50 Years of Educating South Dakota’s Young People

By Mike McKerman
Camp Director

Fifty years! Hard to believe that it has been 50 years since Dr. McClellan recruited counselors and staff and traveled to Camp Bob Marshall near Custer State Park to hold the first SDWF Youth Conservation Camp with 63 boys in attendance. Many changes have taken place since that first camp, but the original goal of teaching young people about hunting, fishing, wildlife, and conservation is still going strong. This year’s camp was nearly full with 109 campers in attendance. Campers, along with counselors and staff, gathered in the beautiful Black Hills to spend the week of June 2–8 learning about wildlife and conservation. The 50th annual SDWF Youth Conservation Camp provided these young people an opportunity to make new friends, hear the message of conservation, and have a fun-filled, exciting time. The warm sunny weather and outstanding programs provided both the campers and staff an exceptional camp week.

The week’s activities really brought out the enthusiasm of the young people. On Monday campers were divided into two groups. In the morning both groups loaded onto busses and headed for Rapid City. One group spent the morning getting an in-depth tour of the Cleghorn Fish Hatchery. The second group spent the morning at the new South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks Outdoor Campus West in Rapid City. What an amazing facility. The campers toured the facility and participated in activities including BB gun shooting, canoeing, and kayaking. In the afternoon the two groups switched venues. On Tuesday morning the staff of Custer State Park provided programs for the campers. The young people had the opportunity to select from the following hikes: Prairie Trail, the Lover’s Leap Trail, or Little Devil’s Tower, and because of our numbers, Sylvan Lakeshore Trail. In the afternoon they got to choose among Bison Herd Management, Fire & Wildlife Ecology, Forestry in Custer State Park, and Vegetation Management in Custer State Park. On Wednesday and Thursday, campers selected sessions ranging from rifle, handgun, shotgun, and muzzle loading shooting, archery, lake survey, fly-fishing, radio tracking, lake fishing, waterfowl hunting, boat safety, can you canoe, wilderness survival class, solve the case, and birding in the Black Hills, dutch and outdoor cooking, trapping in South Dakota.

We would like to thank the following organizations, clubs, and individuals who supported and sponsored kids to attend the 2013 SDWF Youth Conservation Camp. The camp was again a huge success and could not have been accomplished without your support. We thank you!

South Dakota Chapter of NWTF
Pepsi of Sioux Falls
Minnehaha Co. Chap. of Pheasants Forever
Sioux Falls Izaak Walton League
Service First Federal Credit Union
Splitrock Landscaping & Nursery - Brandon
Greg Boddicker
Central Valley Strut’lin’ Gobbler
Sioux Falls Chap. Of Walleyes Unlimited
Minnehaha Archers Inc
Valley Exchange Bank - Lennox
Black Hills Fly Fishermen
SD Walleyes Unlimited WR Chapter
Rapid City Optimist Club
Big Sioux Chapter of RMEL
Wells Fargo Bank
Quality Deer Management Assn.
Minnehaha Conservation District
East Dakota Chapter of NWTF
First Premier Bank
Midwest Tri state NAVHDA
Delta Waterfowl

29 – 90 Sportsman’s Club
Grass Lake Conservation Club
Beadie County Sportsman’s Club
Jim Barnett
Swan Lake Sportsman’s Club
Ron Weber
Wildlife Protection
Pioneer Bank
High Plains Wildlife Association
Brookings Wildlife Federation
Pennington Conservation District
Black Hills Sportsmen
Robert & Kristi Erdman
Faulk Conservation District
Jones County Conservation District
Jones County Sportsman’s Club
Pheasants Forever, Inc. West River Chapter
Sully County Conservation District
White tails Unlimited
Northeastern SD Walleye Club
The Sportsman’s Club of Brown County
Hyde County Conservation District

Robert Lavalle
Todd Money
Robert Lavalle
Grand Rapids Centennial Rotary
Turn-In-Poacher (TIPS)

A special thank you to Scheels All Sports for sponsoring the camp T-shirts.
A special thank you to Great Plains Outdoorsmen for the generous grant in support of camp.
A special thank you to Tony and Dar Dean Outdoor Education Grants Program for their generous grant for the money to buy hand-held GPS units and for funding the trip into the Beautiful Prairie of Western South Dakota.

