

# THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

## THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING

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#### 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.

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#### 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

## MASSACRES: THEIR FINANCIAL CONNECTION TO HUNTING

The financial link between firearms violence against animals during hunting and firearms violence against people is largely unknown.

EVERY FIREARM PURCHASED, EVERY-BULLET OR SHOT THAT ENDS UP KILLING OR WOUNDING EITHER A NON-HUMAN ANIMAL OR HUMAN PAYS INTO FEDERAL AND STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES TO PROMOTE MORE HUNTING.

It's easy to understand this self-serving division of federal and state government, if you...

THINK OF HUNTING AS THE USE OF FIRE ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

THINK OF THE ANIMALS AS THE MEANS TO THE END OF GENERATING MORE FIRE ARMS OR AMMO PURCHASES.

THINK OF HUMANS WHO ARE KILLED OR WOUNDED BY BULLETS AS COLLATERAL DAMAGE (AND ADDITIONAL INCOME).

HOW DOES FIREARMS ECONOMY WORK?

Excise taxes on fire arms and ammunition are collected at the point of import or manufacture, and transferred to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). There's a 10% excise



tax on hand guns and an 11% excise tax on other fire arms and all ammunition. Weapons and ammunition used by police and military are exempted from the excise tax. The tax was enacted in the 1930s and is called the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, or P-R Act for short. It goes this way: The FWS keeps 8% of the P-R tax collected for its own administration, and the rest is apportioned to the states for "wildlife restoration" (increasing game species), and other purposes related to firearms use, such as hunter education and shooting ranges. How much a state receives is based on a formula that considers the number of hunting licenses sold by the state and its total land area.

That apportionment formula is considered an equitable solution to the inequity that would otherwise exist if a state sells comparatively fewer hunting licenses due to a low population. In New York, for example,

Please see FIREARMS Page 3

# Letter from the President



*Jim Robertson, Author, Ethical Photographer, President of C.A.S.H.*

In the last issue of the Courier I covered the plight of wolves on the continent throughout history, especially since their hasty removal from the US Endangered Species List and the resumption of sport hunting of them by anyone with a chip on their shoulder and an unwholesome urge to do away with the perceived competition for “their” deer or elk.

Not to sound repetitive, but the American grizzly bears' story is sadly amazingly similar, right down to the planned trophy hunting of them now that they've also been removed from the Endangered Species list and left unprotected from “sportsmen” seeking a brag-worthy thrill-kill.

As you'll read in the upcoming articles, not only are grizzly bears under the same guns in the continental U.S., but now Alaska has revealed its own brand of animal cruelty to add to the sadistic mix. Only British Columbia, Canada has put a stop to sport-hunting of the undeserving ursines.

As though worked into a bear-killing lather, local media in Idaho and Wyoming bombarded their followers on June 15th with headlines like, “Idaho hunters can apply for grizzly bear hunting tag” and “Wyoming Opens Hunt for Grizzly Bears.” Not to be outdone, on the very next day (June 16th), Montana—the one grizzly bear hunting hold-out—announced, “Grizzly committee to vote on delisting strategy for north-west Montana bears.”

Some of the less cynical of you might have earlier been fooled by Montana's initial reluctance to allow hunting of the (until recently) threatened and therefor protected bears, but it turns out they weren't the more evolved of the three Northern Rocky Mountain states, they were just wait-

ing for their other population of grizzlies to catch up with the Yellowstone population and lose their federal protection... (Now, they too have announced a fall grizzly hunt.)

Reading on, you'll learn just how fortunate North America's grizzly bears are to find themselves still living in the lower 48 at this point in history, considering early settlers' concerted efforts to eradicate them. You can also read C.A.S.H.'s recent comments to the U.S. Department of the Interior concerning their proposed tactics planned for wolves, grizzly bears and other wild-living national treasures on our public lands in Alaska.

Please stay in touch with C.A.S.H. about what you can do now to help hunted wildlife. We'll be starting a new section on our new site that will launch soon. Meanwhile, please contact me directly at [Jim@abolish-spoorthunting.org](mailto:Jim@abolish-spoorthunting.org) and feel free to follow C.A.S.H.'s new blog at

<https://committeetoabolishspoorthunting.wordpress.com/>

## What's the Difference between Sport Hunting and Poaching?

BY JIM ROBERTSON

The short answer is, not as much as you might think. We here at C.A.S.H. believe that all hunting is a form of stealing, whether from nature, the animals' families or the lives of the victims themselves. But the legal definition of poaching has more to do with stealing an opportunity from another hunter.

The good thing about reporting a poacher is that it's the one way we can use the law to punish the killing of wildlife. For the most part, poaching laws were written with the licensed hunters in mind, not necessarily the animals' welfare. But sometimes “game” laws limit the kill methods, quantity of kills and other factors that might happen to inadvertently benefit

the animals themselves as well. Clearly not because of this, some “sportsman's” groups like to support most game regulations, mainly to ensure their own good luck for the next time out.

Don't get us wrong, a poacher is often even worse than the average sport hunter, but not just because they don't dump as much money into the game department's coffers. In terms of downright disrespect for the animals, they're oftentimes the leaders of the pack.

Take the poaching ring known as the “Kill 'em All Boys” for example. Criminally active in Washington and Oregon, they just finally were caught and prosecuted after a several years-



long sting operation wherein game wardens witnessed the killing of deer, elk, bears and more.

All in all, it's estimated they murdered more than 200 animals, including deer, bear, cougars, and bobcats during their unchecked reign of terror. Yet, whether or not hunters are operating within the laws, the sad, end result for the countless victims is the same.

# FIREARMS

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570,000 licenses are sold, and in Alaska only 90,000 licenses are sold, but Alaska has much more land, so they get a substantial portion of the P-R tax.

You'll see below a 2017 comparison of the P-R apportionment for New York with a relatively small land area but a high population, and Alaska with a large land area, but a small population. Some of the numbers are rounded off.

