August 2010

Willow River Rod and Gun Club

P.O. Box 145 • New Richmond, WI 54017 • (715) 246-4884 • www.willowriver.org

Willow River Rod & Gun Club News

Because of the Willow River Rod & Gun Club's activities involving the New Richmond Fun Fest food booth set up and fund raising event there was no formal July meeting scheduled. The food booth profits were very good this year due to great turnout and excellent weather. The club would like to thank everyone that helped to make this event a great success!

Going forward, this newsletter will include a copy of the club's calendar for the upcoming month. Hopefully it will allow better communication between club members and allow the land to be used to its full potential.

If you have any photos of hunting, fishing or outdoor recreational activities and would want to share them with our club members please send them to Mike Reiter at 461 Parkview Dr. New Richmond WI, 54017 or email at mikesal@frontiernet.net and they will be included in the newsletter. Suitable articles of interest can also be submitted.

This is your newsletter!

Warden Paul Sickman Report

Rules going into effect this summer are designed to prevent new introductions of three invasive species. Under the rules effective July 1, 2010, people must have a license to possess wolf-dog hybrids, feral or wild swine, and mute swans in captivity.

Also as of July 1, it is illegal to release any of these species into the wild and such releases can result in penalties of up to $1,142, as well as restitution costs for any damage caused by these animals.

Feral and wild swine disturb habitat for, and compete with, a wide range of native animals, wild plants and agricultural crops. They disturb native ground cover creating avenues for infestation by invasive plants. Through digging and rooting activities, large family groups have caused locally significant damage to crops. They even pose a health threat to domestic animals. Of primary concern are diseases such as pseudorabies, brucellosis and tuberculosis. While these diseases can be eliminated from domestic livestock herds, wild or feral swine that persist on the landscape could be disease reservoirs that continually reintroduce diseases to domestic herds.

Feral or wild swine include wild strains of swine commonly known by the name European, Eurasian, Russian, feral or domestic strains. Feral domestic strains also include animals which are confined but which exhibit characteristics of being in an untamed state, and hybrids of wild or feral with domestic swine. Included in this definition are any swine that is captured in the wild or from an unconfined environment after it has existed in the wild or unconfined environment outside of an enclosure for more than seven days, regardless of its physical characteristics.

People who possess wolf-dog hybrids or mute swans will need to apply to the department for a captive wild animal farm license. In most cases, captive wild animal farm licenses cost $50 initially and $25 for annual renewals. For owners who do more than $10,000 of business a year the license costs $200 initially and $100 for renewals.

People who own animals that they consider to be wolf-dog hybrids will only be able to possess animals that have been spayed or neutered. Pen standards are also established by the rules, but owners can be licensed before construction of pens. Owners have until 2014 to construct pens.

If people own dogs that have been reported as being wolf-dog hybrids, but the owners are not sure, wildlife officials recommend that the owner obtains a variety of photos from different angles, and present to the local wildlife biologist, or the DNR wolf specialist to obtain an opinion whether the animal is likely a wolf dog hybrid.

A condition of licensing for mute swans is that they be enclosed in pens that are kept clean and sufficient to contain the animals. There are exceptions from pen standards for animals kept on a persons' own land if they have been pinioned and neutered.

For any questions or to report a violation, call Warden Paul Sickman at 715-684-2914 X 120.

Animal Observations

The DNR is asking the public to report any game bird brood observations to them. This will allow an accurate estimate of pheasant, ruffed grouse, turkey, quail, gray partridge, prairie chicken and sharp-tailed grouse reproductive success. The survey period begins June 13 and runs through August 21st, 2010. This information can be entered on the "Game Bird Brood Observation Survey Page" of the DNR website. Information gathered on game bird brood production is used by the DNR to monitor population indices, make fall hunting forecasts, and monitor regional trends. Questions about the Game Bird Brood Observation survey, accessing the tally sheet, reporting your observation, or the results of the survey, can be referred to Brian Dhuey at (608) 221-6342.

Presently, the newly formed "Friends of the St Croix Wetland Management District" (FSCWMD) has completed a survey of local waterfowl production based on a waterfowl pair count performed in early May, followed by a waterfowl brood count performed in June. These surveys were conducted by SSCWMD members on the more than 130 wetlands located within 17 Waterfowl Production Areas in and around the New Richmond and Star Prairie area. Results will be analyzed and reported on later this year.

Fishing Facts from the DNR Website

1. The National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame and Museum confirmed in January 2009 that the 51.25-inch musky Brad Bohen caught Oct. 16, 2008, was a world fly rod record for a released fish on a 36-pound tippet.

2. Wisconsin waters are home to 165 fish species; 150 of these species are native to the state and 15 are introduced non-native species.

3. The sturgeon is the state's largest and longest-lived fish. In fact, the world's record sturgeon taken by hook and line was a 170-pound, 10-ounce giant hauled from Wisconsin's Yellow Lake in Burnett County in 1979. The state record for a speared sturgeon was set that same year, when a 195-pound lake sturgeon was speared on Pokegama Lake in Vilas County by a tribal member exercising his treaty rights.

4. The muskellunge, or musky, is the state fish. More world record musky have been landed here than anywhere else. In 2006, for example, anglers reported catching more than 60 musky over 48 inches, including a 53-inch Vilas County fish that weighted 51 pounds and 2 ounces.

