



FAWN



FISH AND WILDLIFE NEWS

A NEWSLETTER OF
THE NATIONAL MILITARY FISH AND WILDLIFE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME III NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 1986

NMFWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Newsletter Editor: Thomas Wray II, NORTHNAVFACENGCOM, PA, A-443-6207
Elected At-Large Member of Nominations Committee: Mike Herbaugh, MCAS Beaufort, SC, A-630-7370

THE WILD SIDE

TOM WARREN, PRESIDENT, NMFWA

Training... "To form by instruction, discipline or drill..." Regardless of your personal opinion, educational credentials or work experience; training is something we still require from time to time. Perhaps one of the most important aspects of attendance at a training session, aside from the increased familiarity with the presented information is the personal interaction attendees are exposed to. These get together, regardless of their location, provide us with the opportunity to discuss implementation of the provided technical data into our individual programs. Each of our management strategies are somewhat different, solely because of our educational backgrounds and the diversity of our geographical area of responsibility. This coming November in Baltimore we will again provide the opportunity for our membership to acquire some of this needed training. Program Director, Bill Bartush has accomplished a considerable amount of work to provide us with the type of training session which should benefit all of our programs. The NMFWA's 18-20 November 1986 Training Session/Business Meeting program will again provide us with the unique opportunity to see the how and why things get done at both command and installation levels. The "system" within which we work is as diverse as the resources we are charged with managing. Start making your plans now to be there. Additionally, this year we will be meeting in conjunction with the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. This association has an outstanding history of providing excellent technical programs. For those of you who can swing a few extra days away from your management programs, I would highly recommend your attendance.

In keeping with the theme of this column, we have often discussed the need to improve communications between DOD resource professionals. This newsletter provides one mechanism whereby we are accomplishing this objective of our Bylaws. Perhaps more importantly, we as resource managers are starting to communicate more openly and routinely among ourselves as a part of our daily business. As your President, I have heard from numerous folks, both within and outside of DOD, which have expressed appreciation for our Association. These expressions of appreciation have taken many forms and have dealt with a diversity of topics. The bottom line is that we are beginning to understand the requirements of the total natural resource management

responsibility which we share on all DOD lands. The perpetuation of these developments can only serve to further the continued conservation of the wildlife resource and hence the military mission. Let's all strive to keep up the good work. See you in Baltimore.

FY 87 NMFVA TRAINING SESSION/BUSINESS MEETING

Tentative Workshop and Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, 18 November 1986

3:00 - 6:00 p.m. - NMFVA Board Meeting

Wednesday - 19 November 1986

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. - Introduction and Welcome
9:00 - 9:45 a.m. - Keynote Address and Remarks
9:45 - 10:00 a.m. - Break
10:00 - 11:45 a.m. - Session #1: Rare and Endangered Species: Considerations in DOD
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. - Lunch
1:00 - 1:15 p.m. - DOD Installation Award: Beale Air Force Base
1:15 - 2:45 p.m. - Session #2: Fisheries Management on Military Installations
2:45 - 3:00 p.m. - Break
3:00 - 4:30 p.m. - Military Fish and Wildlife Law Enforcement: Program Organization and Training
4:30 p.m. - Closing

Thursday, 20 November 1986

8:30 - 12:00 - NMFVA Business Meeting
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. - DOD Branch Meetings

Meeting Accommodations

Hotel accommodations are available at the Holiday Inn-Inner Harbor (301-685-3500) located adjacent to the Baltimore Convention Center. The Association has reserved 25 rooms for the 18-20 November workshop at the convention discount rate of \$54. We suggest making room reservations prior to 18 October. Identify your affiliation with the NMFVA and SEAFWA to guarantee convention rates.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINATIONS

The following nominations have been submitted for new NMFVA Board members. Elections will be held during the 20 November business meeting. Additional nominations may be made prior to this time. The Program Chairman and Newsletter Editor will be appointed by the newly elected president.

President: Tom Warren
Vice President: Larry Adams, Matthew Knowak
Sec/Treasurer: Jock Beall
At-Large Western Directors: Slater Buck, Patty Worthing, Steve Emmons
At-Large Eastern Directors: Richard Griffith, Joe Ward, Kyle Rambo
At-Large Nominations Committee: Mike Herbaugh, Ron Dow

PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS AMENDMENTS

The following amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws have been submitted for ratification at the upcoming business meeting.

