it underlies
their mute swan eradication proposal.

**The Third Draft Mute Swan
Management Plan** is really a plan to
clear the way for trumpeter and tundra
swans by severely reducing or elimi-
nating the mute swan population from
the wild.

BOW'S STATED OBJECTIVES

Statewide:

Kill mute swans only when non-
lethal measures don't work.

Authorize property owners, local
government and local agencies to take
direct action against the swans.

Downstate:

Limit the population growth prima-
rily through egg-addling and render-
ing juveniles or adults flightless.

Upstate

Prevent the establishment or expan-
sion of mute swans and achieve a sta-
ble or decreasing population through
killing or capture.

BOW'S STRATEGIES FOR
ACCOMPLISHING UPSTATE
GOALS

BOW will conduct aggressive mute
swan control, such as direct removal
of mute swans . They suggest capture
and placement at a DEC-licensed
facility. If no facility can take the
birds in a timely manner, lethal con-
trol will be used. The total statewide
removal is expected to be less than
100 birds annually (as though those
100 lives don't matter, with another

Please see MUTE SWAN
COMMENTS, Page 8

MUTE SWAN COMMENTS

Continued from page 7

100 placed at DEC-licensed facilities.

BOW will permit property owners and local government entities to take adult swans, cygnets, eggs, or nests. They refer to mute swans as “offending birds” that need to be “disposed of”.

BOW is considering a hunting season for mute swans. One primary concern of theirs is the accidental take of tundras and trumpeters.

BOW’S STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING THE PUBLIC:

Public Education and Outreach:

Outreach to the public demonizing mute swans.

Allowing individuals to take direct action

Discouraging feeding at sites

IS THERE A NEED FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE MUTE SWAN?

In the light of BOW’s goal to encourage two large swan species to fill the gaps left by the removal of mutes, this ludicrous and contradictory plan should be dismissed out of hand for the following reasons:

THE TUNDRAS AND TRUMPETERS WILL EAT EVEN MORE SAV AS THEY ARE LARGER BIRDS and will have the same impact or a greater one on other waterfowl and fish spawning areas. They outweigh the mutes and can do their own displacement without the help of wildlife managers. Basically, no management is needed as evidenced by the sparse number of upstate mute swans, less than 200 total!

Aggression has only been seen during nesting. Some observations contradict even that, attributing aggression to some individuals. The point being that aggression may be a trait of some individuals not necessarily the species.

In a 2016 article

<http://www.bioone.org/doi/abs/10.3161/00016454A02016.51.2.002>

published in *Acta Ornithologica*, titled: “Analysis of Spatial Point Pattern Shows No Desertion of Breeding Mute Swan Areas by the Other Waterbirds Within Fishpond,” the authors write: “In conclusion,

these results question whether the increasing Mute Swan populations actually directly threaten the other waterbird communities, in such habitats, and require population control as is often claimed.”

In 2017, an analysis by Dr. Kevin Wood et al. concluded that swans were unfairly being singled out for aggressive waterfowl. The study was published in the scientific journal *Animal Behaviour*,

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0003347217300453>

and concluded that swans were no more or less aggressive than any other birds they studied. The global meta-analysis of published time-activity budgets, using a data set comprising 555 values from 88 studies, to determine variation in the time that waterbirds engaged in aggressive interactions.

According to literature quoted in our comments, it is doubtful that trumpeters were ever native to NYS, and if that is the case, the mute population precedes trumpeters by more than 100 years.

It can be assumed that tundras and trumpeters will also acclimate if they are in suburban and urban areas where people are feeding. It is the feeding that keeps them now from migrating from Ontario where they are being bred.

The problems that BOW cites in their draft plan can easily be dismissed when we look at the full scope of their goal of introducing a swan subspecies that will cause the very problems that they argue are the reason for eliminating the mute swan:

Trumpeters are native swans and mutes are not.

BOW is demonizing the mute swan in part for being non-native, yet they are participating in increasing a larger subspecies of swan that was possibly never native to NYS.

Mutes have been in NY since the mid-1800’s and trumpeters started being introduced to the state beginning in 1988 through today. Mutes precede trumpeters by over 100 years.

