



2404 E. Broadway, Alton, IL 62002

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Typical sample ear of corn from Crull Impoundment

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We have about 70 acres planted there. At \$8 a bushel we may have to put an armed guard out there to save it for the ducks.

**Kim B Postlewait Site Superintendent III
IDNR Mississippi River F & W Area**

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, August 22, 2012

MWHI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

at Alton-Wood River Sportsmen Club
in Godfrey, IL at 7:00 pm

Monday, September 10, 2012

MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

September 28, 29, 30, 2012

MWHI HUNTER SAFETY COURSE

at Alton Moose Lodge, Alton, IL
for more information or to register, contact
Craig Sondker 618-593-8421
See upcoming Sentry issues for more details!

Monday, October 1, 2012

MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

Wednesday, October 17, 2012

MWHI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

at Alton-Wood River Sportsmen Club
in Godfrey, IL at 7:00 pm

**Visit us at our website:
mwhi.org**

The *Sentry* is published monthly except for December and January by Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc., 2404 E. Broadway, Alton, IL, 62002. The *Sentry* deadline is always the second Monday of each month.

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Gun Control --- Again!

Duane Hahnenkamp

About now, we all should be talking about Teal season and the up-coming duck season. As duck hunters, we should be thrilled about the amount of feed in our areas and about the good duck hatch up north. Yes, it could be a great time to be a duck hunter this year with a regular field of dreams coming this fall.

Instead, we are wondering what gas is going to cost when the season gets here, and, unless you are retired, you wonder if you should take off during duck season or work everyday you can. For others the worry is how stable their job is and how much money can they afford to spend this season. On top of all of this comes the terrible shooting in Denver. This shooting is just what the media was looking for to use the news to help dictate policy in this country. It is an election year and there are many people out there that would like to see gun control as the big issue this fall instead of the economy. As you and I have seen before, the media likes to control the news instead of just reporting it.

Let me say first that what happened out in Denver was a terrible thing and that I feel sorry for the people who had family that were hurt or lost. Why someone would even want to perpetuate a mass shooting like this is almost unthinkable to most of us, yet every year one or two idiots try something like this for some kind of satisfaction. What these people are thinking or looking for while committing this act is the million dollar question that needs to be answered. Of course, the news media is going to blame the gun as the main problem in this country. Politicians running for office this fall are already calling for the ban of assault weapons because in their minds they are not needed and would help put an end to this type of shooting.

They want you to feel bad about assault weapons and want to force you to give up anything that might be considered an assault weapon. Our own governor has come out now calling for an assault weapon ban even though he and most of these other guys can not explain to you exactly what an assault weapon really is. The military definition for an assault weapon is "a light weight, fully auto tactical weapon, firing a rifle caliber bullet." None of the weapons listed in the governor's assault weapons bill are fully auto, plus the only way for you or I to own a legal 'full auto weapon' is to apply for a special federal license and pay a "yearly fee of around \$2,000" before you can buy it. Remember the phrase "Assault Weapon" is just words that have different meanings to different people.

Now, reports are that this guy in Denver also had a shotgun and two handguns, which he used when his so-called assault weapon jammed. Are handguns and shotguns next to be banned if these people get their

way. Plus, where do they draw the line on banning guns under the heading of 'safety from assault weapons' or do they even want to draw a line at all. If you remember back at the Columbine School shooting, the weapons used were a hand gun and a shotgun plus homemade explosives. That handgun was a Tec -9, which our governor now calls an assault weapon, even though mechanically it is no different than your own Smith and Wesson 9mm.

At the mass shooting in a Virginia college a couple of years ago, we saw one guy kill twenty some people with two regular hand guns, a "9mm and a .22". Over 40 years ago I remember reading in the life magazine about the Texas Sniper who wounded and killed dozens of people from a Texas college clock tower with a regular deer hunting rifle. These shootings and others had nothing to do with an assault weapon, yet they were just as deadly or worse. All of these events were terrible things, I agree, but they were all planned out for days in advance and were not a spur of the moment that happened just because an evil gun was nearby.

Our politicians sometime like to pass laws or rulings to justify their jobs and to get reelected. These politicians need to remember that just because you pass a law, does not mean the problem will not happen again. Bombs are illegal to make or use, yet the Oklahoma City Bomber killed how many people just to fight some kind of war against the government. Drugs are illegal, yet drugs are everywhere because someone is willing to pay the price for it. Laws only work on people who want to obey them and the people who don't obey laws, don't care about you or anyone else.

