



# The SCI NW Chapter

# **Annual Election Meeting**



Come join us for The Northwest Chapter Annual Election Meeting! This event will be held <u>Saturday</u>, <u>June 8th</u>, <u>2019</u> at Captain Ron's home in Kent, Washington. Captain Ron has a jam-packed airplane hangar trophy room that's a must see! We'll also get some business done & elect our 2019-2020 officers!

Come join your friends and SCI Northwest Family for a scrumptious catered BBQ meal, wonderful conversation, and see an amazing trophy room!

When: June 8, 2019 Where: Captain Ron's 17650 SE 295th St. Kent, WA. 98042 Time: 2:00pm-7:00pm

Doors Open: 2:00pm Dinner Served: 4:30pm

**Election Meeting/Dessert: 5:30** 

**\$20 for adults \$10 under 18** 

RSVP <u>ASAP</u> to Tricia Email/Call/Text at <u>stinger1011@yahoo.com</u> or (206)795-2895









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LES SCHWAB TIRE CENTERS

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Chris Wilmar

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# Check out our revamped website: www.scinw.com

# Cash Reward

# Dead or Alive

Wanted Old Winchesters, Marlins and Schofields

Contact Dave Randall at 253-686-8064 or randallsplumbing@comcast.net

**Upcoming Events** 

Annual Chapter Election Meeting: June 8th

See www.scinw.com for details!

# NW Chapter SCI Election of Officers and Board Effective July 1, 2019

# Those highlighted in red are up for election

President: David Irons 425-443-6603 <u>david.irons.66@hotmail.com</u>

Vice President: Cody Scriver253-988-0557trythis06@yahoo.comSecretary:Jan Pearson253-582-1251pearsonj13@aol.comTreasurer:Del Berg206-947-0598berg.sue@comcast.net

# **Board of Directors:**

# **Expiring 2022**

Jim Chaffee	206-406-4024	jim.chaffee@raymondjames.com
David Randall	253-686-8064	randallsplumbing@comcast.net
Cody Scriver	253-988-0557	trythis06@yahoo.com
Brett Singer	206-604-7713	brett singer@vahoo.com

# **Expiring 2021:**

Ron Carter	253-862-7523	ron_carter@hotmail.com
David Irons	425-443-6603	david.irons.66@hotmail.com
Alan Pearson	253-582-1251	pearsonj13@aol.com
Jan Pearson	253-582-1251	pearsonj13@aol.com

# **Expiring 2020**

206-947-0598	berg.sue@comcast.net
206-949-9615	mdail3006@outlook.com
425-283-6781	brianp.wissner@gmail.com
	206-949-9615

Vacant

# **Past President**

Mike Rex 206-730-3763 <u>lundboat@harbornet.com</u>

# **Special Directors:** (Three, maximum)

Appointed by the President, approved by the board. Don't count in Quorum.

# President's Message

I have been on the Board of Directors for the NW Chapter for over 13 years now. It has been one heck of a ride! 99% of the time that I have served the chapter as a board member has been very rewarding and fun. At times there has been a bit of stress, but by doing the right thing for the Chapter during those moments, I have found a great deal of satisfaction. As I conclude my final term as being President, I can look forward to at least one year as being the Past President! Past President is the best spot on the board! Now it is time to turn the reigns over to a new



generation of board members, as I am the last of the "been around forever gang" that will serve as President. Your new chapter officers are a great blend of those that are somewhat new, and those that have been around for a few years. But the "been around forever gang" will now settle into more of an advisory and mentoring roll than an 'in charge' roll.

This new generation of leadership will be a cause for new ideas and new ways of doing things. I have already seen the pre-planning taking place and I am very much looking forward to seeing the outcome! I am looking forward to seeing us become better at our communication with you and other conservation groups. This will be the natural outcome as our new leadership is much more advanced on technology and what it can do for us. And I can tell they are chomping at the bit to make those changes. Right on!!

And now we will need to bring in the next generation of leadership to the board. Each of us in the "been around forever gang" has had a hand in bringing in new people into leadership. I am very confident the new generation will be doing the same. And I am also certain there are many in our Chapter Membership that are more than willing to help out with this, that, and the other thing. You are the people that make it possible for our Board of Directors to do their job! So, as things move forward with our coming transition, be confident in helping out and being involved. You will not be over worked or ever expected to do more than works for you.