Mute swans eat too much submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV)

BOW asserts that without lethal and non-lethal intervention mute swans will take over all critical bodies of water in NYS. BOW is disingenuous as it hides its agenda of increasing trumpeter and tundra swans throughout the state for hunting purposes. Hypocritically, all the impacts that they cite will only be exacerbated by the increase of trumpeters and tundra swans, which are larger birds with a larger capacity and need for SAV.

Mute swans who are at most 26 lbs eat on average 4 to 8 pounds of SAV a day; trumpeters will eat concomitantly more than that as their weight is close to 40 lbs. All swans eat SAV.

Presently, BOW’s big game managers are encouraging a moose population in NY for eventual hunting. Moose eat large quantities of SAV and will dive to about 18 feet to grab it. A trivia fact is that moose can hold up to 112 lbs of food in their stomachs and eat about 60 lbs a day of vegetation both SAV and land veggies.

Mute swans impact native wildlife, their habitats, and people.”

This is a disingenuous statement as trumpeter swans and moose will have a far greater effect on SAV and public safety (“bird strikes” or car-moose collisions).

Mutes are not protected by the revised Migratory Bird Treaty Act because they are non-native.

The MBTA changes when wildlife managers suggest change. As lawsuits for killing mutes had been brought against game agencies based on violations of the MBTA, in 2015 the FWS requested the removal of the mute swan claiming they were non-native.

<https://www.fws.gov/laws/Testimony/displaytestimony.cfm?ID=134>

“Protection” is a deceptive term as it means that migratory waterfowl are **protected from hunting only during breeding season to build numbers**

Please see **MUTE SWAN COMMENTS, Page 9**

MUTE SWAN COMMENTS

Continued from page 8

so that they can be hunted during set seasons by the game agencies. To state that they are not protected gives the message that they can be harassed, mutilated or killed any time of year with impunity.

Displacement of Native Bird Species.

If we look at the type of management described in the publication referenced above, "Waterfowl Habitat Restoration, Enhancement and Management in the Atlantic Flyway," we see that game agencies manage for game species, which comprise less than 1% of all species, to the detriment of non-game species.

Any alleged damage that 2,000 dispersed mute swans across NYS can do pales in comparison to the manipulation by game managers of land, waterways, and wildlife to create conditions that will increase waterfowl hunting. See the table of contents of *Waterfowl Habitat Restoration, Enhancement and Management in the Atlantic Flyway* on pages 3 and 4 of these comments.

Mutes have no fear of humans.

That is actually a plus for wildlife watchers, as other animals can be skittish or learn that people are to be avoided as a result of hunting.

Trumpeters and tundras have the same potential to become visitors to waters in friendly areas, and this would, of course, be a game agency concern.

WILDLIFE WATCH STRONGLY OBJECTS TO THE FOLLOWING PROPOSALS BY BOW TO REDUCE AND ELIMINATE MUTE SWANS IN NYS:

..DISSEMINATION OF MATERIALS TO DEMONIZE MUTE SWANS:

As the DEC's waterfowl production programs are far more deleterious to the ecology and environment, the DEC should not be allowed to put out propaganda to schools, paid for by property taxes, when they serve less than 3% of the state's population that hunts and where students attend who

are rightfully disturbed by hunting. Mute swans are the current straw man in the cruel and destructive business of wildlife mismanagement.

.. A HUNTING SEASON FOR MUTE SWANS:

This online hunting forum shows that hunters are drooling to have a mute swan season.

<https://huntingny.com/forums/topic/27071-decs-mute-swan-management-plan/>

BOW's connection to the firearms industry needs to be exposed and NYS General Fund monies that end up in their hands should be uncovered and recovered for purposes such as education and health, and to pay for the victims of gun crimes or accidents caused by firearms. Minimally, the NYS General Fund foots the lion's share of BOW's upkeep via overhead costs.

.. ALLOWING "EUTHANASIA" BY PROPERTY OWNERS OR OTHERS:

This will unleash sadists and those who are indifferent to the lives, pain, and suffering of individual animals. A recent news report illustrates the need for mute swans to have protection by states who have no protection

under the revised MBTA.