These are the reasons why you and I should be against any new gun bans that tend to control the citizens of a country more instead stop any criminals. All you have to do is look at Europe and especially England to see that gun bans don't work. Street criminals over there are on a rampage with knives and illegal guns controlling their streets. Don't let the politicians and the news media make you feel guilty about your guns or try to talk you into giving up certain guns. Remember, there is a fine line between your deer rifle and a sniper rifle, between your Bennelli shotgun and a tactical shotgun, between an automatic hunting rifle and an assault rifle. Lastly there is no difference between your hand gun that you target shoot with or use for self protection and the handguns that commit crimes, except for the people behind that handgun. Remember guys, gun control is flat out citizen control and nothing else.

Even if our or any government could take away all of the guns and knives, which won't happen, the bad guys will find something else to attack people with. So, if the next socially deprived idiot uses a car

bomb to kill 50 people at an outdoor event, who do the politicians blame then, Ford or GM?

Good luck on your Teal hunting.

IDNR Announces 2012-13 Waterfowl Season Dates

IDNR, August 14, 2012

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Department of Natural Resources today announced proposed waterfowl season dates and bag limits for the 2012-13 seasons. The recommendations include 60-day duck seasons in each of the state’s four waterfowl hunting zones, along with Canada goose hunting seasons of 90 days in the North and Central zones, a 83-day Canada goose season in the South Central Zone, and a 71-day Canada goose season in the South Zone.

The Illinois seasons are based on a five-year plan for waterfowl hunting season dates that was developed last year and continues through the 2015 season. For 2012-13, Illinois will open the regular duck, Canada goose, and snow goose seasons on Oct. 20 in the North Zone, Oct. 27 in the Central Zone, Nov. 10 in the South Central Zone, and Nov. 22 in the South Zone. White-fronted goose seasons open Nov. 5 in the North Zone, Nov. 19 in the Central and South Central zones, and Nov. 22 in the South Zone.

The proposed daily duck bag limit is six (6) and may include no more than four (4) mallards (two hens), three (3) wood ducks, one (1) mottled duck, two (2) redheads, four (4) scaup, two (2) pintails, one (1) black duck, and one (1) canvasback. The proposed daily bag limit of mergansers is five (5), only two of which may be hooded mergansers. The possession limit for ducks and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit by species and sex.

For Canada geese and white-fronted geese, the daily bag limit will be two (2). For snow geese, the proposed daily bag limit is 20 birds. The possession limit for Canada geese and white-fronted geese is twice the daily bag limit. There is no possession limit for snow geese.

The state’s regulations are subject to final approval by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service later this summer.

Illinois Waterfowl Regular Season Dates – 2012-13

	<u>Youth Hunt</u>	<u>Duck</u>
<u>Canada Goose</u>		
North Zone		
2012-13	Oct. 13-14	Oct. 20 – Dec. 18
	Oct. 20 – Jan. 17	
Central Zone		

2012-13 Oct. 20-21 Oct. 27 – Dec. 25
 Oct. 27 – Nov. 12 and Nov. 20 – Jan. 31

South Central Zone

2012-13 Nov. 3-4 Nov. 10 – Jan. 8
 Nov. 10 – Jan. 31

South Zone

2012-13 Nov. 10-11 Nov. 22 – Jan. 20
 Nov. 22 – Jan. 31

Illinois 2012-13 Snow Goose and White-Fronted Goose Season Dates

North Zone

Snow Geese

Regular Season: Oct. 20 - Jan. 17

White-fronted Geese:

Nov. 5 – Jan. 17

Central Zone

Snow Geese

Regular Season: Oct. 27 - Jan. 31

White-fronted Geese:

Nov. 19 – Jan. 31

South Central Zone

Snow Geese

Regular Season: Nov. 10- Jan. 31

White-fronted Geese:

Nov. 19 - Jan. 31

South Zone

Snow Geese

Regular Season: Nov. 22 – Jan. 31

White-fronted Geese:

Nov. 22 – Jan. 31

The Illinois waterfowl zone maps are available on the IDNR website at

<http://www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/waterfowl/Pages/MapsApprovedWaterfowlZoneLines.aspx>

The September 2012 early Canada goose season is Sept. 1-15 with a daily limit of five (5) and a possession limit of 10 geese in the North and Central zones, and a daily limit of two (2) and a possession limit of four (4) geese in the South Central and South zones. Illinois’ 16-day 2012 statewide teal hunting season is Sept. 8-23 with a daily limit of four (4) and a possession limit of eight (8). Shooting hours for the September teal season are different from the regular season. Shooting hours during the September teal season are from sunrise to sunset.