If you have ever thought about being involved and making for some change, now is a great time to do that! The rewards are huge no matter the task. Being a part of what is going on within the chapter brings about a sense of satisfaction that I find difficult to compare. And if things do work out, and you find yourself representing the chapter in some form, I am sure will have the same sense of pride and ownership in the NW Chapter as I have found.

On a personal note, Joanne and I will be living in Ellensburg by this time next year. We are building our retirement home in a small community of homes in the hills north of I90. There are deer, quail, marmots, hawks, song dogs, and the occasional elk living on our land. It has been tempting to grab the 20 gauge at times, but I am becoming used to being a land owner content to live with the birds. I am sure this will drive my pointing Labrador nuts! I will continue to be at Board Meetings as time permits, and both of us look forward to jumping over the pass the "other" direction to attend events.

I wish to end on a note of thanks to the NW Chapter Board of Directors and their helpers for all their hard work put into our Banquet this year. We now have some money for projects and upgrades to our system that we did not have this last year. The 2019/2020 Board will have the capability of doing things we could not even have thought of this last year. Bravo to each of you!

And to those not involved..... you are missing out!

Mike Rex El Presidente

# If you have old, new, funny or memorable pictures & stories about your outdoor adventures, we want them for our newsletter! Send to gary@ridgelinemarketsolutions.com



Dennis Dunn with an Tule Elk taken with his barebow. Read the full story of this adventure starting on page 7





Reed Mathisen with his first African animal. More to come on this adventure in the next newsletter!

# When Trail-Cameras, Waterholes, and Groundblinds Proved Useless

### **By Dennis Dunn**

As I draw near the end of my active bowhunting life, I realize how blessed I've been with the opportunity to hunt all three of North America's elk species on more than one occasion. My most recent elk adventure took place in July of 2018 on a large ranch near Paso Robles, California. It was a hunt that would prove to be the most physically-, emotionally-, and psychologically-stressful one of my entire life.

I am generally opposed to the sale of public lands to the private sector, yet, ironically, almost all of California's Tule elk live on private ground today. Their remarkable recovery from near extinction in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century is due to that very fact — combined with the efforts of hunter conservationists to get the California State Legislature to protect the species from virtually all hunting — until the first regulated hunts began around 1990. By then, the population had risen from about a dozen to around 3000 animals — determined by annual aerial census.

The ranch I hunted in 2018 had been owned by outfitter Doug Roth for 20+ years, and when he originally bought the property, there was not a single elk, deer, wild hog, or even a quail to be found on it — for the simple reason it had no water.

Doug realized, however, that — if he could drill and find a decent supply — he'd be able to pump the liquid gold up to the top of the mountain ridge his ranch sits astride, and then use gravity to distribute it into every draw or canyon that offered cover to the wildlife he wanted to attract.

He also spent many months with a big dozer knocking down huge quantities of heavy brush that covered most of the upper slopes of his "mountain." Now those slopes offer plenty of grasses and browse for the wild-life. Doug's plan was so successful that California F&G finally rewarded him by issuing two Tule tags, annually, so that his herd of around 200 elk could start being more properly managed.

I met Doug in January of 2017 and learned that he still had a bull-tag available for the next year. He'd not yet had a bowhunter on his ranch for elk, but he was genuinely intrigued by the challenge of guiding a traditional archer to a mature Tule bull. His elk hunts were normally five days in length, but I finally got him to agree to a ten-day hunt — if needed. The hunt would start 17 months later on the opener, July 2nd, 2018.

I knew there were many mature bulls on Doug's property, because he'd shown me trail-camera photos. All I wanted was a chance, from comfortable range, to release a shaft at the ribcage of a mature six-point or better. I knew I didn't care about the score of the rack. It was the intense challenge I relished — and that hoped-for feeling of deep satisfaction and prayerful humility which finally brings you to your knees, if you are ultimately blessed with success.