<http://wncp.com/2017/01/24/no-charges-in-swan-hunt-in-the-poccos>

no charges were filed against man who shot and killed a mute swan as they are not protected....

.. RENDERING SWANS FLIGHTLESS:

This is the equivalent of amputating a person's legs.

.. REMOVAL TO A "SUITABLE FACILITY"

Such a facility would need to be defined and approved by animal protectionists who should be considered stakeholders. Decisions need to be made by full consensus. A "DEC approved facility" could in fact be a private hunt area. Examples of some BOW licensed private hunt facilities can be seen here: <http://www.ultimatewaterfowlhunting.com/business/spring-farm/>

Although it offends the senses, I'm including a photo as proof that there are hunters who crave killing swans:

Submit your comments to stop the NY mute swan annihilation before 12-3-17 to wildlife@dec.ny.gov



Swan Comments continued on page 13

MARILYN LEYBRA'S TO THE EDITOR

To: letters@lohud.com

The quote, "Hunting, fishing and trapping license sales are key to funding the fish and wildlife management duties undertaken by the NY State Dept. of Conservation, DEC, translates into the fact that their Bureau Of Wildlife BOW (like in bow hunting) funds itself off the blood of wildlife. A pitiable truth that says it all.

The fact that the agency's wildlife biologists' (mostly all hunters themselves) salaries are paid with this blood money, makes it stand to reason that BOW will always cater to the less than 5% or less citizenry who enjoy nature by killing wildlife. Early to late fall and through the winter may be the biggest season since it's for what's called "big game," bears and deer, including fawns barely six months old, but there is no

time of year when there isn't a 'season' on some hapless wild creature whether it be furred, feathered, or living in water.

Most of the non-hunting public who care about & take pleasure in the natural beauty of NY's wildlife alive don't have a clue how wildlife's fate is controlled by what amounts to a private hunting club run by the state DEC and their <5% of the population, clientele. **There is a bill, S3327/ A6519 introduced by Senator Tony Avella to change the requirement that any member of the inaptly named 'conservation fund advisory board' have to hold a hunting, fishing or trapping license to serve on the board, a blatant inequity. The bill is languishing in committee & needs support & NY residents can Google the Bill & from there comment on & ask**

their senator & assembly person to co-sponsor & support it.

It also needs publicity in the same way this lohud reporter gave publicity to the upcoming fall sport of the annual war on wildlife. In all fairness, this would've been a great opportunity to add a few words of info on Sen Avella's Bill, a start for those of us who believe there is something horribly wrong in the way this agency depends on getting its funding. It's high time for some change!

Marilyn Leybra is a long time activist. She was a dear (and deer) friend of Luke Dommer's, the founder of C.A.S.H. She has been a wildlife rehabilitator for over 25 years. You can contact Marilyn at leybrabear@optonline.net

THE AVELLA-MAYER BILL

BILL NUMBER: A6519-S3327

SPONSORS: Mayer-Avella

TITLE OF BILL: *An act to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to qualifications for individuals designated or appointed to the conservation fund advisory board*

PURPOSE OR GENERAL IDEA OF THE BILL: *To make optional the requirement that all members of the Conservation Fund Advisory Board possess a valid hunting, trapping, or fishing license.*

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS: *Section 1 of the bill establishes that a valid New York hunting, fishing or trapping license may be sufficient to meet appointment or designation requirements, but that such a license is not required.*

Section 2 sets forth an immediate effective date.

JUSTIFICATION: *Section 1, paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 11-0327 of the environmental conservation law currently states that a person designated or appointed to the advisory board must demonstrate a "long-standing inter-*

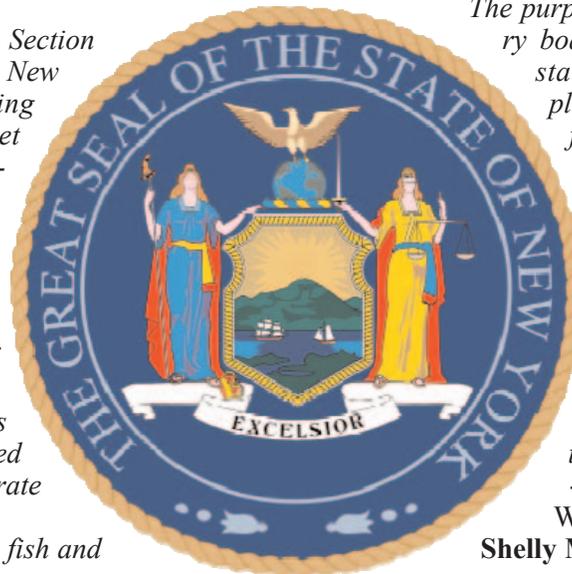
est, knowledge, and experience in fish and