Additional details on the duck, goose, and other migratory bird hunting seasons will be available on the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov and in the 2012 *Illinois Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations*, available in September.

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Romney Selects Sportsmen for VP

U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, August 14, 2012

(Columbus, Ohio) –This election, avid sportsmen and women will know for sure that one of the candidates running for President and Vice President is one of their own. This past weekend former Massachusetts governor Mitt Romney made sure of that when he tapped Wisconsin Congressman, Paul Ryan (R-1, Janesville, WI) to join him in his effort to unseat President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden on November 6th.

While many candidates for elected office profess to be hunters and don flannel shirts at this time of year, Ryan doesn't dabble. He is an avid bowhunter, a fact that has been a point of pride to Wisconsin sportsmen and women over the years. He has chaired the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and supported legislation that has protected the rights of hunters and anglers many times over his 14 years in Washington DC.

This year, that support included his vote in favor of HR 4089, the Sportsmen's Heritage Act - the most significant piece of pro-sportsmen legislation during Ryan's tenure in Congress. The bill, which declares federal land open to hunting, fishing and recreational shooting among other things, passed the U.S. House of Representatives in April and has not yet been granted a hearing yet in the Senate.

Congressman Ryan is also a strong and vocal supporter of the Second Amendment and a member of the National Rifle Association. His selection as Governor Romney's running mate has been met with appreciation by many of the country's most prominent sportsmen leaders.

"While the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance does not endorse people for elected office, we are certainly quite pleased to have Congressman Ryan, an avid hunter himself who understands our issues, in this race," stated Bud Pidgeon, USSA's president and CEO. ###

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

NRA Update on Gun Bills **1-800-392-8683**

Federal Senate Office **1-202-224-3121**

Federal House Offices **1-202-225-3121**

Illinois State Rifle Association **1-815-635-3198** www.isra.org

Illinois Senate Information **1-217-782-4517**

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Rep. Dwight Kay – 112 District
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Rep. Thomas Holbrook – 113th District
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Rep. Eddie Lee Jackson, Jr. – 114th District
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Rep. John Shimkus - 19th District
Tel: 618-344-3065 E-mail: house.gov/shimkus

Sen. Richard J. Durbin
Tel: 312-353-4952 E-mail: dick@durbin.senate.gov

Sen. Mark Kirk
.....

Update on Senate Bill 1566

Bill status of SB 1566 remains unchanged.

Bill Status of SB1566 97th General Assembly
Short Description: USE TAX-AIRCRAFT MATERIALS

Senate Sponsors

Sen. Toi W. Hutchinson - Don Harmon - Michael Noland - Emil Jones, III, David Koehler, Terry Link, John J. Millner and Donne E. Trotter

House Sponsors

(Rep. Frank J. Mautino - David Harris - William Davis - Jim Sacia - Linda Chapa LaVia and Greg Harris)

Last Action

Date	Chamber	Action
5/31/2012	Senate	Placed on Calendar Order of Concurrence House Amendment(s) 2 - May 31, 2012

[Excerpt:]

Replaces everything after the enacting clause. Amends the Recreational Trails of Illinois Act to provide that no person shall, on or after July 1, 2013, operate an off-highway vehicle without an Off-Highway Vehicle Usage Stamp. Creates certain funds in the State Finance Act. Amends the Illinois Vehicle Code. Provides that beginning with the 2014 registration year, an additional \$2 surcharge shall be collected for certain vehicles and shall be deposited into the Park and Conservation Fund for the Department of Natural Resources to use for conservation efforts. Amends various Acts to implement or raise various fees to be deposited into specified funds administered by the Department of Natural Resource. Contains a severability clause. Effective January 1, 2013.