Here is Doc McClellan’s son Herb, grandson Marc and great-grandson Michael donating a check to the Conservation Camp’s endowment fund to help insure the camp continues for another 50 years. Herb was a counselor for one year at camp. Marc attended his first camp in 1972 at the age of 9 that was the year of the Rapid City Flood and he came back for 10 years as a counselor when he grew older. Michael was a camper and a CIT for several years. Thank you to the McClellans for continuing their fore-fathers vision for our camp.
Good news SDWF members! I just got an email saying I received $2,001.00 from a friend in Nigeria. I’d be happy to give my fair share, but I’m still working out the details, so before I stop asking for your ongoing financial support to keep SDWF strong, please read this message from my brother.

SDWF Members:

Hope all is well with you and you are enjoying your summer outdoors, whether you’re fishing, camping, hiking or boating. Hunting season is right around the corner. Big Game license deadlines are fast approaching us and the thrill of the hunt will soon be here.

South Dakota, like other states, is experiencing a decline in resident hunters and fisherwomen. While small in comparison to other states, this decline could challenge our ability to assure that the outdoor activities that we have long enjoyed will be maintained in the future. Many of us are members of PF, NWTF, DU, Whitetails Unlimited, Walleyes Unlimited and/or the REF. We all have our own interests, but we all need to come together as sportsmen and women, conservationists and outdoor enthusiasts to protect our outdoor heritage in South Dakota.

Our landscape is changing as well, as more and more people are removed from the rural lives of the past to urban/suburban lifestyles. A direct attachment to the land and its wildlife and other natural resources is more removed with each generation. Competition for money, time and access to our resources is increasing. Pressures from all directions will seek to influence how these resources are expended.

“In the political arena today you must stand up and be counted and your voices must be heard.”

The SDWF Camo Coalition commits to monitoring current issues facing South Dakota’s natural resources and your opportunity to hunt and fish in our state. As issues arise that need your attention, we will send action alerts that will provide the facts to you so you can voice your opinion to the appropriate decision makers.

Who wants to be a BIG DOG?

Any non-profit fighting for a good cause needs money to stay in business. So here’s what I need you to do: become, or ask your friends or your company to become, a SDWF “Big Dog” supporter. For $5000 in 2013, you would receive a Browning Maxus 12-gauge with your name engraved as a “SDWF Big Dog” and 10 free entries in the SDWF raffle of your choice. You or your company would also receive a business card size ad in each issue of the “Out of Doors” newsletter and be listed as a “Big Dog” sponsor at our state convention. A “Big Dog” will receive a different gun each and every year they donate, all while protecting what they love, that South Dakota outdoor experience.

Of course not everyone has the financial resources to be a Big Dog; we represent the average person who agrees with our mission, regardless of his or her bank balance. However, with enough “puppies” tossing $10 or $20 a week, we’ll continue to get the job done. Please, do what you can to help.

Mark Widman
SDWF Vice President

“"The nation behaves well if it treats the natural resources as assets which it must turn over to the next generation increased, and not impaired, in value.”
Theodore Roosevelt
The 68th Annual SDWF Convention, to be hosted by the Black Hills Sportsmen, will be in Rapid City, September 6-8th, 2013. All meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend.

You should have received your Pheasant Hunt/Buffalo Shoot tickets for 2013. Please support your Federation and purchase some tickets.

Here is the tentative schedule for our upcoming 68th Annual Convention and is subject to change.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 6

Paul & Judy Vinatieri’s house at 1995 Sammis Trail, South of Rapid on Hwy 16 towards Mt. Rushmore, about 5 miles out of Rapid. Just before you go down the big hill towards Reptile Gardens the house is located on the south side of Hwy 16 on top of the hill.

6:00 pm Registration by Black Hills Sportsmen (BHS)

No meetings, just fun and food!