wildlife management." As the law is written, the appointee or designee can only satisfy these requirements if they have a valid New York hunting, fishing, or trapping license.

While such a hunting, fishing, or trapping license may indicate long-standing interest, knowledge, and experience in fish and wildlife management, the law excludes from appointment or designation a wide variety of individuals with ample experience in wildlife management who, simply because they lack such a license, may not sit on the board.

The purpose of the conservation fund advisory board is to make recommendations to state agencies on state government plans, policies, and programs affecting fish and wildlife. These broad and important goals can be more adequately met by making the mandatory hunting, fishing, or trapping license requirement discretionary, thereby diversifying the board with appointees and designees of equally substantial interest, knowledge, and experience beyond the scope of hunting, fishing, or trapping.

We are grateful to **Tony Avella** and **Shelly Mayer** for introducing this bill!



TROPHY HUNTING

BY PETER MULLER

Trophy hunting is the selective hunting of wild game for human recreation. In “Trophy Hunting” the entire animal or part of the animal is kept as the “trophy.” It is frequently kept as a remembrance of the hunt. The game sought is usually the oldest with the largest body size, largest antlers or other distinguishing attributes.

Trophy hunting has both supporters as well as opponents – both from within the hunting fraternity and from outside of it. Discussions concerning trophy hunting are not only about the question of the morality of recreational hunting and the supposed conservation efforts of hunting, but also the observed decline in the animal species that are targets for trophy hunting.

Trophy hunting occurs internationally at many levels. We all remember the worldwide press coverage and outcry that Cecil received with many negative comments regarding that taking.

Was it legal?

Was Cecil “set up” for the kill by a wealthy American?

What was the benefit of the money paid by the hunter to the local community?

and so on..

However, let’s restrict this discussion to the US only and look at the arguments in favor and opposed to trophy hunting in the US.

In the US, trophy hunters select their targets according to whether the animal has the largest horns, antlers, or



other visible attributes that would be of importance to pass on to future generations – in other words, they are genetically laden with attributes that need to be passed on to future generations for the benefit of the species as a whole.

To selectively kill off these genetically laden members of the species will gradually diminish these positive attributes from appearing in future versions of the species as a whole. In other words, the species, as a whole would slowly but surely decline.

Trophy hunting causes what has been referred to as “unnatural selection.” It has been shown to reduce antler size and body size in roe deer and horn size and body size in mountain sheep.

This unnatural selection which is common to all groups that are trophy hunted likely compromises the long-term viability of all terrestrial and aquatic species.

You can read more here: Fred Allendorf and Jeffery Hard, “Human Induced Evolution Caused by Unnatural Selection through Harvest of Wild Animals,” Proceedings of the National Academy of Science 106 (2009); 9987-94. <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK219730/>

To compensate for smaller bucks, game managers now cooperate with the Quality Deer Management Association to build herds with large antlers for sport hunting.

Peter Muller is the VP of C.A.S.H.

The DEC works on creating large bucks for trophy hunting in NYS

The following is directly from the 2017-2018 NY HUNTING AND TRAPPING GUIDE
http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/17biggame.pdf

Make it a Community Affair Cooperating with your neighbors and hunting partners to reduce harvest of young bucks, meet your antlerless harvest goals, and improve habitat conditions can magnify your impact and increase the rate at which you see changes in the woods and in the deer you take. Deer hunting cooperatives have been growing in New York, and they start with a conversation about deer among friends and neighbors.

(See “What is CBDM” on the next page)



LETTER TO THE EDITOR REGARDING PRO-HUNTING “DISCUSSION” ON THE SUNY NEW PALTZ CAMPUS

To put the subject of hunting into its proper context, the public should understand the goal of wildlife management and its inextricable links to the firearms industry.