## NEW YORK

Total population – 20 Million  
Total land area – 54,555 sq. mi  
Total hunting permits sold 570,000  
P-R apportionment \$20,300,000

**Hunters are 2.85% of the population of NY**

## ALASKA

Total population < 750,000  
Total Land area 663,268 sq. mi  
Total hunting licenses sold 90,000  
P-R Apportionment \$33 million

**Hunters are 12% of the population of Alaska**

A particularly disturbing, non-transparent aspect of the PR Act is that states must furnish a 25% matching amount to its P-R grant. JUST WHERE THAT MONEY COMES FROM IS A MYSTERY, but it likely comes in some portion from the state's general fund. (See our article on page 13 titled, "Your Hard-Earned Tax Dollars.") Furthermore, not even considered by state legislators, a state's general fund contributes in other ways to what is essentially a private enterprise by paying for the overhead of a wildlife bureau that is in the business of killing wildlife to keep the firearms industry in business.

Although unwittingly contributing to the firearms business, the general non-hunting public has no say in wildlife management (except during the charade of a public hearing held to satisfy an administrative requirement). Funds are controlled by a board whose members must be licensed hunters or trappers, and whose mission is to ensure the continuation of hunting and trapping.

Wildlife management agencies are a self-serving enterprise, a private business ensconced within the government.

Even worse, they siphon general funds without contributing a penny!

Under this arrangement, wildlife managers serve the firearms industry, and the firearms industry contributes to wildlife management agencies. So, who's left out of this deal? The general public that's paying for this scheme in many ways

— including with their lives!

Not to be cynical, of course the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act was based on the assumption that firearms and ammunition are used to kill animals. But it didn't distinguish between use of firearms against people, animals, or inanimate objects. *The New York Times* reported that, according to the Centers for

Disease Control and Prevention, 33,000 people are killed annually and more than double that number are seriously injured every year by firearms and ammunition <https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/04/us/gun-death-rates.html>. **They did not include the fact that the excise taxes pay to create more hunting opportunity – or more use of firearms!**

CONSIDER AGAIN WHAT THAT MEANS. IT MEANS THAT HUMANS ARE MERE COLLATERAL DAMAGE IN THE QUEST FOR FIREARMS EXCISE TAXES FOR WILDLIFE "RESTORATION" NEEDED FOR THE CONTINUATION OF HUNTING BY THE STATES. AFTER ALL, HOW CAN YOU DECIMATE ANIMAL POPULATIONS AND NOT REBUILD THEM FOR HUNTERS FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR'S INCOME?

Restoration involves projects that alter wildlife habitat to maximize food for "game species," as well as reproductive biology tricks, such as having hunters kill males, thus leaving more food for females who, with more nourishment, will be more likely to give birth to twins and triplets.

**Sadly, reports of the recent spate of school massacres have not followed the money. The excise taxes collected on AR-15s or AK-47s, handguns, and other firearms, have PAID INTO WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES TO CREATE MORE USE OF THOSE WEAPONS, presumably against animals, though some states do not allow their use for hunting.**

Viewed economically, regulated hunting is a self-serving economy that consists of "game" managers using our wildlife to serve the firearms industry via hunting (with humans as collateral damage).

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE? GOVERNMENT WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES NEED TO GET OUT OF THE FIREARMS BUSINESS. FEDERAL AND STATE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES MUST END THEIR DEPENDENCY ON FIREARMS MONEY. **UNTIL THAT HAPPENS, EXCISE TAXES ON FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION MUST BE USED FOR VICTIMS OF FIREARMS CRIME AND THEIR FAMILIES.** THE BOARDS CONTROLLING THE MONEY MUST BE DEMOCRATIZED TO INCLUDE MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC. AFTER ALL, MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OF OUR TAXES ARE BEING USED TO KEEP THE FIREARMS INDUSTRY IN THE BLACK BY KILLING ANIMALS FOR SPORT, WHILE ADDITIONALLY PROFITING FROM THE USE OF FIREARMS AGAINST HUMANS.

Journalists need to FOLLOW THE MONEY!!

**Anne Muller**, Editor, **C.A.S.H. Courier**, a publication of the **Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting**.

[www.abolishsportshunting.org](http://www.abolishsportshunting.org).

Contact Anne at [wildwatch@verizon.net](mailto:wildwatch@verizon.net)

# ONCE-PROTECTED GRIZZLY BEARS BOOTED BACK TO “BIG GAME”

ARTICLE AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM ROBERTSON



Photo by Jim Robertson

*As with wolves, grizzly bears have now lost their ESA protections and been reduced in status to “big game.” Fortunately, these two were safe within Yellowstone National Park, though only a short distance from the park boundary.*

Like fables handed down through the generations, bear tales have been told, embellished upon, amplified and retold by people wanting to justify hounding, baiting and just plain killing. But, while instances of people being attacked by bears are so rare you could count them on one hand, tens of thousands of bears are killed by humans each year and no one can keep track of how many are wounded, only to crawl off and die slowly without hospital care to pamper them back to health. Thirty thousand black bears are murdered during legal hunting seasons in the U.S. alone. Possibly another 30,000 fall prey each year to ethically impotent poachers seeking bear gall bladders to sell on the Chinese black market. Victims of that vile trade are eviscerated and left to rot, since bear meat has never been considered a taste-treat or even a popular staple food source for the human carnivore. Traditionally, to make bear palatable, backyard chefs heavily douse the flesh and offal with spices and grind the whole mess into sausage.

Growing up in the Pacific Northwest and spending summers in Alaska, I learned firsthand the actual disposition of bears. I'd come across numerous black bears while hiking in Washington's Cascade and Olympic Mountains (most of them responded to my intrusion by running in mortal fear from the sometimes armed and oftentimes unpleasant primates who should never be completely trusted), but my first extremely close encounter with a grizzly was in Alaska in 1977.

Still un-evolved and under the influence of society's norms, I had taken a summer job in the fishing industry at a salmon cannery in Nak Nek, a dismal settlement on the Bristol Bay side of the Alaska Peninsula. A gloomy ghost town most of the year and a small but industrialized boom

town during the annual fish-kill frenzy (when incoming tides ushered in boat after boat overflowing with mountains of bloody fish bodies), the only thing that Nak Nek had going for it, to my mind, was its proximity to the pristine wilderness of Katmai National Monument. Named after one of its many active volcanoes and supporting a hefty population of grizzlies (known locally as Alaska brown bears) who congregate at the spawning streams (to which any salmon lucky enough to escape a slow death stuck in a gill net feels a desperate yearn to return), Katmai's best known feature is Brooks Falls.

When I first visited Brooks, bears outnumbered people. There wasn't so much as a footbridge across the clear, deep river. This was long before the construction of the now-busy tourist boardwalk—complete with bear-proof railings and gaits. The only trail to the falls was a crooked, narrow bear trail which weaved in and out of dense, black spruce forest and open tall-grass meadows.