Food and drinks provided by BHS

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 7

All Business Meetings and Speakers will be at the Outdoor Campus West located at 4130 Adventure Trail, on the West side of Rapid City

7:30 am Registration by BHS at the Outdoor Campus West

8:00 am SDWF Board of Directors Pre-Convention Meeting

-Call to Order
-Consideration of Approval of Absence from meeting for any absent Officer or Director
-Approval of the Minutes of the Spring Governing Board Meeting
-Approval of the Treasurer’s Financial Report (see also below)
-Review and approve any Executive Committee action taken between meetings
-Review of any delinquent dues from affiliate clubs not received by July 31st and approval of seating of delegates from delinquent affiliates
-Any further business
-Adjourn

8:30 am First Session of the 68th Annual Convention

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AFFILIATE DELEGATES AND THE PUBLIC

-Call to Order
-Invocation and Prayer
-Pledge of Allegiance
-Seating of the delegates
-Report from the Executive Director
-Approval of the Treasurer’s Financial Report
-Committee Reports:
  -By-laws
  -Resolutions
  -Budget and Finance
  -PR and Development
  -Nominations: open positions for Sunday’s vote
-Short Break
10:00 am -Tony Leif, SD Dept. of Game, Fish and Parks
-Quick preview of afternoon programs and other options.

Noon - Lunch at Outdoor Campus provided by BHS

1:00 PM - Presentations (public invited), Outdoor Campus

SPEAKERS:

1:00 pm Dr. Helene Van Doninck speaks about lead in hunting ammo.

2:30 pm Mike Kinigh, Regional Supervisor for GF&P will talk about Mt. Li- ons, big game numbers and hunting in the Black Hills.

3:30 pm John Kanta, GF&P Biologist, Matt Rippentrop, SD Big Horn Sheep subcommittee will discuss how the recent auctioned Sheep tag money is being utilized.

Other speakers may be added

Saturday Evening Banquet, Awards and Auction

6 pm social hour, 7 pm banquet, followed by awards and auction with live entertainment provided by BHS

Public invited. Elks Lodge East on Hwy 44 of Rapid City in Rapid Valley.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8

9:00 am Sunday Morning Session of the 68th Annual Convention

BOARD AND DELEGATES

-Call to Order
-Invocation and Prayer
-Pledge of Allegiance and Conservation Pledge
-Seating of the delegates
-Affiliate reports and updates
-Committee Reports:
  -Youth Conservation Camp (including Endowment Fund update)
  -Huron Expo report
-Executive Session

Governance committee re: Strategic Planning update

-Report on Camo Coalition

-Report from Dave Nauman and Chris Hesla on lobbying efforts/current issues

-Short Break
-Approval of last year’s financial statement
-Further discussion on and adoption of the budget
-Bids for 2014 Annual Convention
-Any further business
-Elections for open positions
-Oath of Office induction for newly elected directors and officers
-Any further resolutions- Bob Jacobson
-Adjourn

About Noon, we may break for a short lunch if needed

By 2pm, Adjourn

About 2 pm, SDWF Board of Directors Post-Convention Meeting (To include new officers)

-Call to Order
-Consideration of Approval of Absence from meeting for any absent Officer or Director.
-Review and approve any Executive Committee action taken between meetings.
-Appointment of the Secretary-Treasurer and Approval by the Governing Board.
-Approval of the Bond for the Secretary-Treasurer.
-Appointment of the Legislative Lobbyists
-Appointment of the Executive Directors and Secretary/Treasurer
-President: appoint or reappoint Directors-at-Large with Approval of the Governing Board
-Act on any Application of a Past President within the last 10 years if received.
-Committee Appointments:
  -Resolution Committee - consists of 8 members
  -Articles and By-Laws Committee - consists of 5 members
  -Endowment Fund Committee - consists of 5 members
  -Nominating Committee - consists of 5 members
  -National Affairs Committee - consists of 5 members
  -Budget and Finance Committee - consists of 5 members
  -CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE - consists of 5 members

-Appointment of the Legislative Lobbyists
-Appointment of delegate and alternate delegate to the NWF annual convention
-Set the Fall meeting date, place and time.
-Any further discussion on budget, PR and Development
-Any further business.
-Executive Session
-Adjourn

By about 3:00 pm, Short Meeting of New Executive Board

-Call to Order
-Consideration of Approval of Absence from meeting for any absent Officer or Director.
-Review and approve any Executive Committee action taken between meetings.
-Appointment of the Secretary-Treasurer and Approval by the Governing Board.
-Appointment of the Legislative Lobbyists
-Appointment of the Executive Directors and Secretary/Treasurer
-Appointment of the Legislative Lobbyists
-Appointment of delegate and alternate delegate to the NWF annual convention
-Set the Fall meeting date, place and time.
-Any further discussion on budget, PR and Development
-Any further business.
-Executive Session
-Adjourn
In wildness is known among County Almanac, the wolf, long among men. Perhaps this of the world. Let's make some smoke