5. Walleye are Wisconsin anglers' favorite targets, followed by bass. Collectively, panfish are caught most frequently.

6. By far, most Wisconsin fish are the result of naturally reproducing populations. But the DNR typically raises and stocks about 12 million fish of larger sizes.

7. The waters of Wisconsin include 15,081 inland lakes, 42,000 miles of perennial streams and rivers, 1,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, and 260 miles of the Mississippi River.

8. Wisconsin boasts 10, 266 miles of trout streams, with 4,136 of those miles being high quality, Class 1 trout streams.

9. Vilas and Oneida counties in northern Wisconsin boast the world's largest collection of kettle lakes, with more than 2,000 lakes between them.

10. More than 90 percent of Wisconsin waters are supported entirely by natural reproduction resulting from good aquatic habitat.

11. Wisconsin annually sells about 1.4 million fishing licenses to adult anglers.

12. Anglers spent 20.8 million days fishing in Wisconsin in 2006.

13. Nearly 41 percent of Wisconsin residents 16 and over participate in fishing

14. Wisconsin is the second favorite destination spot for nonresident anglers

15. Anglers annually catch 88 million fish and keep 33 million fish of all kinds, releasing the rest to challenge anglers another day.

16. Wisconsin ranks among the top 5 states in terms of numbers of anglers, behind the more populous coastal states of Florida, California and Texas.

17. Fishing generates a $2.75 billion economic impact in Wisconsin

18. More than 30,000 Wisconsin jobs are supported by fishing

19. Fishing related activities and sales generate $200 million in state tax revenues for local and state government. Less than 1 percent is returned to DNR for traditional fisheries management.

Coyote vs Wolf (size)

Wolf track compared to 16 ga shotshell

Whitetail Deer Facts

1. Adult deer can run as fast as 40 miles per hour and swim as fast as 13 miles per hour.

2. Nine states, including Wisconsin, have claimed the white-tailed deer as their state animal.

3. White-tailed deer are native to North and South America.

4. Female white-tail deer often begin breeding before they are two years old and typically give birth to one to three fawns per year.

5. The white-tailed deer fall breeding season - otherwise known as the rut - is the most likely time of year to encounter deer on the road. Dawn and dusk are the deer's most active times of the day.

6. Wisconsin boasts the largest single season deer harvest ever recorded: 615,293 in the year 2000.

7. Deer hunting continues to grow. In 1966 517,225 deer hunting licenses were sold and 116,048 deer were harvested. In 2008, license sales were 846,094 total licenses and hunters harvested 453,480 deer.

8. The 12th edition of the Boone and Crockett Club's Records of North American Big Game lists Wisconsin as the top state in terms of entries of white-tailed deer with trophy antlers with 627 entries.

9. In the Last Decade Deer hunting has contributed approximately 1 billion dollars to the state's economy annually. More than 700,000 deer hunters have participated in deer hunting annually and harvested an average of 482,645 deer.

Willow River Rod and Gun Club Calendar

August 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 [31] Aug	2	3	4	5	6	7
	5:00p -9:00p ARA Rimfire Match - 6 Card	Last Quarter 4:00p -10:00p Summer Archery League		6:00p -9:30p Trap League	2:00p -9:00p Archery Course Setup	7:30a -3:00p 3D Archery Shoot
8 [32]	9	10	11	12	13	14
		New Moon 4:00p -10:00p Summer Archery League		10:00a -5:00p LEA Training - Somerset PD 6:00p -9:30p Trap League 7:00p -8:30p Club Meeting		
15 [33]	16	17	18	19	20	21
	First Quarter	4:00p -10:00p Summer Archery League		6:00p -9:30p Trap League		
22 [34]	23	24	25	26	27	28
		Full Moon 4:00p -10:00p Summer Archery League		6:00p -9:30p Trap League		
29 [35]	30	31	1 Sep	2	3	4
10:00a -3:00p IR 50/50 Rimfire Match	5:00p -9:00p ARA Rimfire Match - 6 Card	4:00p -10:00p Summer Archery League	Last Quarter	6:00p -9:30p Trap League		

Please Remember: No Shooting on the Ranges Before 9AM

Upcoming Events...

April 15th - July 31st .....It is illegal to allow dogs to run on DNR lands and Federal Waterfowl Production Areas lands during this time unless the dog is on a leash no longer than 8 feet.

July 31st (Saturday).....Wildlife Talk at Willow River State Park, 7 pm, Mike Reiter speaker, Contact: Kari 715-386-9340 Park Sticker required

August 2nd (Monday) .....Fall Turkey Hunting Permit application deadline, also Horicon Goose, Sharptail, Bobcat, Fisher and Otter, Transfer Class A Bear License, and Upriver System Sturgeon Spearing Season application deadlines

August 6th - 8th .....National Trappers Convention, Marshfield Fairgrounds

August 12th (Thursday) .....Willow River Rod & Gun Club's August Meeting, 7 pm, club land, Contact: Brian Headlee at 246-5322

August 16th (Monday) .....Star Prairie Fish & Game Association August Meeting, 6:00 Dinner & Social, 7:00 Meeting, Don Madson's on Cedar Lake

Comments, criticisms or input, please contact Mike Reiter 246-6643 or Jessa Nelson 246-0266

P.O. Box 145
New Richmond, WI 54017