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U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance, August 14, 2012

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This year, that support included his vote in favor of [HR 4089, the Sportsmen's Heritage Act](#) - the most significant piece of pro-sportsmen legislation during Ryan's tenure in Congress. The bill, which declares federal land open to hunting, fishing and recreational shooting among other things, passed the U.S. House of Representatives in April and has not yet been granted a hearing yet in the Senate.

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**A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM
ISRA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RICHARD PEARSON
ISRA, 7/29/2012**

Fellow Firearm Owner,

As many of you know, a ruthless criminal recently murdered 12 persons and wounded scores more at a theater in suburban Denver. Of course, the gun control movement has absolved the perpetrator and transferred blame for the this brutal crime to you, the law-abiding firearm owner. Once again, the gun grabbers expect lawful gun owners to take it on the chin for the murderous misdeeds of others.

In the weeks and months ahead, you will hear the media and anti-gun politicians calling for a "national dialog on reasonable solutions to violent crime." Rest assured, this will not be a "dialog." Rather, this so-called dialog will be a listening session for gun owners who will find themselves on the receiving end of a scolding from the self righteous, gun-hating leftists who will make it very plain that gun owners must accept curtailment of their rights.

In recent days, gun control advocates have been all over leftist talk radio shows and internet blogs advancing proposals for "reasonable restrictions" on gun ownership. Among these restrictions are the following:

1. A ban and mandatory surrender of your semiautomatic rifles, pistols and shotguns.
2. A ban and mandatory surrender of magazines having a capacity exceeding 10 rounds.
3. A ban on internet sales of ammunition and reloading components.
4. Limits on ammunition purchases (100 rounds per year according to one proposal)
5. Performance-based bans on certain bullet designs and calibers.

This list of restrictions being furthered by the gun control movement is just the beginning with even more onerous limits sure to follow. Nonetheless, enactment of any of these restrictions would certainly doom private firearm ownership. As we all know, the true aim of the gun control movement is a gun-free America.

My friends, I guarantee you that the ISRA will never engage in any "dialog" that will result in the diminishment of your right to keep and bear arms. We will not set foot on "common ground" and we will never participate in any sort of compromise just to make some political candidate look good. We are gun owners helping gun owners preserve gun ownership.

Given the political climate, the task before us is daunting. Yet, I am confident that, with your help, we will turn back this latest attack on your right to keep and bear arms. Here are 5 things you can do to help ensure victory for our nation's traditions.

1. Call the offices of your U.S. Senators, your U.S. Representative, your Illinois Senator and Illinois State Representative. Firmly, yet politely tell the person who answers the phone that you are a law-abiding firearm owner and that you will not accept arbitrary limitations on your gun rights merely for the sake of "doing something" in response to wholesale slaughters carried out by disturbed criminals. If you do not know how to get in touch with your elected officials, then follow this link: Illinois Board of Elections District Official/Search: <http://www.elections.state.il.us/DistrictLocator/DistrictOfficialSearchByAddress.aspx>
2. Please pass this alert on to your gun owning friends and family members for action.
3. Post this alert to any and all Internet blogs, bulletin boards and social media sites to which you may belong.
4. Join the ISRA or ask a friend to join. www.isra.org/join
5. Give a generous donation to the ISRA by going to the following link: www.isra.org/fight_4_your_rights. This is one of the most crucial moments in the history of private firearm ownership. If we lose this upcoming battle, then we may never see our rights restored. Hard work, determination, and love of our Constitution are the three greatest tools we have to ensure that our traditions are preserved for future generations.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Pearson
Executive Director
Illinois State Rifle Association

Why You Missed: Top 8 Most Common Shotgun Mistakes

Wait, you missed again? Time to take a break and see if you're suffering from some of shooting's most common bad habits.

By Kyle Wintersteen, 8/6/2012

Nobody even had time to grab a duck call as the drake mallard cupped its wings and veered toward my end of the blind. It slowed its descent and exposed its chestnut breast in complete committal to the blocks. The shot was a gimme. I flipped my safety, stood to shoot and emptied my gun. The duck flew away unscathed. We all miss, and the occasional spectacular whiff actually adds to the enjoyment of wingshooting. However, frequent misses can be downright frustrating, especially if they're of the so-called "unexplained" variety. So, think back to the shots you missed last season that continue to haunt you. I'll bet you made one (or maybe even a few) of these common mistakes.