One afternoon I was hiking that trail when I rounded a tight corner in a dog-hair spruce thicket and just about ran head-on into a substantial grizzly. He must have heard me coming (or more likely, smelled me, since a bear's sense of smell is 7 times better than the best bloodhound), while I, the oblivious human, didn't even notice the 700 pound roadblock fixed squarely in the middle of the trail.

I'll spare you the melodrama you'd be subjected to in the many bear-scare stories found in sportsmen's magazines, suffice it to say...I could feel the colossal grizzly's hot breath and hear his low rumbling growl just one step behind me as I frantically ran for my life... No, seriously, I instinctively did what anyone meeting a bear up close should do: I slowly backed off the trail while talking to him calmly, courteously and reassuringly. When the bear saw that I had forfeited the trail, he soundlessly proceeded past me without even a glance or nod of appreciation. Sadly, many people in bear country rely on cumbersome, potentially ineffective weapons, instead of their wits, in situations that call for little more than a simple sidestep.

An irrational fear of bears dates back to the earliest days of American history and is often accompanied by obtuse thinking and quirky spelling. The most famous inscription (carved in a tree, naturally) attributed to Daniel Boone (that guy who went around with a dead raccoon on his head) boasted about how he "...cilled a bar...in the year 1760." The bears Boone killed (and there were many) in North Carolina and Tennessee were American black bears, a uniquely North American species which evolved on the Western Hemisphere.

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TO BIG GAME**, Page 5

# Booted Back to Big Game

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Meanwhile, Lewis and Clark, greatly fearing the grizzly bears they discovered on their voyage up the Missouri River, were among the first pioneers responsible for sending that species down the path to near-extinction. Of the grizzly, Meriwether Lewis wrote, "It was a most tremendous looking animal and extremely hard to kill."

Between fifty thousand and one hundred thousand grizzly bears once thrived across the western Continental United States before incoming settlers shot and trapped them out, quickly snatching up prime valley bottoms (the preferred habitat of grizzlies) for themselves and their livestock. Driven into desolate high country by government hunters, the few grizzlies who survive in the lower 48 are left with only 2% of their historic domain. The current population of 500 is essentially marooned on islands of deficient wilderness, cut off



Photo © Jim Robertson.

from one another by freeways, sprawl and a network of barbed wire fences that spell "keep out" to any grizzly bear who knows what's good for 'em.

In the past few decades, many have spoken in support of the wrongfully maligned grizzly. Yet the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has deemed that the token few bears who remain are plenty enough to warrant their removal from the list of threatened—and therefore, federally protected—species, reducing them back to the status of "big game." Now hunters in Idaho, and Wyoming are gearing up for the day when grizzly bears will once again grace the walls of their trophy rooms.

And why shouldn't those hunters be allowed to have their fun (after all, their counterparts in Alaska and Canada have been legally killing grizzlies without a hitch, right up to the present)? In Alaska, grizzly bears—along with wolves—are even shot from planes, under the deathly ill-advised notion that eliminating those animals will leave more moose for hunters to slay. What the likes of Sarah Palin can't seem to figure out is, as the population of hunters goes up, the number of moose goes down, regardless of the number of natural predators. Will we have to see an Alaska devoid of bears and wolves before their confused state game

department finally figures out who's to blame?

Black bears, though more numerous (in part because their chosen habitat is not as open and sought after as that of the grizzlies), haven't fared much better in terms of persecution. They too, have lost much of their former range to the encroaching modern world, but even more significant is the amount of cruelty they've been subjected to, at the hands of hunters. Year after year, a new crop of "sportsmen" decides to play Daniel Boone and blast some poor little black bear with a musket ball (which, though extremely painful and traumatic, often isn't enough to kill a bear outright). Others like the challenge of archery, impaling innocent bears who are just trying to find enough berries to get them through the winter.

And like fishermen who cast out baited hooks and wait on shore in a lawn chairs to catch unsuspecting fish, some hunters set out piles of "bait," using whatever they have on hand (usually Twinkies, hot dogs or some kind of processed lunch meat) to lure in unsuspecting bears, while waiting in lawn chairs safely perched on platforms high in trees. With the scary bear's attention focused on the

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# BEAR HUNTING HAS NO PLACE IN NEW YORK STATE PARKS

PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED IN THE *GENESEE SUN*, REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF THE AUTHOR, ASHLEY PANKRATZ

## LETCORTH STATE PARK, A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, UNLESS YOU'RE A BEAR!



Just before Christmas, the *Genesee Sun* featured an article on the killing of a 'once in a lifetime' bear in Letchworth State Park.

The hunter, Matt Sphar, describes shooting the animal and watching him slide off a steep ridge. He left the wounded bear overnight, returning with six friends to track him the next day. It is probable that the bear died slowly. A quick death would have meant spoiled flesh more than 12 hours later, and Sphar claims to have used the meat. Hunting instructor Dr. Ken Nordberg notes that 'Whatever the weather conditions, a 250+ pound bear will spoil as quickly as a 250+ pound carton of 100-degree milk.'

There's no mention of the bear's suffering, however, or how long it took him to 'safely expire.' It's of little consequence to the hunter, who says he has 'great respect' for the animals he kills, and who is shown grinning and hoisting the dead bear for a photo. The bear's head and tongue droop.

Bear hunting is rightly categorized as trophy hunting, and indeed, the bear Sphar killed will be reduced to a full-body rug. But the article emphasizes the use of the bear's flesh in a defense so common that it remains unexamined by most readers. While the meat rationale would've been legitimate years ago, hunters are now 'sportsmen,' and survival is absent from the equation. To Sphar's insistent defense that he will eat the bear, I ask: So what? It makes no difference to the bear, who died needlessly.