In a nutshell, there is an 11% manufacturers’ excise tax placed on all firearms and ammunition, and bows and arrows (10% on handguns) that ends up in the “Conservation Fund” which the US Fish and Wildlife service doles out to state wildlife management agencies. (Here it’s the Bureau of Wildlife within the DEC.) The amount a state gets from the federal fund depends on the number of hunting licenses they sell relative to their size.

Obviously, the financial scheme would fizzle out if there weren’t a constant need for more ammunition to be bought and sold. Hence the management of deer into overpopulation to allow their killing in the fall and winter, and their breeding in the spring and summer to produce the next “crop” of deer for hunters.

Wild animals are turned into victims of willing hunters who more often hunt for sport than subsistence. In fact, the entire vicious cycle depends on sport hunters for the money their purchases generate for these bureaus.

Consider that when hunters are let

loose on hapless animals in the fall and winter, the populations quickly drop. “Wildlife management is then needed to ensure a continuing population for hunters for the following “season.” How is that done? Hunters are told to kill primarily males. That leaves females, the breeders. One male can impregnate multiple females so a high population of males isn’t needed. After hunters reduce the population in the fall and winter, the remaining does will give birth in the spring to keep the supply of deer up. Obviously, where there are complaints of too many deer, the game agencies will allow does to be killed, but not enough to hamper hunting in the fall.

I don’t want to depersonalize deer. They are individuals that share much in common with us. They love their offspring; their offspring love them. They need to eat, sleep, play, socialize, and enjoy being alive. Anyone who has observed deer can tell you about their individual differences: one is shy, one is aggressive, one is skittish, one is curious.

The NYS Bureau of Wildlife isn’t interested in what deer are or aren’t so long as they can keep the public from seeing them as beings who deserve better than a bullet or an arrow in their eyes, their lungs,

or anyplace else in their body. We at Wildlife Watch believe that deer deserve better, the public deserves better. Deer are not plastic objects without feelings, without family, or without intelligence.

The Mohonk Preserve has always allowed hunting and the Mohonk House has always allowed “culling.” They have always worked with the Bureau of Wildlife to ensure that the “tradition” of hunting continues.

Hunting is cruel. Let’s not romanticize it or turn a blind eye to what hunting does to the individual animal.

The goals of wildlife management have got to evolve from producing more deer for hunters every year to managing for population stability and wildlife watching.

Students and residents mustn’t buy into the demonization of deer. Deer and other “game” animals, such as turkeys, are managed into high populations for hunting. Hunting is a cruel business that with exposure will see its own demise.

Wildlife management’s ties to the firearms industry must be severed for so many reasons. Please contact us for more information.

Anne Muller
Wildlife Watch
wildwatch@verizon.net

WHAT IS CBDM?

After writing the letter above that was published in the *New Paltz Times*, we were forwarded information from someone who had been invited to attend a webinar on *Community-Based Deer Management*. Their website describes it this way:

Community-Based Deer Management (CBDM) is a guided process for addressing deer-related problems. It focuses on careful planning, targeted actions, and measuring progress. The process is flexible, helping communities adapt their deer management plan as needs change over time.

Taking on deer management in your community can seem daunting at first. Luckily, deer are among the best-studied



species of wildlife in North America. The literature on deer biology and management is vast and spans decades. Here you will find a selection of some of the articles, documents and management guides that other communities have found most useful in shaping their deer management programs.

<https://deeradvisor.dnr.cornell.edu/>

Then I noticed that the photo on this website (the one shown here) was the same as the one used by the Benjamin Center to promote their “hunting discussion.”

We urge you to become aware that this is the latest tactic by hunting forces to divert attention from the gruesome business of wildlife management for sport hunting.

Mute Swan Comments continued from page 9

THE GOALS OF THE BUREAU OF WILDLIFE NEED TO CHANGE

It's quite clear from the latest report of the 2016 *National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*, published by the USFWS, that the population of hunters dropped 16% while the population of those who wish to view wildlife has increased by about 20%. It is of much greater public value to manage wildlife for people who enjoy viewing, photographing, tracking, and other non-consumptive wildlife activities.