Seventeen months proved a long wait. Doug would periodically email "pics" of bulls visiting various waterholes or "drinkers" on his ranch. He explained that — unlike most ranches where Tule elk are hunted during the rut — we would be hunting them in the velvet. In fact, by the time the rut really got underway, there wouldn't be a single bull left on his property. Around August first, they all head down to the lower, flatter terrain along the shores of Lake San Antonio, in order to join up with the cows and start their mating rituals. If I were successful, he said, I would need to hunt out of a ground-blind over water.

Spot-and-stalk is much my preferred method of hunting, but Doug insisted that, due to the very hot, dry conditions, and the steep, rocky terrain, approaching a bull within stickbow-range would be virtually impossible. So ground-blinds it was going to be! At least the merciful shade would provide some protection from the extreme heat.

Early in the planning of this hunt, I explained to Doug (who is not an archer) that traditional bowhunters need blinds with plenty of height and space inside, so as to be able to shoot without slapping the roof or sidewalls of the enclosure. He said he already had half-a-dozen metal blinds positioned near waterholes, and he felt those would work OK for me. Nervous about whether he truly understood what I was saying, I urged that he acquire a couple of Double-Bull-type blinds, which could be easily moved from one location to another.

By the time I headed for southern California, the daytime-highs were averaging 105 degrees. I reached Doug's lodge the afternoon of July 1st and learned that our hunting grounds lay an hour-and-a-quarter's drive away. Doug's nephew, Garrett Roth, was there to greet me and would be my principal guide throughout. Doug had just had a knee-replacement and would be restricted to glassing from his truck.

After unpacking, shooting a few arrows, and wolfing down a marvelous, steak-barbecue dinner, I set my alarm for 2:45 am and crashed. The curtain was about to rise on a hunt that turned out to be nothing like what I expected! For one thing, I would only average four hours' sleep a night — for 10 days!

The plan was to be in one particular blind a half-hour before dawn. It was chosen for opening morning, because mid-day-trail-camera photos collected the day prior had revealed two large bulls tanking up at the nearby drinker shortly after sunrise. When we arrived, however, the blind was a metal one, and — to my consternation — was NOT suitable for bowhunters. Not only did it force me to *stand* to shoot out the high, fixed window, but I could not even draw my bow without the upper limb striking the metal roof! It was the very thing I had sought to avoid. I reluctantly placed my tripod stool outside, a few yards uphill, inside the forest-fringe, with a clear shot at the drinker. Three hours later, we left, having seen nary a critter larger than a ground squirrel.

Our next plan was to fetch one of the fabric blinds (with 80" vertical clearance) from one of the other locations and return to set it up at the site of the morning's disappointment. Along the way, we checked the site of the second fabric-blind, and the trail-camera showed a really nice "shooter-bull" drinking there the evening before. Consequently, we decided to leave the first site alone till the next day and spend our first evening at this third location.

The pictures had shown that the "shooter-bull" had a young 5x6 keeping him company. Fifteen minutes from the truck on foot deposited us inside the well-camouflaged blind about twenty yards from the drinker. **Two hours of sweating profusely was our "paid admission" to a remarkable drama about to unfold.** The sun had dropped behind the ridge across the draw, and the first suggestion of dusk was starting to settle in.

Suddenly, the crunching sound of animal hooves was heard, coming up the draw in our direction. The young 5x6 was soon visible out my shooting window, but then he stopped to study our blind. We waited breathlessly to see what might happen next. Our hope was that the bigger bull was somewhere behind him.

The 5x6's next move was to walk slowly uphill directly at us till his front hooves were barely three feet from the bottom hem of our "tent." It seemed that he was trying to peer through my shot-window to see what was inside! I could not get my brain around what was happening!

Not only had we completely sprayed ourselves down with Scent-Killer spray (including all gear) before leaving the truck, but I was the only hunter on the entire 1900-acre ranch — on this first day of the season! What sixth (or seventh?) sense had caused that bull to come investigate our blind? Perhaps the evening thermals had something to do with it. I doubt, however, that he detected our presence, because — when he turned — he proceeded unhurriedly toward the water. After a short drink, he fed his way up the far slope, soon disappearing over the ridgetop.