Article I, Section 2, Line 1:	shall read The Association shall be independent.
Article III, Section 2, Line 2:	shall read...Program Chairperson...
Section 3, Line 2:	shall read...to the objectives...
Article IV, Section 1, Line 2:	shall read...Secretary/Treasurer and immediate Past President. The...
Line 3:	shall read...this committee. This committee...
Line 5:	shall read...Secretary/Treasurer and four at-large directors.
Line 14:	shall read...at least 30 days...
Section 2, Line 1:	shall read...by the President.

Line 8: shall read...for liaison...
 Line 10: delete entire sentence
 Section 3, Line 1: shall read...Committee Chairperson.
 Article V, Section 1, Line 3: shall read...officials, establish policy, and...
 Section 3, Line 4: shall read...attendance of personnel...
 Section 4, Line 2: shall read...Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma...
 Line 4: shall read...any location within...
 Section 5, Line 5: delete last sentence
 Section 6, Line 4: add - The President may appoint one member from a Command organization to participate in Board functions without voting privileges.
 Article VI, Section 1, Line 1: shall read...of all officers and at-large directors shall be held...
 Section 2, Line 3: delete last sentence and add - The President shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. No person shall serve on the Board for longer than ten consecutive years.
 Section 3, Line 1: shall read...Each voting member...
 Article VII, Section 3, Line 2: shall read...unavailable or looses...
 Section 4, Line 6: shall read...regard to notification of meetings. The...
 Section 6, Line 1: delete entire Section
 Section 7, Line 1: shall read Section 6
 Section 8, Line 1: shall read Section 7
 Section 9, Line 1: shall read Section 8

INSTALLATION REPORT

Fort Lewis covers 86,000 acres in west-central Washington State, adjacent to southern Puget Sound. Douglas fir is the predominate forest type and native prairies cover over 11,000 acres. Numerous lakes and marshes provide habitat for a variety of fish and wildlife. The Nisqually River, originating from the glaciers of Mount Rainier, flows 15 miles through the post. Salmon and steelhead utilize the river and its tributaries for spawning.

The fish and wildlife management program was initiated in 1972 and is presently staffed with a fish and wildlife biologist and two wildlife biologists. An active timber management program employs four foresters and four forestry technicians.

Major wildlife species include blacktail deer, black bear, coyotes and other furbearers, various waterfowl, bald eagles and a variety of songbird species common to the area. Five species of salmon, steelhead, cutthroat and rainbow trout, several warm-water fish species and saltwater bottom fish inhabit Fort Lewis waters.

A major management effort has been directed at the enhancement of wetlands. This has included restoration of over 600 acres of wetlands that had been drained by homesteaders near the turn of the century; a wood duck nest box project; a Canada goose enhancement program; and wetland vegetation management projects involving herbicide treatment, heavy equipment, and use of a specialized wetland vegetation cutter known as "Cookie Cutter". Other wildlife management efforts include a bluebird nest box project, timber sales designed to enhance wildlife habitat, prairie and oak savanna habitat restoration, and a nutrition study to determine the cause of low productivity in the deer herd.

A major fishery enhancement effort has been the rehabilitation of salmon and trout spawning streams. Clean spawning gravel is placed in stream channels to a depth of 1-1/2 feet after excavating sand and silt from streambeds. Seven such projects have been completed and provide potential spawning habitat for over 10,000 salmon and trout.

Other fishery habitat management efforts include placement of instream structures to provide cover in an important trout and salmon spawning stream, clearing of vegetation clogged spawning tributaries with the "Cookie Cutter", construction of an artificial saltwater reef, and an ongoing catchable trout stocking program. Jim Stephenson.

VIEWPOINT

NMFWA MEMBERSHIP BY THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

An organization for DOD natural resources personnel was being formed! Having heard the good news in late 1983, I wasted little time in submitting my application for membership. I was pleased to see on the membership list in the inaugural issue of the newsletter that 2 other COE offices shared my interest in the fledgling organization. Soon after, however, I began

receiving mixed signals from some corners of the organization, apparently stemming from ambivalence over COE membership. There is perceptible concern that unrestricted membership by the large pool of COE biologists could dilute the intended focus of the organization.