The general public needs to be informed that their taxes are being used to support an insensitive, destructive and



Hungry Preston Friedman being fed by a generous mute swan



bloody sport of killing wild animals for pleasure.

Wildlife management must enter a new era of managing for wildlife watching and not for hunting. Their ties to weapons excise taxes must be severed.

NYS legislative action is needed to remove sole authority over our wildlife from the Bureau of Wildlife. Mute swans and other wild animals

need protection from their alleged protectors.

Contact: Anne Muller, Wildlife Watch, wildwatch@verizon.net

IOWA NEWS

Thanks to **Merle Wilson** of Iowa who sent an excellent article by Rekha Basu titled: *My Experiment with Gun Training Reveals Frightening Lack of Standards in Iowa Law*. She writes, *If someone like me can pass the gun test, everyone should be scared*. Ms. Basu had never held a gun, but wanted to get a permit and feared she wouldn't pass the test. **Then she heard that someone slept through the training, messed up the**



test, yet still recieved a permit. Ms Basu reported the following: *You're supposed to show a copy of your training-completion certificate to the sheriff's office, but if you don't have it, you can just sign an affidavit saying you completed it.*

The permit allows both concealed

and open carry, and entitles the holder to buy a handgun. Reciprocity agreements are good in 31 other states! **She said, *This terrifies me, and it should terrify you to know that someone with my lack of gun skills could be walking around....Angry people, vengeful people, mentally unstable, people who hate or carry a grudge.***

We suggest reading this eye opening article! Visit the link below.

www.demotest.com/story/opinion/columnists/merle-wilson-2017-07-18/basu-my-experiment-gun-training-reveals-frightening-lack-standards-iowa-law-459187801

CONNECTION BETWEEN USE OF HANDGUNS IN URBAN AREAS AND HUNTING

As our readers and members know, there is an excise tax on firearms, ammunition, and bows and arrows that ends up with the USFWS and is distributed to the states depending on the number of hunting permits they sell relative to the land area of the state.

Whereas most firearms carry an 11% excise tax (at the point of manufacture or import), handguns carry a 10% excise tax. The tax is collected by the Alcohol, Tobacco, Tax and Trade Bureau and ends up in the

hands of wildlife managers at both federal and state levels.

CONSIDER THIS:

Crimes committed with handguns or other firearms on city streets pay into the conservation fund to create more use of firearms. They are a source of income for game agents. Certainly we are not saying that the USFWS or state game bureaus want firearms used against the human species, but we are pointing out that they are benefiting!

How can that be changed? Congress must take back the portion of P-R funds from handgun and ammunition excise taxes required to pay for victims of handgun crimes. If handgun excise taxes are exceeded, then any additional needs should come from taxes on other firearms. Will this deplete the agencies' funding to manage for the small minority that hunts? Yes! Will it give back to the 95% that doesn't hunt? Yes!

ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.ORG. WOULD YOU RATHER SNAIL MAIL YOUR QUESTION? SEND IT TO:

**ASK UNCLE JOE,
P.O. Box 13815, LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO 88013**

UNCLE JOE GETS A LOT OF MAIL SO DON'T BE OFFENDED IF HE CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IN THE COURIER.

LETTERS ARE PRINTED AS RECEIVED. THEY ARE UNEDITED.

Dear Uncle Joe:

My home state of Tennessee has a sandhill crane hunt every year. This upsets even my friend's husband, who is an avid deer hunter. He says he hunts for conservation and animals that are not overpopulated shouldn't be hunted. I am sure he's not alone, so why is the state hunting them if so many hunters are against it?

Elizabeth,
Franklin, TN

Dear Elizabeth,

Why. That's the eternal question, isn't it? Why do some people love killing helpless animals who pose no threat to anyone or anything? The main reason why a state hunting agency will open a hunting season on a species is to keep hunters interested in their sport. Across the country, hunters complain when they don't see enough wildlife or when they are unable to fill their tags with dead animals. By opening up new seasons hunter interest is raised, even if a given hunt does not bring in a lot of money for the agency. According to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, sandhill crane hunting has been in the works since 2004, and the hunts have been crafted in such a way that the population will continue to grow. The first hunt in the modern era of state wildlife (mis)management was in November, 2013. According to the TWRA, this is not a revenue generating hunt so it is being done solely to keep hunters interested in killing birds. I don't really know why they do it, or how they can do it, but they do.