Others attempt to justify the killing by citing the potential danger of bears to park visitors. Sphar is correct that bears 'stick to...hidden pockets if they can, which is why

they're so rarely seen,' but because so few of us have ever witnessed black bears in their natural environment, public perception is more often misinformed by sensationalism. A lifetime of research by Dr. Lynn Rogers, founder of the North American Bear Center and the preeminent black bear biologist in North America, shows black bears to be tolerant, passive, and shy. Hunters themselves pose the greater threat to other humans, killing about 100 each year in hunting accidents. In nearby Chautauqua County, for example, Rosemary Billquist was killed by a deer hunter while walking her dogs just before Thanksgiving, an activity enjoyed by thousands of park visitors each fall at Letchworth. **To those who claim that despite the risks of hunting, there are simply too many black bears, a 2016 press release by NYSDEC Acting Commissioner Basil Seggos proves otherwise: 'DEC's...strategies are working to increase the black bear population and allow for expanded hunting opportunities.'**

Most people I spoke with after the bear's killing have never seen a black bear in the wild, though they'd like to, and most were horrified to learn that New York state parks allow hunting. Wildlife refuges do, too. **Habitat loss is the greatest threat facing wildlife survival, which begs the question, If wildlife can't live on protected land dedicated to the preservation of nature, where can they live? And if state parks are open for hunting with bows and arrows—and shockingly, guns—where can non-consumptive outdoor enthusiasts safely enjoy the natural space that they, not hunters, predominantly fund?**

**While the American Model of Conservation states that wildlife 'belongs to everyone and no one,' consumptive interests exclusively define wildlife management. Game animal populations are strategically inflated to satisfy those who commodify them. Compensatory rebound in deer ensures that individual numbers not only recover after hunting season, but often increase. Keystone predators, whose populations balance those of prey, are killed because they threaten deer harvest. The use of lead ammo not only on private land but on refuges and in parks has resulted in the poisoning of bald eagles and other wildlife. As long as the DEC profits from hunting, such practices will continue.**

I've been fortunate enough to have once seen a black bear. I was nine years old, on a camping trip with my dad, and though the bear wasn't as large as the one Sphar killed, the sighting was magical and otherworldly. I didn't

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# In Memory of Diana Petkovich



Diana Petkovich was the soul of the **Coalition to Prevent the Destruction of Canada Geese** in Rockland County in the early 90s. Without Diana and Milutin, her husband, both artists, we would not have had the high profile that led to saving the geese.

In addition to her deep compassion for geese, Diana rescued hundreds (if not thousands) of cats over the years and gave them all veterinary care and medications, turning her kitchen into a veterinary satellite center.

Diana and her husband made hundreds of posters for our many demonstrations and appearances at the Rockland Legislature, thus giving our ad hoc group

a bold presence.

Her formal obituary reads, “She loved people and animals. Always helping those in need and personally rescuing hundreds of animals and providing them food, shelter, and support.” **Diana will be deeply missed.**



*The beautiful posters by Diana and Milutin, Diana's husband, provided the profile needed to win for the Canada geese in Rockland County.*

## BEAR HUNTING

Continued from page 6



*Ashley Pankratz at Letchworth State Park*

see his face, since he was lumbering away from us into the cover of the woods. This was my ‘once in a lifetime bear’—a creature who had no interest in me or my agenda, who had his own pursuits, likes and dislikes, and who was important to the natural system to which he belonged. The recreational killing of wildlife has no place in New York’s state parks. Hunters care enough about their own rights to pursue them relentlessly; those who have an interest in preserving environmental integrity, and in defending the lives of animals for the animals’ sake, must care more.

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**Ashley Pankratz** lives upstate NY. She is a vegan wildlife advocate.

## LETCHWORTH STATE PARK, NEAR ROCHESTER, NY INVITES HUNTERS TO KILL BEARS

### What you can do!

You can visit the website of **Animal Advocates of Western NY** <http://www.animalswny.org/> or visit their Facebook page: - <https://www.facebook.com/aaofwny/>

They suggest the following:

Write to Park Manager Roland Beck and request that Letchworth prohibit future bear hunting.

Roland Beck, Letchworth State Park Manager – [Roland.Beck@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Roland.Beck@parks.ny.gov)

1 Letchworth State Park, Castile, NY 14427

**Also write to:**

Basil Seggos, NYSDEC Commissioner, 625 Broadway, Albany, N.Y 12233-1010.

For an e-mail form: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/243.html>

# COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING COMMENTS ON The National Park Service (NPS) Proposed Rule: Hunting and Trapping in National Preserves: Alaska

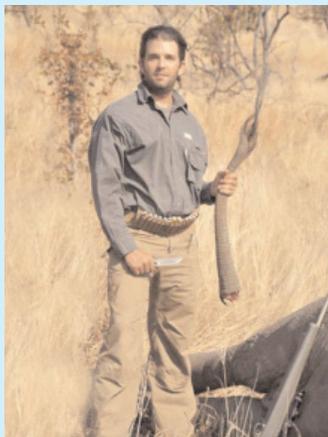
The National Park Service proposes to amend its regulations for hunting and trapping in national preserves in Alaska. This proposed rule would remove a regulatory provision issued by the National Park Service in 2015 that prohibited certain hunting practices that are otherwise permitted by the State of Alaska. These proposed changes are consistent with Secretary of the Interior Orders 3347 and 3356.



Photo by Jim Robertson

As a wildlife photographer, I've spent the better part of 3 decades in Alaska photographing bears and wolves, as well as moose, Dall's sheep, and caribou in numerous locations throughout the region. Most of these wild animals were in the state's National Parks—Glacier Bay, Katmai and Denali. I was struck by how comparatively little wildlife I came across in national monuments such as Wrangle Saint Elias. Clearly, hunting and trapping had taken their toll in the unprotected lands and national monuments that, unlike the parks, allowed wildlife “harvesting.”

Even if I weren't now president of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting, I'd be sickened, outraged and appalled by the new federal proposals to allow the abusive treatment of some of the world's most intelligent and charismatic animals who reside in our Alaskan national monuments. This regressive step indicates a shocking disregard for animals who are viewed merely as fun targets for the perverse pleasure of the few that has been institutionalized by sport hunting. Should these regulations be approved, sadistic tactics will be legal, such as mindless behaviors like murdering bear cubs and wolf pups in their dens, blasting swimming caribou from boats, and baiting bears with donuts and carrion in order to kill them.



*Don Trump, Jr. holding a tail he severed from an elephant after his trophy hunt.*

The Trump Administration, in its rush to undo any protections wildlife may have been afforded under the Obama Administration, will no doubt score points with their friends in the National Rifle Association and Safari Club International. Trump's trophy hunting sons, along with Dept. of Interior Secretary, Ryan Zinke, whose office is loaded with taxidermied wild animals, are creating their own dystopia on the precious lands that belong to all, and in total disregard for our wild animals and those who value them alive.