You Looked at the Barrel

Wingshooting is an instinctive art. You focus on the bird, smoothly mount the gun and let your brain do the rest. There's no aiming. That big noggin of yours has a built-in calculator with the amazing ability to spot an object (i.e. a pheasant or duck), judge its speed, path and distance and predict where it will be in the near future. If you let the calculator do its job, it will help you unite bird and shot at a precise moment. However, if you look at your barrel while swinging your gun in an effort to actively determine lead, you interrupt the message your brain is receiving about the speed of and distance to the bird—and you miss. This mistake is common to folks who learned to shoot a rifle long before they picked up a shotgun. They're accustomed to focusing on a front sight or scope reticle rather than the target, and therefore the idea of instinctive shotgunning feels awkward to them. So, resist the temptation toward "barrel awareness." You can do a lot of things wrong, but as long as you intently focus on the bird as you mount your gun, you'll still shoot better than most.



You Pulled Your Head off the Stock

If you shoot a shotgun correctly, your shot pattern is directed to wherever your eyes are focused. What's a great way to ensure things go awry? Pull your head off the stock as you pull the trigger in a reflexive effort to watch the clay break or bird crumple. Some shotgunners fight this temptation throughout their lives, believing it to be just a bad habit, but for many it's probably a symptom of "barrel awareness". Think about it: If your eyes are focused on the bird rather than your shotgun barrel, why would you need to lift your head to see it drop?

You Didn't Move Your Feet Properly

How many times have you witnessed a beginner practically corkscrew himself into the ground trying to swing on a swift-flying bird that zoomed by at a sharp angle? All he had to do was turn with an unmounted gun, plant his feet and take an easy going-away shot, but his feet were moving (and in turn so were his eyes) throughout the entire awkward swing. This is an extreme example, but all shotgunners can use the reminder to move their feet and set them prior to the shot. As the bird flushes, take a small step with your left foot (for a right-handed shooter) toward the spot where you intend to shoot the bird, not to the spot where the bird flushed. Your swing, especially on a right-crossing bird for a right-handed shooter, will feel remarkably smoother and more agile, and you'll never experience the horrid sensation of running out of room to swing.

You Rushed It

Some of the best advice I was ever given came from Gil Ash of the OSP Shooting School, who told me to "slow down and enjoy the shot." So often we feel that we must hurry to shoot before the bird escapes. Birds do fly quickly after all. But we can only move so fast before things start to go haywire. Your form breaks down, your eyes

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Continued from page 12

are drawn from the bird to your swiftly moving barrel and all you end up doing more quickly is missing the shot. This error may explain why so many hunters seem to be deadly on their second shot yet hardly ever connect on their first. Slow down, take your time and, as Ash first demonstrated to me on a clays course, the bird itself will seem to slow down. It seems counterintuitive, but if you mount your gun more slowly, it will seem as if you have more time to shoot. When you try to shoot quickly, your senses perceive that everything around you is moving faster as well. So slow down and enjoy the shot.

Your Gun Mount Was Sloppy

Look at the bird. Mount the gun. Pull the trigger. Instinctive shotgunning is really that simple, but a sloppy gun mount renders the technique impossible. Mounting the shotgun needs to become second-nature to you, for if it is a conscious effort, your brain will focus on mounting the gun rather than focusing on the target. Get to know your shotgun during the off-season. You'll be amazed how much your form will improve if you spend just 5 to 10 minutes a day a few times per week practicing the "flashlight drill," which was popularized by Ash and others. Get yourself a little Maglite flashlight, tighten the beam and insert it into the barrel of an unloaded 12-gauge shotgun. Direct the unmounted shotgun's flashlight beam at the corner of a ceiling within your home. Next, smoothly mount the gun toward the corner, carefully keeping the flashlight beam as steady as possible on the corner. If the beam waves all about, you know your mount is sloppy, but don't fret: Practicing this drill will steady it right up.

You're a Duck Hog

Okay, maybe that's a little harsh, but I'll bet when you're hunting with other waterfowlers and someone calls the shot, you shoot faster than you would if you were hunting alone. It's human nature to be a little competitive, even if it's not a conscious decision. This leads to rushed shots and distracted senses as you fire amid your buddies' salvos. So, here's another Gil Ash trick: Never be the first in the blind to shoot. "How many times does everyone shoot and nobody hits a duck until their second shot?" Ash said. "As your buddies rush to shoot, you slowly, smoothly mount your gun." Have you ever noticed how the ducks momentarily hang in the air after the first shot volley? That's a great time to take your first shot.