Peace,
Uncle Joe

Dear Uncle Joe -
I just learned that the decision-making

boards of wildlife agencies are composed entirely of hunters! If wildlife belongs to the public shouldn't there be representatives of the public sitting on these boards?

Sue,
Yonkers, NY

Hi Sue,

The public is generally in favor of wildlife protection, while wildlife agencies are in the business of wildlife exploitation. As a result, the states have enacted regulations to prevent the public from having any meaningful input into the way wildlife is managed. The regulatory body in the New York Department of Environmental Conservation is the Bureau of Wildlife, and according to the Bureau, they "manage many of the now common species such as deer, bear, turkey and Canada goose to provide recreational opportunities, ecological and economic values, and enjoyment to the people of the state..." Since this is all code for "creating as much hunting opportunity as we can" it doesn't suit the purposes of the DEC to have members of the non-hunting or anti-hunting public making decisions that affect hunters and hunting seasons. Nothing they do will be objective and unbiased because being reasonable is bad for business. State law requires hunters to be a majority of these regulation setting boards, and state law needs to be changed before wildlife will be given any respect at the government level.

Peace,
Uncle Joe

CASH.

Why people, why? Hunting is good, so good it makes good look....not good. So be good and don't think good is good enough because if you want to not hunt then that

means no food and die of hunger to your grave. So be who you are cause this be America where American, Mexicans and French people live. Full of great people like Mr. Hershey and HE had to hunt chocolate bars. SO LET HUNTING STAY IN THIS GREAT EARTH GREATEST PLANET GREATEST PERSON and the greatest person is the guy right next to me. Don't think I'm pulling on your arm this is for real.

(Name and city not given)

Dear Mr. Name,

I'm sorry for assuming that you're a man, but it's only because I can't imagine a woman being as incoherent as you are. Before you finish reading this, please take your meds. I'll wait for you. La la la...ho hum... one-Mississippi, two Mississippi... Ok, are you back? Good. I hope you're feeling better.

Well, if you must know the truth. Milton Hershey didn't hunt chocolate. I know you might find that hard to believe, but it's true. Mr. Hershey bought two chocolate making machines in 1893 at the World Columbian Exposition in Chicago, and the rest is history. Take my word for it, the great American chocolate bar has nothing to do with hunting.

Yes, a lot of French and Mexican people live in this "greatest planet" as you say. It is weird that you singled out these ethnicities, however, since neither the French nor the Mexicans is among the more common hunting cultures in the USA. Do the French and Mexicans have more sense than Americans? I tend to think that all of us are equal, but then I get letters like yours...

And, no sir, I don't think you're pulling on my arm (huh?). I can tell you're sincere. That's what's so disturbing.

I think I need a drink,
Uncle Joe

C.A.S.H. CATALOG

A Voice in the Wilderness

Videotape approximately 20 minutes.
\$12.00 and \$8 for members.

This video is an expose of wildlife management by **Luke Dommer**, founder of C.A.S.H. It was produced by **Focus on Animals**, CT. **Esther Mechler** of Focus has generously given C.A.S.H. the right to sell this videotape. Copies have been generously donated by **Nancy Gordon of HAVE**, an audio-visual company in Hudson, NY.



Luke Dommer

CASH HAT

Neon Orange, one size fits all. \$7.50



C.A.S.H. T-SHIRT,

X-LARGE,
BRIGHT ORANGE—\$12.00



Front of shirt

HOW YOU CAN HELP US DO MORE:

√ Become a member
√ Include WILDLIFE WATCH, INC. in your will (you may earmark bequests for C.A.S.H.). If you have general questions about leaving a bequest in your Will to Wildlife Watch, or making Wildlife Watch the beneficiary of life insurance or other assets, you can contact Frances Carlisle, Esq. at 212-213-0172. Frances Carlisle is a trusts and estates attorney with expertise in advising clients about bequests and other types of disposition to charitable organizations.