From A Sand County Almanac, Thinking Like a Mountain by Aldo Leopold

Learning to shoot

Black Hills Raptors brought several birds of prey including a red tailed hawk, a great horned owl, and several smaller birds of prey and described each bird in detail. Wednesday evening, Bill Schultz presented a program on Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Thursday evening, all campers traveled to Mt. Rushmore for the spectacular lighting ceremony. On Friday night, a PowerPoint presentation of the week’s activities was warmly received. The presentation was followed by fun awards and extra special talent from our campers. Our resident counselor/musician Josh Opp entertained the audience with some fun music. Our campers also joined in, with Alyssa Schwartz from Huron and Jenna Sorsen from Plankinton each performing a song. The awards, skits, and the music made for a great final night for everyone.

Besides the birds of prey presentation on Tuesday evening, we celebrated our 50th camp! What a highlight! Former camp director Tom Putzier, Sandy McKernan (the other Mike, my second cousin and Sandy’s son both from Milbank) and executive director Chris Hesla traveled to camp to help us celebrate. Tom was the camp director before I took over, and Sandy was a long time camp counselor and was present for the first camp attended by girls. Cousin Mike was a camper, CIT, and camp counselor and is now the state chairman of the National Wild Turkey Federation. An award was presented to the staff of Camp Bob Marshall for their 50 years of service to our camp. Certificates were also presented to Custer State Park and the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks for their 50 years of partnership. The highlight of the night was the presentation by Chris Hesla of the executive proclamation from the state of South Dakota office of the Governor proclaiming the week of June 2-8, 2013, as SDWF Youth Conservation Camp Week, signed by Governor Dennis Daugaard.

Every year the camp is proud to present awards to outstanding individuals and campers. The Roehr Conservation Award, presented to the outstanding girl camper, went to Olivia Torbert of Sioux Falls. Olivia will be invited back to camp next year as a Counselor-in-Training (CIT). The Erdman Conservation award, presented to the outstanding boy camper, went to Ben Degroot of Rapid City. Ben will also be invited back to camp next year as a CIT.

These girls know bows

Dennis and Margaret Skoog have been great camp supporters. Dennis is our head cabin inspector and Margaret our camp nurse. I don’t know what we would do without Margaret. I would like to give a special thank you to all the preceding individuals. A big thank you to Maggie Lindsey, Education Services Coordinator for G,F&P. They devoted their time and expertise to make the SDWF Youth Conservation Camp a unique learning experience. I would also like to thank all the counselors, CIT’s, and the clubs and individuals who helped make the 2013 edition of Conservation Camp a success. Thanks to Chuck Rokuske, an avid supporter of our camp, who recruits kids in the Sioux Falls area and raises the money to send them to camp. Thanks to Harvey Malon and Maurice Olsen who recruited kids from the Rapid City area. Also thank you to SDWF Executive Director Chris Hesla for all his help and support. Thank you to Great Plains Outdoorsmen for the generous grant in support of the camp. Thanks to the Tony and Dar Dean outdoor Foundation for their generous support. Thanks to Scheels All Sports for providing T-shirts for the campers. We proudly wore them to Mt. Rushmore. And finally, thanks to Gary and Karen and the staff at Camp Bob Marshall for taking such good care of us. Check us out on our facebook page, SDWF Youth Conservation Camp. The entire camp staff is privileged to have spent a week with a group of great young people from all across South Dakota, and we are...
Farmers and waterfowl don’t always get along. But SDSU wheat breeders, Bayer Cropscience and Ducks Unlimited have joined forces to keep peace in the fields and expand waterfowl habitat through planting more winter wheat.

The Winter Cereals: Sustainability in Action project seeks to expand wildlife habitat in the Prairie Pothole Region, which extends from Iowa across the Dakotas into Canada. This area supports more than half of North American waterfowl, yet habitat acres have decreased significantly over the last decade.

Winter wheat provides waterfowl habitat

According to Blake Vander Vorst, senior agronomist for Ducks Unlimited Great Plains Office, the chance of waterfowl having a hatched nest is 24 times higher in winter cereals than in spring-planted crops.