What happened a minute later proved even more amazing! The sounds of hooves shuffling over the oak leaves came from above, on the hillside *behind* us! Slowly, inexorably, they came closer and closer — until finally they stopped, sending a small rock rolling a foot or two onto the *uphill*, bottom edge of our blind.

As best we could, Garrett and I ceased breathing completely, yet we could hear the breath of the heavy animal standing mere inches away. We just assumed it was the 5x6's buddy from the previous evening, but we will never know for sure. After two long minutes, the mystery-bull departed quickly the way he'd come. We never caught even a glimpse of him. If he returned to drink, it would have been in total darkness, after we snuck out of the blind and back to the truck.

The uncanny "smarts" of both bulls boggled my mind and convinced me the Tule is likely the craftiest of all three North American elk.

I wish I could say the second morning at location #1 proved more encouraging than the first, but not a single elk put in an appearance.

Nor that evening . . . . nor the following morning. We were regularly checking the cameras at five different waterholes during the hottest part of every day, and it soon became clear that all the mature bulls on Doug's property were becoming almost entirely nocturnal.

As each day passed, Garrett and I became increasingly frustrated. We occasionally would move a pop-up blind to a different waterhole, and would see the occasional Blacktail buck or doe come to drink, but a lone spike bull was the only other elk to visit any of our blind locations during the first six days of my hunt (at least when we were there).

With time running out, it was becoming pretty clear we needed to start thinking "out of the box" and develop a new strategy. For several days, Doug and another of his guides, Dawson Work, had been sitting during the final hour of daylight on the highest point of his property, glassing for elk movement along the upper ridges and slopes of the ranch. After a seventh, futile, morning-waterhole-sit, we rendezvoused with Doug, and he told us about seeing three mature bulls appearing for two consecutive evenings, just before dark, from the back side of a distant ridge. They seemed to be headed for water somewhere in the timber below.

Suddenly, a new plan materialized! That very afternoon, Garrett and I went to work cutting out of the brush a little hidey-hole, right along the edge of the bulls' travel corridor. The spot we placed my stool was recessed far enough back that we knew no passing bulls would be able to see me until it was too late. Equally important, the actual tracks of their passing-by lay only 12 yards from my stool. Several hours later, I returned to the new natural brush-blind with enormous hope in my heart. If only those bulls would travel that same open ridge on the same trail for just one more evening!

Well, it was not to be. At least not that seventh evening. Yet, with no better option available, I decided to try again the next evening, and — BINGO! — suddenly, the bull of my dreams walked out of the TWILIGHT ZONE right into the dusky reality that was settling in all around me.

I first spotted him not a hundred yards distant, with his head down, partially hidden in the tall grass — and with one seven-point antler prominently silhouetted against the faint embers of a vanishing sunset. "Please have him move in my direction," I heard myself whispering — as if I had some private line direct to the Almighty!

Well, line or not, my prayer was quickly answered, as the bull started feeding in my direction. "Keep him coming," I pleaded. I knew the end of legal shooting light was fast approaching. The bull seemed by himself — and in no hurry. Yet I knew I was in a race against the clock. Oh, if only he would cooperate *in time!* 

Well, he did — or God did — and, as the final minute of legal light was ticking down, from 40-or-so yards away the regal, larger-than-life black silhouette of this magnificent animal started trotting downhill in my direction. When he reached my shooting lane, I was already at full draw, and I let out a grunt. The bull stopped on a dime, and my arrow was away.



# Sensory Safari

# Located at the Washington State School for the Blind 2214 E13th St. Vancouver. WA 98661

Sensory Safari "A journey of sight through touch" is a unique opportunity in the form of a rare wildlife safari through the sense of touch, called the "Sensory Safari" Tactile Museum of Natural History, brings a new world of discovery not only to the blind, but to our full community.



# 2019 WSSB Track Meet May 16, 2019 10AM-4PM

Spend an extraordinary day attending the WSSB2019 Track Meet. Tour the Sensory Safari Museumand enjoy the Track Meet on the school grounds. Buy a T-shirt to contribute to the WSSBLions!