The Alaska Division of Wildlife Conservation made the statement that the move by the feds is “progress in the direction of conformity,” as though conformity is the alpha and omega of all possible considerations. And what is this “conformity” for? To allow for more sport hunting! The proposed changes to federal regulations would conform to the most legal decadent and regressive hunting practices of Alaska. If conformity is the goal, then wouldn't it be more evolved for Alaska to change its hunting regulations to conform with national rules? The absurd reason for the need for these regulations means that we as a nation are striving for the lowest common denominator. Is that what we want to tolerate? For REAL progress, we need to be moving forward and not backward!

## **The Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting strongly OPPOSES the proposed new rule.**

You can comment on the new rules here:

<https://www.regulations.gov/searchResults?rpp=25&po=0&s=1024-AE38&fp=true&ns=true>

Jim Robertson, President

[cash@abolishsportshunting.org](mailto:cash@abolishsportshunting.org)

Along with the **Alaska Wildlife Alliance**, C.A.S.H. urges you to send in your comments. The Alaska Wildlife Alliance writes:

**NEW DEADLINE:** Written comments must be received by Thursday, Sept. 6.

Please note: There is no direct email address to submit comments. Comments are accepted only via the above link, or by mail addressed to:

National Park Service  
Regional Director, Alaska Regional Office  
240 West 5th Ave.  
Anchorage, AK 99501

\*All mailed submissions must reference "NPS" and "RIN:1024-AE38".

Contact the Alaska Wildlife Alliance at [info@akwildlife.org](mailto:info@akwildlife.org)

# Booted Back to Big Game

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Photos ©Jim Robertson.

goodies, the plucky “sportsman” makes his kill. Still another devious approach (banned in some states, but institutionalized in others) is the pastime of hounding. After releasing his hounds—equipped with high tech radio tracking devices—a hunter simply follows them to the tree where a helpless bear has taken refuge and guns her down.

The late marine biologist, Rachel

Carson, whose 1962 book, *Silent Spring*, launched the environmental movement, saw the brutality of hunting as a detriment to civilized society: “Until we have the courage to recognize cruelty for what it is—whether its victim is human or animal—we cannot expect things to be much better in this world. We cannot have peace among men whose hearts delight in killing any living creature.

By every act that glorifies or even tolerates such moronic delight in killing we set back the progress of humanity.” On the rare instances when bears do resort to violence, at least they don’t take delight in it.

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**Jim Robertson** is the author of *Exposing the Big Game: Living targets of a Dying Sport*.

<http://www.earth-books.net/books/exposing-the-big-game>



C.A.S.H., P.O. Box 562, New Paltz, NY 12561

## EVOLUTION OF THE C.A.S.H. LOGO

C.A.S.H. has a new logo! It started with a cross-hair, then in 1995 it became an X, and now, in 2018, it is the simple and universal NO symbol.

This will be the new logo on our hats and tee shirt. Please let us know if you would like to order some for when you are patrolling or walking on your property, or just spreading the word. It will help to keep you visible as well. You can see the catalog on page 15 of the C.A.S.H. COURIER.

# HELP THE MUTE SWANS:



On June 18, it was reported that parent mute swans were shot in Oneida Lake by Wildlife Services, it was also reported that the babies (cygnets) were drowned with nets. You can see the initial report here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kMFqX-tAJ4>

FOIL requests were sent out and Wildlife Services responded. Here is their shockingly callous letter that could be termed “depraved indifference.” –

*When possible, Wildlife Services recommends nonlethal methods for wildlife damage management conflict resolution. Our program believes it's important for people and wildlife to coexist and seek nonlethal ways for that to occur—the Wildlife Services program received a Presidential Award for Migratory Bird Stewardship based on our raptor research and relocation. However, there are times, such as in the case of human safety, where euthanasia may be necessary. Wildlife Services biologists understand that euthanasia can be a difficult process for people, and we take that into consideration when this process is necessary by removing the animals to a different location prior to humanely euthanizing them.*

*Regarding the Mute Swans at Oneida Lake, the adults were able to fly and therefore catching them may*

*not have been possible and is a difficult and time consuming process. That process would have been more stressful for the birds and the community and also risked injury to the birds as well as injury to our employees. Therefore we determined that removing the adults using firearms, an AVMA-approved method of euthanasia, was decided. The cygnets were netted, alive, and removed outside of the public eye, where they were humanely euthanized by cervical dislocation, another AVMA-approved method of euthanasia. I want to clarify that neither a pair of bolt cutters nor a bovine emasculator was used in the humane euthanasia of the adults or the cygnets.*

*Tanya Espinosa, Public Affairs Specialist, Legislative and Public Affairs, USDA-APHIS, Phone: (301) 851-4092*

## HOW COULD IT HAPPEN IN SPITE OF THE MORATORIUM?

All the DEC needed was the excuse that the swans were a danger to people, and they could notify Wildlife Services. **If wildlife could get justice in a courtroom, the woman who reported the “attack” should be investigated for the verity of her story, affiliations she may have, and provocation of the swans.**

NYS Assembly Member, Steven Cymbrowitz, the Assembly sponsor of the moratorium on the killing of mute swans, sent a letter to the DEC Commissioner demanding to know who gave permission to kill the swans.

We contacted A/M Cymbrowitz's office to find out if they had received a response, but they hadn't by the time we went to print.

**Sheila Bolin** posted this photo of kayakers in England who were trying to help the swans.

Sheila said: *Maybe, it is time to train or at least get some competent qualified wildlife officials instead of a bunch of boat ropers who want to act like they know how to conserve wildlife. Oh, again, that's right, easier to kill something than to take the time to learn how to manage without killing.*

For more information, please contact **Sheila Bolin of the Regal Swan Foundation** <http://theregalswan.com/> or email: [bolin.s@att.net](mailto:bolin.s@att.net)

If you are in NYC, please join with **Mary Beth Artz** and other volunteers at W.I.L.D. Find W.I.L.D. on Facebook or email: [info@wildforprospectpark.com](mailto:info@wildforprospectpark.com)

## Mute swan cygnets

See Sue Miller's swan photography and art at

<https://www.facebook.com/www.suemilletart.comSueMillerArt/>



**Sue Miller** is an activist and artist on behalf of swans.

# BEARS WANT TO LIVE IN PEACE

BY KILEY BLACKMAN

Recently, Amherst residents were horrified when police shot and killed a harmless black bear that had been hit by a car, but still walked around, not bothering a soul. The police and the state Department of Environmental Conservation have been widely criticized for this needless, cruel shooting. The community created a memorial for him at the site he was slaughtered; one resident poignantly reflected, "We had begun to consider the bear a neighbor."