√ Donate shares of stock, avoid capital gains and get a tax deduction! Notify your broker or the company whose stock you hold. Ask them to transfer stock to Wildlife Watch, Inc. Federal Tax Identification Number: 13-3076705

A copy of our latest annual report may be obtained from Wildlife Watch, Inc., or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

PETER'S HUMOR? C.A.S.H. apologizes if you are not amused

By PETER MULLER, VP, C.A.S.H.

A hunter is introduced to his first thermos-bottle. He is very curious about it and asks the sales clerk what it does. The sales clerk says it's a wonderful invention which keeps cold food cold and hot food hot. The hunter is very impressed and buys one.

On his next hunting-trip he tells his friends, "Just wait till you see what I got for lunch." His friends' curiosity is piqued and they press him to tell what it is that he brought with him. But he persists in not telling them.

Finally, it's lunch time. With great ceremony, he pulls out his thermos bottle and proudly proclaims, "How would you like some hot soup and ice-cream?"



A guy is telling some hunting jokes to his friends. Finally one of them interrupts him saying, "Please be aware that I am and have been a hunter for years." The guy hesitates and says, "Sorry, should I start over and talk very, very slowly?"



A duck hunter bought a bird dog

and discovered that the dog could actually walk on water. Shocked by his find, he was sure none of his friends would ever believe him, so he decided to take them all hunting with his new dog. After a full day of not being able to kill any ducks, the host hunter decided to throw some floating balls into the pond to show his friends what would have happened had they killed any ducks. He urged them all to watch. Each time the hunter threw a ball, the dog calmly walked across the water and retrieved the balls while only getting his paws wet.

Finally, out of disappointment and boredom, the invited hunters decided to leave. The hunter who hosted their outing was surprised that no one had commented on his amazing new dog. Instead they sat stone-faced. This continued all the way back home. Finally, the duck hunter couldn't control himself any longer and asked his friends, "Did you notice anything unusual about my new dog?" "I sure did," responded the most pessimistic of the bunch, "He can't swim."



Fans of Pete's Humor

www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#

Your generous contributions will help us to do much more.
Thank you for your support. Please visit:
www.abolishsporthunting.org

As always, we are grateful to
The Mary T. and Frank L. Hoffman Family Foundation
for hosting the C.A.S.H. website!



Wildlife Watch, Inc.
C.A.S.H. Committee To Abolish Sport Hunting
 PO Box 562
 New Paltz, NY 12561
 Phone: (845) 256-1400 Fax: (845) 501-3175
www.wildwatch.org
www.all-creatures.org/cash
www.canadageese.org



Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Newburgh, NY
Permit No. 473

 Cut out along this dotted line if returning order form



PLEASE CLIP OUT AND MAIL IN THE ENCLOSED REMITTANCE ENVELOPE:

- ☺ YES, I WANT TO HELP THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING END THE WAR ON WILDLIFE:
- ☺ I AM HAPPY TO BECOME A Basic Plus Member for \$50 _____
I will receive the C.A.S.H. hat, return address labels, and newsletter. Check if you do not want a hat. _____
- ☺ I am happy to become a Basic member for \$35 _____
I will receive the C.A.S.H. newsletter and return address labels.
- ☺ I am happy to contribute but cannot become a member now _____
- ☺ **I would like to make an additional contribution for Wildlife Watch** _____

C.A.S.H. accepts MasterCard or Visa:

Card # _____
 Amount _____ Exp. Date: _____
 Signature _____

All donations are tax-deductible.

My e-mail address is _____
 You can also pay through PayPal at www.abolishsporthunting.org link to "Donate" Thank You!

C.A.S.H. CATALOG ORDER BLANK

Description	Qty	\$ Each	\$ Total

Your Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Day Phone: _____
 Eve Phone: _____
 Fax: _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Date: _____
 Special Instructions: _____

 Ship to address below (if different from above):

Subtotal: _____
 Shipping and Handling: \$5.00
 NYS residents must add appropriate sales tax: _____
 Additional contribution to help
 C.A.S.H. carry on its work: _____
 Total: _____
 You can now pay with:
 Mastercard/Visa # _____
 Expir. Date: _____
 Signature: _____

Please make checks payable to: C.A.S.H. or Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting or Wildlife Watch, Inc.