Volunteers also needed for greeters in the Sensory Safari building.
Please contact JoDean Peters for info:
littlestsisjo@aol.com

# ttention Educators

# American Wilderness Leadership School

Nestled in the beautiful Bridger-Teton National Forest near Jackson, Wyoming, the American Wilderness Leadership School (AWLS) provides the perfect atmosphere for educational programs. Established in 1976 with the vision of providing educators with a useful hands-on experience that they can bring home to their classrooms, AWLS has provided an accredited conservation education program for more than 6,000 teachers who reach more than a million students annually and a challenging experience for more than 1,700 high school students.

SCINW Chapter is looking for two Educators or one Educator and one Student to send to a 2019 AWLS Workshop. Please go to www.safariclubfoundation.org for applications and more information, or email JoDean Peters at littlestsisjo@aol.com



# 2019 Schedule

June 6-13 Educator Workshop #1
June 16-23 Educator Workshop #2
June 26– July 2 Student (16-18 yrs) Limit 30 participants
July 5-12 Educator Workshop #3
July 15-22 Educator Workshop #4
July 25-August 1 Educator Workshop #5
August 4-11 Educator Workshop #6

# Thank You, Banquet Attendees













# We will see you next year!













### **Continued from Page 9**

PSST! was the only sound I heard, as the shaft passed through him amidships. The residual light was so minimal I could not see where the arrow passed through his side, but the shot had seemed about right. Only dawn would bring some answers.

A mostly-sleepless night followed, but sun-up found our search-party trying to follow a nearly non-existent blood-trail. I was mightily disheartened to realize that my shaft had likely not passed through the ribcage. We couldn't even find the arrow to examine it for sign.

Before long, however, Garrett spotted the bull 300 yards below, at the bottom of the steep draw he'd run into the night before. He was just standing there in the open. With our hopes mightily lifted, we decided to spend the day watching him till further action seemed warranted. Soon, he started moving slowly uphill, entering the cover of the forested slope across from us.

The entire day was spent watching that hillside. Shadows cast on the ground, visible through the few open peek-holes in the canopy, allowed us to monitor his slow progress toward the ridgetop. Occasionally, we caught a glimpse of a leg, hip, or antler, but just at sunset his full body cleared the horizon and disappeared over the top. "Heartbreak Ridge," I mused, painfully.

Daybreak of Day Ten found us at the bottom of the backside of that ridge, in an open little bowl, wondering which of three, new, converging ridges our bull had decided to hide out on.

All offered him substantial cover. However, this is when my guide, Garrett's, uncanny instincts came into play. His intuition told him which ridge was most likely to be harboring our quarry, and it wasn't more than 15 minutes of his crisscrossing that forested hillside before he picked up in the dirt and the leaves the tracks of a large bull.

Hollering at us to come and join him, he soon had all of us reinvigorated and hot on the trail of my wounded bull. There was no blood to follow, but the heavy tracks were unmistakable. Within minutes, we jumped the 7 x 6, though he didn't appear to have been bedded. After standing there staring at us for a few seconds, he trotted away, heading downhill into a deep draw.

At the bottom of that canyon was a barbed-wire fence running down one hillside, across, and straight up the other. It wasn't long before we could see that fence some 300 yards distant, and — lo, and behold — there was my bull standing right up against it. Garrett spoke quietly to me and said, "Dennis, I don't think he's got enough strength to jump that fence."

"Let's hope not," I replied. Perhaps we should take the long way around this ridgetop and sneak down through the trees along that far fence-line."

An hour later, we were in position and began our slow, careful descent. Halfway down, Garrett was able to confirm through his binos that the elk had not moved at all. In fact, he was still standing!

Finally, we reached a point where my guide could range him, and he flashed me a hand-signal of 33 yards. As I tried to improve my position for a shot, a tiny rock grated underfoot, and suddenly the bull cleared that fence with a single leap. Now he was out in the wide-open, and we watched in dismay as he finally disappeared around a corner into another forested hillside more than half-a-mile away.

Many hours later, after crisscrossing that distant ridge several times — and with Yours Truly probably near the point of heat-prostration, we sat down in the shade to rest. **Garrett then delivered the words I was dreading to hear.** "Dennis, we're out of gas, and out of luck. I think your hunt's probably over."

I nodded silently. A few, quiet, painful minutes passed. Then we all rose to head out toward the ranch road below.