My purpose here is two-fold. First, I recommend that the opinions of the membership be somehow polled so that a policy or position statement can be formulated relative to membership and voting status of COE and other "non-installation" personnel. The current bylaws state that only installation biologists can be accorded voting status, implicitly excluding COE biologists. My opinion is that the cohesion of NMFWA lies at the DOD level and not just at the installation level. The NMFWA can be made to speak for all DOD biologists without compromising the specific interests and goals of installation personnel.

Second, I wish to argue the case for open membership to COE. The potential benefits to the NMFWA from COE membership are many. COE activities cover literally the breadth of the natural resources field, encompassing research, management, impact analyses, regulatory functions, and law enforcement. The COE Wildlife Resources Management Manual described elsewhere in this newsletter is an example of the work conducted by COE personnel. Granted, most of us do not have to contend with tank maneuvers and jet traffic, but few realize that the COE conducts environmental studies on just such activities for the other military branches. Moreover, like the installations, key levels of the COE chain of command are staffed with military officers. While COE activities may not completely overlap those of the installations, enough similarities exist that I feel NMFWA can still be resolute of purpose despite increases in COE membership. I welcome replies and opportunities for further discussion. John Porren, Wildlife Biologist, Philadelphia District, COE (215) 597-4833.

NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Natural Resources Awards

Beale Air Force Base, CA, Mr. Thomas Warren of Fort Carson, CA, and Mr. William Kornman of Tyndall Air Force Base, FL, are recipients of the 1985 Secretary of Defense Natural Resources Conservation Award and Natural Resources Individual Awards respectively. Honors are also extended to Fort Lewis, WA, and the Pacific Missile Test Center, Point Mugu, CA. Fort Lewis, WA, is the recipient of the 1985 Environmental Quality Award while Honorable Mentions include the Charleston Navy Shipyard, SC, the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA, and Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, NC. Awards were presented at the Pentagon by the Deputy Secretary of Defense, William H. Taft IV, on 27 August 1986. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Data Bases Available

The Fish and Wildlife Service Data Base consists of documents from Pittman-Robertson and Dingell-Johnson funded projects, the Anadromous Fish Conservation Program, the Endangered Species Grant Program, the Cooperative Fishery and Wildlife Research Units, and state fish and wildlife agencies. Documents include reports, technical publications, theses, published papers, and endangered species recovery plans. Subject coverage includes management, biology, habitat, techniques, behavior, disease, land use, physiology, and pesticides.

The National Pesticide Information Retrieval System (NPIRS) contains information on all Federally registered pesticides and pesticides registered by EPA for use only within specific states. It does not contain information on registrations by the states themselves. Searches can be made by site, pest, chemical, formulation, percent active ingredient, registration number, brand name, company name, etc. Information available includes product names, registration number, active ingredients, manufacturer, pests, and sites.

The Endangered Species Listings Data Base includes all endangered or threatened species found in the United States and its territories. Searches are made by common or scientific name or by location (state, territory). Information available includes common and scientific names, date of listing, current status, locations were threatened or endangered, critical habitat if any, information on experimental populations, and a file number for locating the Federal Register notice(s) of the species listing. This data base is updated monthly (approximately 2-5 species are listed each month by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and contains current information on proposed as well as formally listed species.

The Fish and Wildlife Reference Service and the NPIRS data require user codes and charge access fees. The Endangered Species data are stored at the U.S. Army Environmental Hygiene Agency (USAEHA). Information from any of these data bases is available to DOD personnel, at no charge, through the DOD Pesticide Hotline AUTOVON 584-3773. Call the Hotline if you want to know more or would like a search run for specific information.

In addition to numerous references on wildlife damage and control, Richard Griffith at the USAEHA maintains a complete set of the Journal of Wildlife Management, Wildlife Society Bulletin, and Wildlife Monographs. If you need a copy of an article from any of these publications, give him a call at AUTOVON 584-4131 (commercial 301-671-4131). Searches for specific subjects are also possible, subject to time limitations.

For those who have access to a computer terminal, the Pest Management and Pesticide Monitoring Division, USAEHA also has a computerized Bulletin Board System. This system is used to provide current pesticide related information, federal register notices, and a means for exchanging messages with other users. Eventually, the system will also allow up and downloading of files. The system operates at 300 baud with a 7 bit word, no parity, 1 stop bit and full duplex. It is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and can be reached by calling AUTOVON 584-2037 or commercial 301-671-2037. Questions about the operation of the system should be addressed to Richard Griffith or Ken Olds at AUTOVON 584-4131/3792 (commercial 301-671-4131/3792).