You Closed an Eye

When I'm shooting well, I couldn't tell you all the specifics of my technique. Things just seem to fall into place without conscious effort. But when I'm shooting poorly—really poorly—I start to panic, close an eye and aim. At that point all I do is miss even more.

You may have the same problem. This is yet another symptom that often results from America's love affair with the rifle. From the time you owned your first BB gun, you took careful aim with a closed eye. So naturally you began doing so with a shotgun. Unfortunately, while it's possible to hit a few birds in this manner, you'll never reach your full potential. Keep your eyes open—force yourself if you have to—and your brain will naturally judge depth perception and other spatial factors regarding your target that will help you connect with it.

You Fell For a Marketing Ploy

Think that fiber-optic bead will help you hit your target? That's a marketing ploy, because in wingshooting you shouldn't focus on anything but the bird or clay. If anything, a big, shiny bead will actually impair your shooting, because it distracts the eyes and brain from the target. And, while some shooters believe they can simply perceive the bead in their periphery, in reality your eyes cannot focus on two objects at once. Stick to a subtler white or brass bead, or try covering your bead with a piece of black electrical tape so it blends in with the barrel. The importance of focusing on the target and allowing your brain to put the barrel where it needs to go cannot be stressed enough.

**Support Your Club –
Sign Up a New Member Today!**

Big Predators are Big Problems

U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance, Posted on August 9, 2012



As more and more states place restrictions on hunters—or eliminate types of hunting like the proposed ban on using hounds to hunt bears and bobcats in California—it is apparent that big predators like wolves and mountain lions are here to stay. And in many areas, they are becoming bigger problems – beyond the well documented decimation of elk and moose in the Rockies due to the wolf reintroduction.

In Washington state for example, wildlife managers recently killed a wolf from a pack that has repeatedly preyed on livestock in a remote northeast region of the state. Those wolves have been killing or injuring cattle for the past five years.

Gray wolves are classified as “endangered” under Washington state law, but are no longer protected in the eastern third of the state under the federal Endangered Species Act. State wildlife biologists have confirmed eight wolf packs within the state and have noted that there could be four additional packs there.

Big predator problems are growing in other states. In South Dakota, the state's Game, Fish and Parks Department hosted an open house in Rapid City to gather public input on mountain lion management issues and the proposed 2013 mountain lion hunting season.

The public learned information on lion population estimates and the 2013 harvest projections. The Rapid City/Custer State Park mountain population has been estimated at more than 245 cats, and the report noted “consumption of domestic prey has increased...” This means more livestock and pets are being eaten by the region's mountain lions. The 2013 (winter) hunting season is pending and like past seasons, it will be opened to resident hunters only and closed when a quota is reached.

During South Dakota's 2012 mountain lion hunting season (January-March, 2012), there were 73 lions killed by hunters. More than 20 of the big cats weighed more than 100 pounds, including one that tipped the scales at an impressive 163 pounds. Public comments submitted to the SDGFP indicate public safety is a big concern with so many mountain lions around the region. You can see more details of the state's 2012 season at: <http://gfp.sd.gov/hunting/big-game/mountain-lion-season-harvest-status.aspx>.

Elsewhere, in Minnesota the state's Department of Natural Resources will open a wolf season with a goal to take 400 wolves total in two established zones. Two hunting seasons have been set (the first one opens Nov. 3) and a total of 6,000 licenses are offered to hunters. More details are at www.dnr.state.mn.us/mammals/wolves/mgmt.html. Across the border in Wisconsin, the state's Department of Natural Resources has established six wolf hunting zones and will let hunters and trappers kill between 143 and 233 wolves.

Anyone interested in participating in Wisconsin's inaugural wolf hunting and trapping season must apply for a permit between August 1 through August 31, 2012. The permit application requires a \$10 fee and can be purchased from authorized license agents, through the DNR's Online Licensing Center, or by calling 1-877-945-4236 begin_of_the_skype_highlighting FREE 1-877-945-4236 toll free. Wisconsin's wolf hunting season opens October 15, 2012 through February 28, 2013.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources Newsbits for August 2012

Firearm Deer Permits: Permit applications will be accepted from Aug. 14 through Sept. 10 for random daily drawings for 2012 Illinois firearm and muzzleloader deer permits. For details, check the IDNR website at www.dnr.illinois.gov/hunting/deer.