Through this program, Bayer wants to develop better cold tolerance in its winter wheat, according to Geoff Kneen, the company’s head of strategic initiatives and Research Triangle Park operations in North Carolina.

“Bayer is also looking at how our technologies fit into a sustainable crop production program,” says Director of Stakeholder Relations/Stewardship Alan Ayers.
**SD Wildlife Federation Donors**

As the 2003 Winter Board Meeting, the SDWBF Board created the SDWF’s Wildlife Legacy Council. The Council was created to allow recognition of the people who support SDWF above and beyond their membership and raffle donations.

**Thank you to the following donors for their contributions to the SDWF. Please consider becoming a member of the Wildlife Legacy Council. SDWF is a 501(c)3 non-profit, all donations are tax deductible. These tax-deductible contributions will speak volumes for the future of the SDWF’s Wildlife Legacy Council! Please consider your donation today. Donations can be sent to SDWF, PO Box 7075, Pierre, SD 57501.

The Legacy Council consists of five different donation levels. These donation levels were revised October 2011: Level V Eagle $1,000 & above, Level IV Buffalo $501 - $999; Level III Elk $301 - $500; Level II Deer $201 - $300; and Level I Pheasant $100 - $100.

---

**Out Of Doors  6  June 2013**

---

**SDWF Membership Application**

To continue our conservation efforts - we need your help! Please donate generously.

Name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________

City: __________________  State: ______ Zip: ______

Phone: ____________________________

e-mail: ____________________________

SDWF $20/Yr Membership Fee $___________

SDWFCamo-Coalition lobbying donation: $__________

SDWF $20/Yr Membership Fee $_________

Send Donation and Membership Application to:

SDWF

P.O. Box 7075

Pierre, SD 57501-0952

888-OVERBAG

---

**“JUST ONE”**

**New Member Program**

The SDWF has approximately 3,000 members. We are constantly fighting to keep our outdoor heritage and to conserve our natural resources. We can’t continue without our members and we can’t keep fighting unless we grow our membership.

Encourage your friends that enjoy the outdoors to join the SDWF directly or through a local affiliate club. “JUST ONE” new member can make a world of difference!

**Love the outdoors and need a tax deduction this year? If you have a car, van, truck, ATV, or boat that’s in reasonably good shape and you aren’t using, donate it to the SDWF. You’ll get a nice tax break and will feel great knowing you helped our great organization protect South Dakota’s outdoors.**

---

**888-OVERBAG**

---

**SDWF**

**“There are no passengers on spaceship earth. We are all crew.”**

-Marshall McLuhan 1911-1980
Wilderness or not?

With careful consideration of political realities in South Dakota and the current Congress, the South Dakota Wild Grassland Coalition is exploring an alternative management designation for the Indian Creek, Red Shirt, and Chalk Hills areas that would meet local conservation goals, address longstanding management issues, and maintain the land’s prairie heritage.

The basic design would include (a) permanent implementation of the existing motorized travel restrictions (Travel Management Plan), and (b) permanent protection of grazing operations.

This new plan for legislation reflects the overall goals shared by the Coalition whose largest base is sportsmen and women, by the local community, and by ranchers:

1. to keep these magnificent lands healthy for habitat and range;
2. to prohibit motorized recreation, other recreational developments, and mineral exploration or extraction; and
3. to ensure the continued viability of traditional livestock grazing.

Indian Creek, Red Shirt, and Chalk Hills would be designated by Congress as “Conservation Management Areas” to conserve and protect these unique prairie grasslands while supporting primitive recreational use.

The plan addresses the same approximately 50,000 acres of public land, and contains the same management for primitive recreation and livestock grazing that now exists. Though less restrictive than Wilderness, this plan would nonetheless contain provisions for management of fire, insects, invasive species, and diseases while protecting the areas from mineral exploration or extraction.

We hope you agree that a realistic goal for protecting these special places we’ve all cared about for so long is worth supporting and advancing. We truly believed Wilderness was the best way and gave it our best; but if it won’t fly, we can’t “let the perfect get in the way of the good.” Lasting protection matters more than attachment to a particular designation.

We’re thankful for the longstanding, strong support you’ve always given, and hope you will stick with us!