Wildlife can manage and adapt on three legs, and bears can be tranquilized and treated or brought to sanctuaries; grievously, there was a wildlife sanctuary nearby.

It is time we learn to coexist with our wildlife, who have every right to live here peacefully as we do, if not more so. Inflammatory articles raise fear and loathing, such as The Journal News/lohud.com's that states: "The black bear population is on the rise. An estimated 3,000 roam the Southeastern portion of New York."

While we kill bear merely for sport, they are rarely harmful to us. While the media hysterically points to black bear numbers, not one word is ever said about the influx of humans wanting roads, cars, housing and food spreading into habitats, wetlands, soiling the water and air, clear-cutting acres of trees daily, which developers are more than happy to do.

Wildlife contributes to ecology — even tiny chipmunks are seed dispersers. Communities need to have a clear plan to both teach residents how to live peacefully with wildlife, and a coordinated effort with the DEC and local police to humanely transport animals only when absolutely necessary.



Photo ©Jim Robertson.

*A thirsty Black Bear.*

The DEC has been very negligent thus far, despite having taxpayer-funded equipment, resources and humane contacts. Westchester has been pretty good in these situations, though shamefully still allowing hunting in our public parks.

Articles warning of "thousands" of bears will harm animals. You wouldn't do it to people — don't do it to those who have no voice.

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**Kiley Blackman** is founder of **Animal Defenders of Westchester (ADOW)**

<http://www.all-creatures.org/adow>

# WOLVES JUST PROTECTING THEIR YOUNG-- THERE'S NO NEED TO SHOOT THEM

BY JIM ROBERTSON

I read with interest a recent article about a fish researcher who claimed to have been scared up a tree by a pair of wolves in Washington. She had to be rescued by a nearby fire helicopter, and local sheriff's deputies among the rescuers were advised to "...shoot the wolves on sight," if they saw them still near the treed researcher.



Photo by Jim Robertson

wolves, an uninvited interloper is just what the fish researcher was (and for all we know she even smelled of fish to them). The point is, people shouldn't get too hasty in their judgment of others' (in this case the wolves') actions. This whole outdated 'shoot on sight' mentality is what drove wolves to extinction in Washington in the first place.

After a short bit of searching, I came across what sounds like the most reasonable explanation for the wolves unusual behavior. A report in Northwest Public Broadcasting revealed that "biologists who visited the spot Friday to investigate the incident attributed the rare wolf-human interaction to the presence of wolf pups nearby."

Surely, humans act a little abnormal when protecting their young from uninvited interlopers. Of course, to the

None of the wolves I've come across in either Alaska, Canada or the Yellowstone area ever acted aggressively or defensively like the ones the fish researcher met. **Much has been made about her doing everything right, but perhaps if she'd turned back when she first heard wolves yip and howl and bark (instead of continuing on towards their den-site) they wouldn't have felt the need to approach or tree her.**

# “HUNTING ACCIDENTS” – A BENIGN DESIGNATION FOR A NEEDLESS NIGHTMARE

BY ANNE MULLER

Call it “Hunting Devastation,” “Hunting Calamities,” “Hunting Mayhem,” “Hunting Scourge.” Since I like alliterations, “Hunting Havoc” could work. The title “Hunting Accidents” doesn’t at all conjure up images of the bloodshed and trauma caused to individuals and families, nor does it reflect all of the medical and law enforcement costs, nor does it give voice to the heartache of those who love wildlife ALIVE, and, of course, the nightmare inflicted on all of the animals and their loved ones.

Finally, in January there appeared an article by **Sean Lahman** in the *Democrat & Chronicle* that provided a detailed description of what one man who was shot by hunters went through. Yes, it wasn’t even called a “hunting accident,” although it was. It was titled, “**AGAINST ALL ODDS,**” with the subheading “**Kevin Flannery’s improbable tale of survival after being shot from nearly a half mile away while mowing his lawn, and how the men responsible for his trauma avoided jail time.**”

Note that it did not say, “**Kevin Flannery’s improbable tale of survival after being shot from nearly a half mile away while mowing his lawn, and how the hunters responsible for his trauma avoided jail time.**”

The article was bold in its description of the details of not only the physical trauma, but the psychological trauma as well. It took us from the beginning, when Mr. Flannery realized he had been shot and severely wounded, through his painstaking struggle to survive what would have killed most, to his partial recovery in the end. It was a tribute to the victim’s indomitable spirit to continue to live with his family and work outside on his property. Mr. Flannery describes how, while he was trying to avoid taking more bullets, he wondered how the bullet damage, should he survive, would impact his wife, daughter, and work. All of this angst was also shooting through his mind while the hunter kept firing and hitting his mower. While the pain seared through his body,

and the loss of blood was weakening him, and while he had to keep shielding himself. He described how he could see for hundreds of yards in every direction but didn’t see the shooter. **Arriving at the hospital, they discovered that half his liver was shot out, along with his entire right kidney.**

The article goes on to report all of the details of his medical treatment: intensive care for several weeks, then a wheelchair, learning to stand again, then walk with a walker, and learning to eat again. His wound required home nursing to change his dressing three times a day, and, worst of all, not knowing if he would survive.

**A grand jury indicted the two hunters which a state Supreme Court judge dismissed. All the records were then sealed including the judge’s reasoning for the decision. By sealing the records, it prevented prosecutors from talking about it.** To meet the legal standard for recklessness, the hunters would have to have known that someone was within range. The Flannerys brought a civil suit alleging that the defendants were reckless and more than negligent. They want punitive damages.

Mr. Flannery said he didn’t have ill feelings being “an avid hunter himself.” They just wanted the hunters who shot him to hear the 20-minute 911 call in which he said “goodbye” to his wife and daughter.

Where do we begin with all that’s wrong with this? The *Democrat and Chronicle* article was careful to talk about shooting and not hunting. We at C.A.S.H. know that if hunting weren’t at the root of this, the hunters would have been given full sentences. One other frightening observation is that bullets can travel for miles if unobstructed as was this case. Another key point is that millions of animals suffer the agonies of hell in our fields and woods and it’s perfectly legal! This has got to change!