Continued on the next page>>>>

Yet miracles do happen! We hadn't proceeded twenty yards downhill, when —Glory be! — there was our bull standing 40 yards away right up against another fence! This time he seemed unable or unwilling to try jumping the barrier. As the reader can imagine, a new shot of adrenaline surged through all of us, as the beleaguered bull began a slow trot back in the direction he'd come from.

An hour later, I found myself only thirty yards from my elk, with a chance to end *his* tribulations and *our* anguish. He was standing in the shade, about 25 yards away, just the other side of another wire fence running parallel to the road. To accomplish a finishing-shot, I needed to secure a toehold on the nearly-vertical, 10-foot rocky bank. By God's grace, I was able to climb just high enough to shoot over the top edge of that bank.

As I saw my arrow shaft pass through both lungs, I lost my toehold and went crashing down into the ditch, landing on my bow.

"He's still standing," Garrett whispered. "Get up there again and put another arrow through him!"

It was all I could do to regain that same toehold, but somehow I managed a second double-lung shot. As I came sailing off the bank this time, my body twisted outward and pitched forward. Thankfully, Garrett was there to catch me, or I'd have done a nasty face-plant on the gravel road.

Seconds later the drama was over. I can truly say that, by the time I finally "did in" that magnificent animal, I was totally "done in," myself! After a few prayers, silent handshakes were exchanged. Yet there was no real joy, no elation — only an immense sense of relief — 41 hours after the very first arrow left my bow.

Bowhunting is supposed to be fun, but — sometimes — it is . . . . something else.

### Author's Bio Note:

Born in Seattle, WA, in 1940, Dennis Dunn is a lifelong barebow hunter and outdoor writer currently living with his wife, Karen, in Sun Valley, Idaho. He is the author of the award-winning, coffee-table book, *BAREBOW! An Archer's Fair-Chase Taking of North America's Big-Game 29*. Among many other awards, his book won POMA'S 2010 Mossy Oak Pinnacle Award, as it was judged to be the most outstanding hunting or fishing book published in America in 2009.

### **Equipment Notes:**

On this California elk hunt, Dunn's equipment consisted of:

- -A Whitetail Hawk recurve made by Arlington, WA, bowyer, Steve Gorr
- -225-grain, two-bladed, single-bevel, stainless-steel broadheads (the Tuffhead) made by Vintage Archery
- -Cedar arrows made by Suzanne St. Charles of South Prairie, WA.

# **News from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

### Commission sets hunting seasons, reviews state's annual wolf report

OLYMPIA – The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted new 2019 hunting season regulations and reviewed annual wolf population findings during their April 5-6 meeting in Olympia.



The commission, a citizen panel appointed by the governor to set policy for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), also received public comments about proposed changes to suction dredging rules and approved two land transactions.

After months of public feedback, the commission approved new hunting seasons for ducks, geese, deer, elk, moose, bighorn sheep, and other game species for 2019-20.

Key changes approved by the commission for the upcoming season will:

Expand a requirement across western Washington that has successful hunters leave elk hoofs in place to prevent the spread of hoof disease.

Eliminate minimum arrow weight restrictions.

Reduced the number of antierless elk permits available in southeast Washington.

Eliminate this season's antlerless white-tailed deer hunts to conserve deer populations in northeast Washington.

Let turkey hunters forgo hunter orange requirements when hunting outside of modern firearm and elk seasons.

Add Feb. 1, 2020 as a waterfowl hunting day set aside to honor military and veteran service members. The day aligns with one of two youth waterfowl hunting days.

In other business, the commission reviewed the department's annual wolf report. The report documents a growing wolf population for the tenth consecutive year, with a minimum of 126 individuals, 27 packs, and 15 breeding pairs. This includes the first documented western Washington pack – the Diobsud Creek Pack -- since wolves were virtually eliminated from Washington in the 1930s.

The commission reviewed agency wolf efforts regarding proactive non-lethal deterrents and wolf-livestock conflict in 2018. WDFW staff then briefed the commission on an upcoming wolf periodic status review that will evaluate the species' status in relation to state endangered species requirements and state wolf recovery objectives. The department is planning extensive public outreach as a part of the periodic review, which is required for all state-listed species.