Cheryl Warren, Manager
SD Wild Grassland Coalition

2013 Dale Chell Memorial Award Winners

On July 8th, 2013 Mark Anderson and John Green were the recipients of the Dale Chell Memorial Award at the 29-90 Sportsman’s Clubs monthly meeting. This year was the final year of this award and the committee felt that both of these individuals should receive this honor for 2013 for all of their work over the years helping to ensure that our youth would have a chance to enjoy our outdoor heritage. They stepped up to the plate by providing the original art work for the three year program of raising funds for the camps endowment. John Green provided the original in 2011 and Mark Anderson provided the original in 2012, and for 2013 they are producing an original together which will be the final piece of original art for this special fund raising project. The committee knew that these individuals would have a hard time making the annual convention in Rapid City this summer because it falls during the month of September which falls during a very busy time for these artists. With that in mind we were able to persuade Mike McKernan to attend this meeting as past winner of the award and to help make the presentation.

FOUR STAR CONSERVATIONIST AWARD

At the 29-90 Sportsman’s Club June 11th, 2013 meeting Phil Langner received the Four Star Conservationist Award for his work on Oakwood Lakes. Over the last several years Phil has been a tireless volunteer promoting projects on Oakwood Lakes in Brookings County to improve the lake for fishing. He has been one of the driving forces in getting the aeration projects up and running, and he has done this by promoting the projects and helping to raise funds through their special fund raising ventures. He has also been promoting rough fish removal through fishing tournaments to help remove as many of these undesirable species as possible. He’s done this in order to help this fisheries become a better fishery for everyone who would like to try their luck on this lake. He saw what could happen to the fisheries when we have low water levels and hard winters resulting in the loss of the game fish on the lake. This was the driving force which kept Phil motivated when working on these lake improvement projects.

Cheryl Warren, Manager
SD Wild Grassland Coalition

“Nature, to be commanded, must be obeyed.”
Francis Bacon
1561-1626
Drone Hunting License In the Works In Colorado Town

PIERRE, S.D. - The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Department is asking anglers to assist in an investigation evaluating how varying stocking salmon at different locations might improve survival and catch of Chinook salmon on Lake Oahe, and anglers could earn cash in the process.

GFP is encouraging anglers to turn in heads of tagged Chinook salmon caught on Lake Oahe and the Oahe Tailwaters. Anglers who return salmon on heads from tagged salmon will be entered into a drawing in which ten, $100 rewards will be issued each calendar year, with a maximum of three rewards per person per year. The annual drawing for winners of the $100 prizes will occur by January 1.

“Research projects are underway evaluating salmon return to anglers,” reported tagging of tagged salmon by anglers is a crucial part of the research,” GFP fisheries biologist Robert Hanten said.

According to Hanten, thousands of specially-tagged Chinook salmon have been stocked in Lake Oahe. A small, coded-wire tag, only a millimeter long and the diameter of human hair, was implanted in these fish. Although tags cannot be seen by anglers, tagged fish can be identified by the presence of a tiny fin on their back.

“Salmon have a small fleshly-lobed adipose fin directly in front of their tail, but this fin is removed as part of the tagging process,” Hanten said. “If anglers catch a salmon missing the adipose fin, we would like them to turn in the fresh or frozen head of that salmon at the GFP Fort Pierre District Office, Oahe Marina, Spring Creek Resort and Deep Water Marina, Carl’s Bait Shop, or West Whitlock Recreation Area.”

Information on where and when a salmon was caught along with the angler’s address and phone number must be included when submitting salmon heads. In addition, a coded-wire tag must be found in the head of the fish by GFP staff to result in entry into the contest.

“Even though every salmon missing an adipose fin was implanted with a coded-wire tag, some fish lose their tags over time, meaning not all fish caught by anglers without an adipose fin will contain a tag,” Hanten said.

For more information, visit: gfp.sd.gov/fishing-boating/salmon-tags.aspx, or contact the Fort Pierre District Office, 20641 SD Hwy 1806, Fort Pierre, SD 57532, or call 605.223.7861.

Drone Hunting License In The Works In Colorado Town

Deer Trail, Colorado, is examining the possibilities of offering hunting licenses - and bounties - for drones that fly over the town. The “drone” these days conjures up all kinds of mental images of unmanned aircraft flying overhead, spying on behalf of the U.S. government on all the naughty things you do when you think nobody is looking. It’s government intrusion of the most galling sort - cheap, simple and absolutely mind boggling.