The problem of justice for Mr. Flannery in a case like this is clearly political. It’s imperative that the Bureau of Wildlife that operates with general

funds within the NYS DEC be stripped of their governmental status, and that general funds are not allocated to supplement BOW’s firearms money. BOW is a private entity that operates on behalf of the firearms industry and the tiny percentage of New Yorkers who like to kill wild animals. BOW is siphoning funds from the 97% of the NY population that doesn’t hunt. Isn’t it time that this ends?

I called the brave reporter, Sean Lahman, to congratulate him on his article, and asked a simple question: Were the shooters hunters? “Yes,” he answered. They were hunters and it was during hunting season, but...they weren’t hunting at the moment they were firing the bullets that struck Mr. Flannery, they were sighting-in their rifles’ scopes and shooting at a paper target, and couldn’t see behind it. The bullets of course went through the paper target like, well, paper.



*This was caught by a cameraman at the demonstrations that followed the Florida massacre of 17 young students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. It is the first time that I’ve seen hunting tied together with overhauling gun laws.*

*This is a major message.*

We encourage our members to view the “Hunting Accident” section of our website, which can be seen at <http://www.all-creatures.org/cash/accident-center.html>. **Jim Robertson** has carefully sleuthed the many horrific accidents that have occurred.

<https://loadoutroom.com/thearmsguide/tra-shooting-series-how-to-sight-in-a-scope/>

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**Anne Muller** is editor of the *C.A.S.H. Courier*

# YOUR HARD-EARNED TAX DOLLARS SUPPORT HUNTING AND TRAPPING

BY ANNE MULLER

In New York State's population of twenty million people, 530,000 hold resident hunting licenses, and 15,000 hold trapping licenses. **In percentages, a mere 2.65% of NY's residents hunt and .075% trap.**

In 2013, a report was released of a 2012 audit of the *Conservation Fund - Sources and Uses of Funds*, but unfortunately, the numbers melded fishing and hunting revenue and expenses. Nevertheless, our readers will see the staggering amount of NYS's General Fund dollars that are given to the Conservation Fund. **One has to wonder if hard-working New Yorkers are aware that millions are taken from the State's General Fund, millions that would otherwise pay for the needs of all New Yorkers, just so hunting, trapping and fishing can continue as a "sport."**

This staggering amount of money that is taken to support a controversial recreational activity that involves killing wildlife that belongs to all the people of the state by law, and involves the promotion of firearms and ammunition, should be challenged.

The staggering amount of money that goes to the Conservation Fund is used for operating fish hatcheries (for fishing), pheasant farms (for hunting), issuing hunting licenses, and managing wildlife into overpopulations for hunters to kill.

**While the game agencies tell the public that hunting is needed to reduce wildlife populations for their impact on landscaping, orchards, farms, etc., they never say that they themselves are the cause of higher populations of game species.**

In a Joint Legislative Public Hearing on the 2013-2014 Executive Budget,

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/about/89196.html> , there was testimony by Jason Kemper, Chairman of the NYS Conservation

Fund Advisory Board on the Balance in the Conservation Fund.

He said, **"The Conservation Fund is unlike any other special revenue fund in the State. The purpose of the Conservation Fund is the care, management, protection and enlargement of the fish, game, and shell fish resources of the state and for the promotion of public fishing and shooting. It is funded by the sales of hunting, trapping and fishing licenses."** [He had the audacity to report that "the hunting, fishing and trapping community in NYS is the *only* interest group that funds the management of the resources that are important to them."] **Obviously, the fact that General Funds almost double the funding of this nightmare, is not acknowledged.**

**Just how long would we tolerate a division of government that promoted drinking and derived some of its income from the sale of alcohol? Or a division that promoted smoking and derived some of its income from the sale of tobacco? C.A.S.H. contends that the Bureau of Wildlife is illegitimate as a true government bureau and should no longer be housed within the government where it continues to siphon millions from the General Fund.**

It appears that these guys even steal from themselves:

In 2012, a report was put out by the NYS Comptroller's Office that stated that the Bureau decided to issue lifetime hunting permits to compensate for the loss of revenue from annual hunting permits. However, the money from lifetime permits was to be held in a Trust Fund and invested only. It appears that when operating money is needed for current projects, the revenue generated by the Trust Fund is transferred to the Main Fund. The 2013 report states that **more "transfers" were anticipated.**

Wildlife Watch contacted Ken



Schulman, the NYS Assistant Comptroller who was not part of the audit in 2012. We asked for confirmation that 110,319,316 was transferred from the General Fund to the Conservation Fund. He confirmed that amount. **We asked if in future audits they would provide a breakdown of the General Funds to make the Bureau of Wildlife's portion more transparent. He responded, "audits are very political."**

However, we noted that in 2018 the Final Apportionment of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Funds (the excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, & bows and arrows) for NYS was close to 21 million. The Dingell-Johnson apportionment (excise taxes on fishing equipment) for fishing in NYS was less than 8 million. If the General Fund is based on federal apportionments, it would indicate that the General Fund's contribution goes largely to support hunting.

We believe that a fresh audit is in order, with full transparency and justification for transfers from the General Fund to the individual bureaus, specifically the Bureau of Wildlife (BOW).

**Although we had always assumed that general fund monies were helping to keep this private firearms scheme active, we had never seen evidence of it until now.** Visit:

<http://osc.state.ny.us/audits/allaudits/093014/12s134.pdf>

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**Anne Muller, Editor, C.A.S.H. Courier**

# ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO [CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.ORG](mailto: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:*

*I'm a hunter, but like you guys I am anti-NRA. I feel they are part of the problem responsible gun owners are facing and without fighting them we're not going to enhance wildlife conservation nor will we see a reduction in gun violence.*

*First of all, the NRA doesn't speak for hunters. Only about half of NRA members hunt and a smaller percentage of hunters are NRA members. Many NRA members are gun accumulators not collectors, or "ammosexuals," as I heard one anti-hunter call them. That is a humorous description that I agree with. I use my gun as a tool to obtain food and for personal protection should I need it. I practice my marksmanship and don't see a need to own more than the 4 tools I have that I use for different hunting situations and to defend my home.*

*You'd be shocked (or maybe you wouldn't) by how many gun owners don't spend time at the range or have any degree of proficiency with the firearms they use, but it is my responsibility as a gun user, and one I take seriously, to be as trained and as safe as I can be. I respect what guns can do and I do not treat them like toys.*

