

Citizens Waterfowl Advisory Committee

August 4, 2012 meeting

Meeting called to order @ 9:02 AM by Chair John Huffman

CWAC Members: Pat Murray, James Bahr, John Huffman, Bud Dankers, Leonard Kaanta, Scott Berg, Paul Conners, Andy Parmley, Steve Wyckoff, Trent Bellingar, Erv DeWeerd, Terry Laymon, John McNamara, Jeff Godi, Ed Retherford, Stathi Kristells, and Dan Cleary. Seventeen of nineteen members present.

DNR Waterfowl Workgroup: Barbara Avers, David Luukkonen, Terry McFadden, Bill Scullon, Nik Kalejs, Joe Robison, and Don Avers. Seven of eight members present.

Other DNR staff: Lt. Dave Shaw, Russ Mason, Tim Payne, John Darling, Bruce Barlow, Tammy Giroux, Vic Weigold, Mallory King, Glen Lampala.

Don Avers presented CWAC goals & mission statement:

Citizens Waterfowl Advisory Committee mission: *To provide feedback to the DNR-Wildlife Division on existing and proposed waterfowl regulations and wetland management issues. CWAC members must present views and concerns which represent stakeholders from their areas of the state and disseminate information learned at CWAC meetings back to those stakeholders.*

M/S Steve Wyckoff/Terry Laymon to approve March 3rd, 2012 meeting minutes. 17 in favor. Passed.

Russ Mason: Looking for volunteers to accomplish goals at managed waterfowl areas. Not enough resources to hire manpower. Duck stamp dollars – looking to divert some of those funds from land purchase to land management. Not preferred but necessary option. EIS for federal refuge system is up for review. Michigan Waterfowl Legacy program – looking to increase the number of waterfowl hunters. Presented Trent Bellingar with recognition plaque for service on CWAC.

Lt. Dave Shaw: Department is celebrating 125 years of service. Department is in need of funding. No funding for hiring next year. Out of season goose hunting increasing (mostly landowner). Setting up for early goose. At Flyway discussed hybrid ducks – they will be counted as an “other” as part of bag limit. Looking at upping possession limit to 3 times daily limit.

Dave L. & Barb A.: Duck & goose outlook. Looking at early teal season (at flyway level). Overall goose populations good. Change in philosophy on goose management strategies. More liberal regular goose season (92 days-2 birds). Total duck population above last year and at near record level (above LTA). Looked at Michigan harvest numbers for last 2 years (very similar). Over 20% of total Michigan duck harvest is divers. Prairie pond counts down from last year, but above LTA. Michigan wetland count down from last year. Most change in Southern Michigan. Michigan mallards above last year. Four scaup in bag this year.

North Zone Duck:

M/S Trent Bellinger/Leonard Kaanta to open 9-22 thru 11-16 and 11-22 thru 11-25
16 in favor, 1 opposed. Passed

Middle Zone Duck:

M/S Ed Retherford/Dan Cleary to open 9-29 thru 11-25 and 12-15&16
17 in favor. Passed

South Zone Duck:

M/S Andy Parmley/Erv Deweerd to open 10-13 thru 12-7 and 12-28 thru 31
6 in favor, 11 opposed. Failed

M/S Jim Bahr/Steve Wycoff to open 10-6 thru 12-2 and 12-29 & 30
5 in favor, 10 opposed, 2 abstained. Failed

M/S Jeff Godi/Steve Wycoff to open 10-6 thru 11-30 and 12-29 thru 1-1
13 in favor, 3 opposed, 1 abstained. Passed

North Zone Goose:

M/S Leonard Kaanta/Scot Berg 9-22 thru 12-22
17 in favor. Passed

Middle Zone Goose:

M/S Ed Retherford/Dan Cleary to open 9-29 thru 12-29
17 in favor. Passed

South Zone Goose:

M/S Jim Bahr/Steve Wycoff to open 9-22 thru 9-30, 10-6 thru 11-30 and 12-29 thru 1-1
Late season 1-19 thru 2-10
4 in favor, 13 opposed. Failed

M/S Paul Conner/Scott Berg to open Sept 22nd and 23rd (2 days), October 6-Nov 30th
(56 days), Dec 29th-Jan 1st (4 days), late season Jan 12-Feb 10th (30 days)
13 in favor, 3 opposed. Passed

GMU Goose:

M/S Bud Dankers/Jeff Godi

Saginaw and Huron Tuscola GMU 9-22 thru 25 and 10-6 thru 1-1

16 in favor, one abstained. Passed

M/S Steve Wycoff/Terry Lymon to let DNR set Allegan GMU's at their discretion.

17 in favor. Passed

M/S Erv DeWeerd/Terry Lymon to set Muskegon GMU at DNR recommendation

17 in favor. Passed

Snow , Ross and Whitefront geese:

M/S Scott Berg/Paul Conner to accept DNR recommendations

15 in favor, 2 abstained. Passed

Bag Limits:

M/S Bud Dankers/Paul Conner to accept federal framework except only one hen mallard

16 in favor, 1 opposed. Passed

Barb Avers: Michigan Waterfowl Legacy. Passed out info. Discussed goals and outlined how things are progressing.

Barb Avers: Will be doing an assessment on CWAC membership concerning representation.

Next meeting:

M/S Paul Conner/Andy Parmley to be at the Ram Center March 9, 2014

Passed

Thanks to SFCHA for the B&C Pizza and to Mallory for picking it up.

Adjourned @ 3:16 P,M,

Respectfully submitted:

Bud Dankers, Secretary