In addition, the commission approved two land transactions. The WDFW, in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Forterra, acquired approximately 3,555 acres of shrub-steppe, oak woodland, and over 6 miles of instream habitat supporting steelhead and bull trout recovery in Yakima County.

The second acquisition, approximately 1,600 acres of forest and aquatic habitat in Kittitas County, is part of the Heart of the Cascades project. Both of these properties provide critical habitat and migration corridors for elk and mule deer.

### **News from Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

### Special hunt permit application deadline May 22

OLYMPIA – Hunters can submit special hunt applications between April 22 to May 22 for fall deer, elk,

mountain goat, moose, bighorn sheep, and turkey seasons in Washington.



The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will conduct a random drawing to select permit winners, in June. Hunters who receive special permits qualify to hunt beyond the times and places authorized by a general hunting license.

To apply for a deer or elk special permit, hunters must purchase an application and hunting license, and submit the application with their preferred hunt choices. Applicants for mountain goat, moose, and bighorn sheep do not need to buy a license before they submit.

Hunters can buy applications and licenses from license vendors statewide or on WDFW's website. They must submit their applications on the website or call 1-877-945-3492 toll-free.

Hunters buying and applying online must create a username and password. They can find more information about creating their WILD system account. Hunters can also click the "Customer Support" link on the WILD homepage for additional assistance.

If you already have a username and password, you can login to buy and submit your applications.

"Every year hundreds of special permits get returned because of invalid addresses, so make sure you update your phone number, email, and address in the WILD system," said Anis Aoude, WDFW game division manager.

Most special hunt permit applications cost \$7.10 for residents, \$110.50 for non-residents, and \$3.80 for youth under 16.

Resident applications for mountain goats, bighorn sheep ram, moose, and "quality" categories for deer and elk cost \$13.70.

Instructions and details on applying for special permit hunts are on pages 12-13 of Washington's 2019 Big Game Hunting Seasons and Regulations pamphlet, at WDFW offices and license vendors, in our Facebook video, and online.

WDFW will post the results of the special hunt permit drawing online by the end of June at https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/. WDFW will notify winners by mail or email by mid-July.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is the state agency tasked with preserving, protecting and perpetuating fish, wildlife and ecosystems, while providing sustainable fishing, hunting, and other recreation opportunities.

### **News from SCI Headquarters**

### W. Laird Hamberlin Named SCI CEO

W. Laird Hamberlin, longtime member of Safari Club International, has been named SCI's Chief Executive Officer, effective April 1. He succeeds Richard M. Parsons, who will serve as his deputy during a transition period.



A businessman known for helping big companies grow and prosper, Hamberlin has been a member of SCI for more than 30 years and has served in numerous volunteer positions at the chapter, regional and international levels. He served on three separate Executive Committees, most recently as a Vice President from 2013 through 2015.

"We are in an unprecedented period of attacks on hunting, particularly international hunting that has been SCI's brand for many years," Hamberlin said. "Hunting here in the U.S. is also under attack and is a right that we will help to preserve. SCI has always been the leading organization defending the rights of all hunters around the world through conservation, science-based data and sustainability. The increased challenges of today call for bold moves to make sure that SCI is properly structured and funded to take that leadership role to the next level. I'm extremely excited about our future in leading the way."

"SCI is happy to welcome Laird aboard as our new CEO," said SCI President Paul Babaz. "He has been a valuable part of the volunteer leadership team and now will be able to use his extraordinary talents to help guide and grow the business side of the organization in order to protect and support the right to hunt."

Senate Confirms Interior Secretary David Bernhardt

Following a full Senate vote, David Bernhardt, President Donald Trump's selection for Interior Secretary, was confirmed.

In a largely party line vote of 56 to 41, the Senate confirmation is the culmination of the Feb. 4 Presidential nomination.

"Safari Club International is pleased to congratulate Secretary Bernhardt on his Senate confirmation," said SCI President Paul Babaz. "We have had the privilege of getting to know the Secretary through his work at the Interior Department and strongly support his continued efforts to open up America's public lands to the sportsmen and women who love the outdoors."

"I personally look forward to working with Secretary Bernhardt in my role as a member of the International Wildlife Conservation Council. SCI wishes him the best of luck and offers him our support as he takes the helm at the Interior Department," Babaz concluded.