Resident Archery Deer and Fall Turkey Permits: Resident combination archery deer permits, resident antlerless-only archery deer permits, and resident archery fall turkey hunting permits are available over-the-counter from DNR Direct license and permit vendors. Find a vendor near you at this link: <http://dnr.illinois.gov/DNRDirectMonitor/VendorListing.aspx>

Non-Resident Deer and Turkey Permits: The remaining non-resident 2012 Illinois combination archery deer permits, as well as non-resident antlerless-only archery deer permits and non-resident archery fall turkey permits are available over-the-counter (OTC) from DNR Direct license and permit vendors, by phone at 1-888-673-7648 (1-888-6PERMIT), or online at www.dnr.illinois.gov through Aug. 31 (OTC only after Aug. 31).

Youth Deer Permits: Resident and non-resident Illinois Youth Firearm Deer permits are available over-the-counter (OTC) from DNR Direct license and permit vendors, by phone at 1-888-673-7648 (1-888-6PERMIT), or online at www.dnr.illinois.gov through Aug. 31 (OTC only after Aug. 31).

Tentative!!! Pumping schedule

Kim B Postlewait Site Superintendent III Mississippi River F & W Area

Early pumping will be for holding early migrants and will **not** be filling everything to duck season levels.

- Glades** - week of August 27th if water is high enough in the river, we may open the gate and take free water from the river the week of the 20th.
- Stump Lake** - week of August 27th if water is high enough in the river, we may open the gate and take free water from the river the week of the 20th.
- Fuller Lake** - week of August 27th if water is high enough in the river, we may open the gate and take free water from the river the week of the 20th.
- Batchtown** - No pumping required, we may open the gate and take free water from the river the week of the 20th.
- Riprap** - week of August 27th, we may start putting water in Waverly Lake and pumping the lower areas in the walk in area.
- Red's and Red's walk-in** – Due to the theft and vandalism we suffer at Red's, I do not plan on putting a pump in until the week of October 1st
- Godar - Diamond** - week of August 27th
- Hurricane** – week of October 1st due to inability to hold water well
- Michael** – week of October 1st
- Refuge** – The refuge will be flooded similar to last year, the best food plot is the river field and is most mature at this time, the second section east of the north south levee will mature next and the highway section is the furthest behind. The part of the refuge north of the cross levee will be flooded with the east side of the levee section
- Helmbold** – week of October 1st due to inability to hold water well
- Calhoun Point** - week of October 1st - we may open the gate and take free water from the river the week of the 20th.

Riverlands Rush Adventure Race returns to Riverlands bigger than ever

Grab a partner and race your way around the Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary in West Alton on September 22, 2012 from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Second Annual Riverlands Rush Adventure Race hosted by the National Great Rivers Museum and experience the great outdoors in a new and fun way with enjoyment and challenges for everyone.

Riverlands Rush consists of an outdoor adventure race, focusing on outdoor recreation and the environment. Teams of two must complete a series of challenges such as canoeing, climbing a rock wall, and identifying birds. This year's race offers both "High School", ages 14-18, and an "Open Public", 14 years and up, registration groups. Participants must be at least 14 years old to compete in either category. Following the race, participants in the High School category will have an option to stay for a cookout and overnight campout to further their outdoor experiences.

In the fall of 2010, President Obama introduced the America's Great Outdoors initiative. That year, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hosted a listening session where students and the general public said they wanted to experience America's Great Outdoors, but didn't have very good opportunities. Last September, the first "Riverlands Rush" was hosted and opened to high school students only. This year, after popular demand, it is now open to all ages 14 years and up.

The Riverlands Migratory Bird Sanctuary is located off of US 67 in West Alton after you cross the Clark Bridge and take a left on Riverlands Way, adjacent to Ellis Bay. Registration is also required for this event. Cost is \$30 per team of two through September 7, or \$50 per team through September 21. To register, go online to www.facebook.com/GreatRivers/events and click on "Riverlands Rush" for more information and to download your registration packet. Parental consent forms are also needed for participants under the age of 17 and are included with the packet online. If you have any questions, you can also contact the National Great Rivers Museum at 618-462-6979 FREE 618-462-6979 . Online registration is also available at www.meetingoftherivers.org. ###