*There's a common misunderstanding that because I hunt I must be a card-carrying, flag-waving member of the NRA. I'm not, and I know a lot of hunters who also lack respect for the NRA.*

*What troubles me is the NRA's propaganda that tells everyone more guns are the solution to everything. We don't need more guns, we need more responsible gun owners. The NRA doesn't care if you're responsible with your guns or not, all they care about is if you send in your membership dues and vote republican.*

*Not every hunter is a bad person, and not all of us eat NRA propaganda as if it were manna. Many of us, myself included, believe we need responsible gun control laws that can protect both public safety and the rights we have as Americans.*

*I don't really know where I'm going with this other than to say that neither myself nor the guys I hunt with are the enemies of wildlife or public safety. You're wrong to paint us all with the same broad brush. There are hunters and NRA members who are menaces, but the problem is not hunting and guns, it's untrained and unintelligent people who hunt and own guns. Putting your hatred of hunting aside I'd be happy to hear how you would address the nation's problem with gun violence.*

*Jacob,  
Gallup, NM*

Dear Jacob,  
Thanks for writing. I don't think it's possible to

completely separate hunting from gun violence because what hunting does is reinforce the notion that some lives are expendable, and that killing can make things better. We obviously don't believe that. There are different kinds of gun owners just as there are different kinds of animal advocates. The person who shoots clays is different from the guy who collects antiques and the guy who shoots coyotes (and then shoots rabbits because there are "too many of them"). Not all gun owners are violent people, they are just frightened, and we don't paint gun owners with a broad brush. The NRA is a polarizing group for sure, and we are well aware that the majority of hunters are not NRA members for many reasons. But hunters need to step up and make their voices heard where they believe the NRA is doing gun owners a disservice. You guys also need to speak up and explain why you feel the NRA isn't serving the best interests of hunters. As you know, the NRA has a lot of influence inside the Washington Beltway and to break the chokehold they have on so many members of Congress will take gun-owning conservatives like you to step up and demand change.

You sound like someone who might be able to understand the pro-wildlife, anti-violence message that we and other organizations promote. We encourage you to keep reading our website and our facebook page and to contact us whenever you have a question.

Sincerely,  
Uncle Joe

-----  
*Dear CASH –*

*You communists hate America and the freedoms we fought for. I'm an combat veteran, I served in Iraq because I love my country and I'm not laying down my guns because you (homophobic slur deleted) want us all to turn into vegetarians who are afraid of offending anyone. I hunt and fish and the Louisiana constitution says its my right to do it. I don't know why you people won't mind your own business and stay in the city where you belong.*

*Thomas,  
Monroe, LA*

Dear Thomas,

I'm sure being in combat was frightening and stressful to a level few civilians have ever experienced. You may likely have felt that terrible feeling that you were being hunted by people who wanted to kill you, and I am sure you have lost close friends to the violence of bombs and guns. I am in no way minimizing what you've been through.

Wildlife are also the victims of guns and explosives.

They experience terror and will always live their lives under the constant threat of being killed despite never having done anything to anyone. They are not willing participants in the "sport" that could likely maim or kill them, and the violence brought upon them is not a response to any major problems like terrorism, genocide, or human rights abuses. Please think about how killing them serves no purpose.

Saying that we hate the freedoms you fought for is ridiculous. We indeed hate hunting and hope to see those currently legal privileges taken away. Our goal is to see humane and reasonable solutions to wildlife conflicts implemented so that whatever challenges are faced could be addressed without anyone having to lose his/her life over them.

Regards,  
Uncle Joe

-----  
*Dear Uncle Joe:*

*I recently read that Kenya is considering making the death penalty available to prosecutors who catch poachers targeting rhinos and elephants. Shouldn't they have done this long ago and do you think it will stop people from poaching?*

*Laurie,  
Unionville, NY*

Dear Laurie,

Aside from opening a debate over whether or not the death penalty is ethically just, I will say that the decision made by Kenyan officials to consider the death penalty for poachers shows that not only do they value their native wildlife, but also that they understand the serious crime that poaching is. Kenya is also increasing the number of wildlife crime prosecutors to more swiftly deal with suspects, ensuring that more are brought to justice and fewer fall through the cracks in the system.

There are other issues as well that affect wildlife, just as in the United States, habitat is being fragmented and destroyed by human encroachment, including the building of roads, livestock production, and crop cultivation.

But poaching in the USA needs to be taken far more seriously. Unless federal law is being broken, American poachers can expect a slap on the wrist and a stern warning, but little more than that. While there have been cases of poachers receiving lengthy jail sentences, those are the exceptions rather than the rule.

It's good to see at least one nation taking wildlife protection seriously.

Regards,  
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



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X-LARGE,  
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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.

Q: What do you call 10 hunters standing ear to ear at a bar?

A: A wind tunnel.

☺☺☺

Q: What did the hunter do when he heard that 90% of accidents occur around the home?

A: He moved.

☺☺☺

A hunting instructor wanted to teach his students about self-esteem, so he asked them to stand up if they thought they were stupid. Most stood up. The instructor was surprised. He didn't think anyone would admit it, but he asked, "Why

did you stand up?" They said it was because they thought they were stupid, but one sheepish man said, "I didn't want to leave you standing up by yourself."

☺☺☺

One day, little Johnny was digging a large hole in his backyard. The next-door neighbor spotted him and decided to investigate. "Hello Johnny, what are you up to?" he asked. "My goldfish died and I'm gonna bury him," Johnny replied. "That's a really big hole for a goldfish, isn't it?" asked the neighbor. "That's because he's inside your son."



Fans of Pete's Humor

[www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#](http://www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#)

## CONTACTS:

**Jim Robertson, President**

[jim@abolishsporthunting.org](mailto:jim@abolishsporthunting.org)

**Joe Miele, Uncle Joe column**

[unclejoe@abolishsporthunting.org](mailto:unclejoe@abolishsporthunting.org)

**Peter Muller, Vice President, C.A.S.H.**

[peter@abolishsporthunting.org](mailto:peter@abolishsporthunting.org)

**Anne Muller, Editor, C.A.S.H. Courier**

[anne@abolishsporthunting.org](mailto:anne@abolishsporthunting.org)

Your generous contributions will help us to do much more.  
Thank you for your support. Please visit:  
[www.abolishsporthunting.org](http://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](http://www.wildwatch.org)  
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