People like the citizens of Deer Trail, Colorado, for instance, which is now considering a move that would provide drone hunting licenses and a $100 bounty for anyone who can shoot one down. “We do not want drones in town,” Phillip Steel, who drafted the law, told ABC 7 News. “We need to do something so that people will not go fly a drone over the town. We could use the bounties to promote itself, perhaps with a festival of some sort, a position backed by mayor Frank Fields. “It’s all novelty. Do a little drone fest, get people to come out, have fun.”

Steel admitted that he’s never actually seen a drone flying over the town but described the law as “very symbolic. Basically, I do not believe in the idea of a surveillance society, and I believe we are heading that way.” He also pointed out that the licenses, which would sell for $25 for a year, could be a big source of revenue for the town, stating that they’d “sell like hotcakes.”

“Even if a tiny percentage of people get online [for a] drone license, that’s cool. That’s a lot of money to a small town like us,” added town trustee David Boyd, who said it “looked towards yes” on the vote. “[We] could be known for it as well, which probably might be a mixed blessing, but what the heck?”

Town Clerk Kim Oldfield said there’s also the possibility that the town could use the bounties to promote itself, perhaps with a festival of some sort, a position backed by mayor Frank Fields. “It’s all novelty. Do a little drone fest, get people to come out, have fun.”

Drone Hunting License In The Works In Colorado Town

DRONE Hunting LICENSE IN The WORKS in Colorado TOWN

Deer Trail, Colorado, is examining the possibilities of offering hunting licenses - and bounties - for drones that fly over the town.

The word “drone” these days conjures up all kinds of mental images of unmanned aircraft flying overhead, spying on behalf of the U.S. government on all the naughty things you do when you think nobody is looking. It’s government intrusion of the most galling sort - cheap, simple and absolutely mind boggling.

People like the citizens of Deer Trail, Colorado, for instance, which is now considering a move that would provide drone hunting licenses and a $100 bounty for anyone who can shoot one down.

“We do not want drones in town,” Phillip Steel, who drafted the law, told ABC 7 News. “We need to do something so that people will not go fly a drone over the town. We could use the bounties to promote itself, perhaps with a festival of some sort, a position backed by mayor Frank Fields. “It’s all novelty. Do a little drone fest, get people to come out, have fun.”

Steel admitted that he’s never actually seen a drone flying over the town but described the law as “very symbolic. Basically, I do not believe in the idea of a surveillance society, and I believe we are heading that way.”

He also pointed out that the licenses, which would sell for $25 for a year, could be a big source of revenue for the town, stating that they’d “sell like hotcakes.”

“Even if a tiny percentage of people get online [for a] drone license, that’s cool. That’s a lot of money to a small town like us,” added town trustee David Boyd, who said it “looked towards yes” on the vote. “[We] could be known for it as well, which probably might be a mixed blessing, but what the heck?”

Town Clerk Kim Oldfield said there’s also the possibility that the town could use the bounties to promote itself, perhaps with a festival of some sort, a position backed by mayor Frank Fields. “It’s all novelty. Do a little drone fest, get people to come out, have fun.”

Steel sees it differently, however. “To him, it’s a novelty,” he said. “To me, I’m serious.”

WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASONS PROPOSED

SDSU STATE Magazine

PIERRE, S.D. -- The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Commission has proposed several changes for the fall duck and goose hunting seasons this fall.

Proposed changes to the 2013 duck season include increasing the daily bag limit for Canada geese from three to five; increasing the daily bag limit for white-fronted geese from one to two; modifying the white-fronted goose season from 86 to 72 consecutive days beginning the last Saturday in November; and increasing the possession limit for geese from two times the daily limit to three times the daily limit.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s framework for the white-fronted goose season provides the option of having an 86-day season with one goose daily limit or a 72-day season with a two goose daily limit. GFP staff have removed comments from hunters indicating that this recommended change would provide additional harvest opportunity for hunters and establish a season that overlaps with the peak migration of white-fronted geese through South Dakota.

The seasons proposed for white-fronted geese would run from Sept. 28 through Dec. 22; the season for white-fronted geese from Sept. 28 through Dec. 8; Unit 1 Canada geese Oct. 1 through Dec. 16; Unit 2 Canada geese Nov. 2 through Feb. 14; and Unit 3 Canada geese Jan. 11-19.