Bernhardt's nomination garnered support from many sportsmen's groups.

### **News from SCI Headquarters**

# Canadian Anti-Hunting Group Moves To Ban More Hunts In British Columbia

Fresh off of the ill-advised 'politically-correct' move to ban the hunting of grizzly bears in 2017, the same animal rights group is urging the government to end the

the same animal rights group is urging the government to end the hunting of cougars, lynxes and bobcats.



The Wildlife Defence League (WDL) has launched an online campaign and petition that it will use to pressure the province to ban the popular big cat hunt, according to an article in the Vancouver Sun.

"It feels like this is the evolution of the grizzly hunt ban," WD executive director Tommy Knowles told the Vancouver Sun. "We don't really see the difference between the grizzly bear trophy hunt and the wild cat trophy hunt."

The 2017 ban on hunting grizzly bears is the subject of a class-action lawsuit from guide outfitters who are seeking damages for the loss of a lucrative part of their business. British Columbia has yet to file a response and the suit has not yet gone through certification, according to the Vancouver Sun article.

Knowles said his organization is determined to end the hunt, which he says is unethical and inhumane. He also dismissed hunters who claim they are killing the cats for their meat and that the hunt is no different than hunting deer, moose and elk for meat.

The British Columbia Wildlife Federation (BCWF) is on the front lines fighting against the animal rights group's latest target. In a letter to its membership, the BCWF points out that the proposed ban would be counter-productive.

"Sensationalizing legal hunts may yield a few headlines, but (the Wildlife Defence League's) message is a disservice to conservationists who understand predator-prey relationships," B.C. Wildlife Federation President Harvey Andrusak told the Vancouver Sun. He called them a "fringe group" that should not be given a voice.

Chad Norman Day, the president of the Tahltan Central Government in Dease Lake, said in a text he opposes the grizzly and wild cat ban because "we believe in science-based decision making and wildlife management, not populist policies that fail to respect modern-day science, Indigenous knowledge or local knowledge."

The BCWF supports the current hunting and trapping regulations as they were carefully and scientifically developed by the Provincial wildlife biologists. The member letter states: "Hunting and trapping of these species are highly regulated with designated seasons and bag limits. Under their conservation status, these wild-cats are ranked as secure and not at risk of extinction."

To learn more, please visit: http://www.bcwf.bc.ca/

# <u>Richard L Lapinski Sr.</u>

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# "Thank You"

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The SCI Northwest Chapter's Goal is to gift a fishing pole to participants of the event! Get our youth outdoors!

For More information email JoDean Peters at littlestsisjo@aol.com



Take part in supporting the 2019 National Hunting and Fishing Day Celebration in Washington State! September 28, 2019

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is hosting a National Hunting and Fishing Day celebration. This family oriented event is a great way to introduce youth to target shooting, hunting and fishing. It's also an opportunity to recognize that hunters and anglers are and will continue to be among the most active supporters of wildlife management and conservation.

# Upcoming: 2020 - 48th Annual Hunters' Convention



Every year SCI hosts the Annual Hunters' Convention. This hunters' heaven has everything the mind can dream of and occupies more than 650,000 square feet of exhibit space. Six continents are under one roof where SCI members come to book hunts, rendezvous with old friends and shop for the latest guns and hunting equipment.

That only scratches the surface of products available at SCI's Annual Hunters' Convention. Notable authorities of the outdoor sports and shooting industries attend the premier hunting show annually.

When the exhibit halls close, the evening fun and excitement begins. Each night, members come together to celebrate the accomplishments of the organization and enjoy top entertainment and speakers. SCI's evening auctions offer top-of-the-line guns, once-in-a-lifetime hunts and adventures, the finest artwork and more. Every purchase provides crucial funds to help preserve our hunting heritage and fund conservation efforts worldwide.

# Future Dates SCI Annual Hunters' Convention

February 5 - 8, 2020 Reno, Nevada January 27 - 30, 2021 Reno, Nevada January 19 - 22, 2022 Las Vegas, Nevada Reno - Sparks Convention Center Reno - Sparks Convention Center Mandalay Bay Convention Center

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