Literature Available

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service publishes a variety of information relating to fish and wildlife management that is available to military natural resource managers. Examples of such material include National Resource Plans for individual species; Research Information Bulletins, and Cooperative Extension Service Publications. The Office of Migratory Bird Management distributes material related to that respective subject and other publications are available through the FWS Regional Offices. Military fish and wildlife managers are encouraged to solicit information from the FWS and state agencies to assist with management programs.

Wildlife Resources Management Manual

Fifty-two reports on wildlife species, wildlife management techniques, census and sampling techniques, plant materials, and equipment have recently been completed for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wildlife Resources Management Manual. The manual is sponsored by the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, as part of the Environmental Impact Research Program. These reports are available by written request only. Contact Mr. Chester O. Martin, Principal Investigator, Environmental Laboratory (ATTN: WESER-W), Waterways Experiment Station, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 631, Vicksburg, MS 39180-0631. A notebook on Habitat Evaluation Methods is also available; contact L. Jean O'Neil at the same address. Please limit requests to one copy per installation or Command.

Western Bluebirds

The western bluebird population on Fort Lewis has continued to increase at dramatic rates. Thus far in 1986, 105 nest box locations have been used by bluebirds. This compares with 51 boxes used in 1985. The artillery impact area provides the favorite habitat with 35 of 36 locations used by nesting bluebirds. Over 80% of the fledglings have been banded.

TRAINING/CONFERENCES

Bird-Aircraft Strike Hazard Workshop

Larry Adams and his natural resources staff at NAS Patuxent River hosted the first Navy Bird-Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) workshop on 15-16 July. The Naval Facilities Engineering Command sponsored workshop featured Major Michael Thompson and Captain Russel DeFusco of the Air Force BASH Team, and Dr. Albert Bivings of the USDA, APHIS Animal Damage Control Program as the principal speakers. The program provided an overview of the elements necessary for an installation BASH reduction program. Copies of the workbook provided to attendees are available by contacting Major Thompson at A-970-6240 (commercial 940-283-6240). Please limit requests to one copy per installation or Command.

Wildlife Law Enforcement Training Session

A wildlife law enforcement training session for game wardens operating on military installations is being planned for Jun-Jul 87. The class will be conducted at either Fort Leonard Wood, MO or Fort Carson, CO. Tentative plans are for a two-week basic class intended for personnel with little or no law enforcement training, or persons who desire a review of basic law enforcement techniques and legal requirements. This class will be followed by a one-week advanced session emphasizing wildlife aspects of law enforcement and is intended as an in-service review. Additional information will be presented at the NMFWA meeting in Baltimore, MD. Persons interested in attending either session should contact Steve Emmons; AFZC-FE-EE, Bldg 304, Fort Carson, CO 80913-5000; AV 691-2752/4828; Comm. (303) 579-2752-4828.

A National Symposium on Urban Wildlife

A National Symposium on Urban Wildlife is being held 4-7 November 1986 at the National 4-H Center in Chevy Chase, MD. The symposium theme is "Integrating Man and Nature in the Metropolitan Environment". Invited speakers include Frank H. Dunkle, Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Interested individuals should contact the National Institute for Urban Wildlife at 301-596-3311 or 301-995-1119 for further details.

43rd Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference

The 43rd Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference will be held 3-6 May 1987 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, MA. The conference theme is "Fifty Years of Fish and Wildlife Management in the Northeast: Experiences and Expectations". Contact E. Michael Pollack at 617-366-4470/4479 for further information. An informal meeting of NMFWA members attending the conference is scheduled for 2000 hours on 4 May 1986.

TREASURERS REPORT

As of 11 August 1986, the NMFWA has a checking and savings account balance of \$19.90 and \$902.34 respectively. Publication costs of Volume III Number 2 of the NMFWA newsletter amounted to \$44.00.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Appreciation is extended to those who submitted articles and were involved in the publication of this newsletter. However, overall participation by the Association membership was disappointing. It is readily apparent that volunteer newsletter representatives must begin requesting publishable information from individuals in their respective military branches. A brief meeting will be held in Baltimore to establish a dedicated newsletter committee.

Fewer newsletter copies were sent to installations or Commands with multiple Association members to reduce publication and mailing costs. Please notify me if this action caused any hardships. No response will imply concurrence with this action.

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