

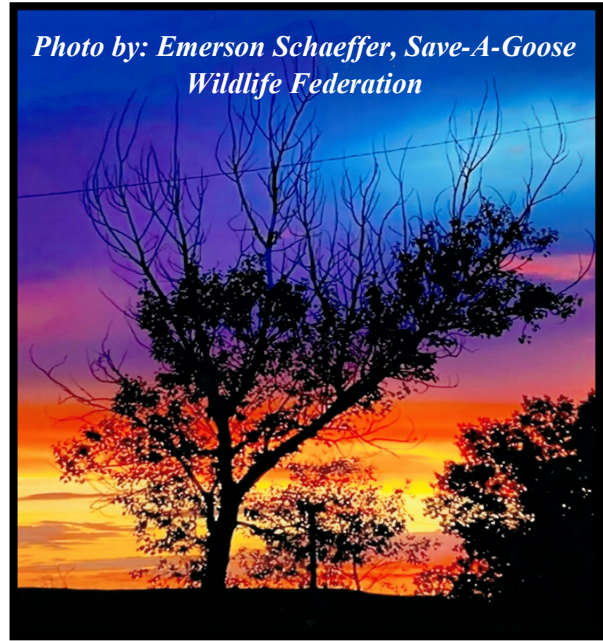


SASKATCHEWAN
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION

JANUARY 2024

BRANCH MONTH END

*Photo by: Emerson Schaeffer, Save-A-Goose
Wildlife Federation*



CONVENTION IS WEEKS AWAY!

THE 95TH ANNUAL
CONVENTION WILL
BE HELD ON
FEBRUARY 15-17, 2024
AT THE SASKATOON
INN & CONFERENCE
CENTRE.

Make sure you are
registered, and feel free
to send the
registration form to your
members:

<https://swf.sk.ca/2024-conv-reg-form-1/>

DOOR PRIZES, AUCTIONS,
PROGRAM UPDATES, AND
SO MUCH MORE!

We look forward to seeing you all in
Saskatoon this year!

IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS

Convention Agenda can be [found here](#), or on Page 3.

Final chance to review the Convention Checklist. [Click here to download](#), or view on Page 6.

Delegates must have a 2024 Membership to attend Convention.

LAST CALL - The deadline for fundraising donations for Convention is Feb 6, 2024. We are asking all branches to please donate an item worth \$50 or more to the convention's annual fundraising evening. If you could please let Central Office know what your branch will be donating before Feb 6, 2024, it would be greatly appreciated! Even if your branch can't attend the convention, we are asking you to support this annual fundraising effort - the proceeds from the raffle tables go to the Habitat Trust Fund, and the auction proceeds go to SWF programming. Thanks for your support! [Fundraising forms can be found here.](#)

The 2023 Resolutions to be presented to the 2024 SWF Convention, [can be viewed here](#), or on Page 8. Please note that there are 2 Board Resolutions that have been added.

The Provincial Angling & Henry Kelsey Big Game Awards is approaching quickly! For tickets, contact Central Office at 306-692-8812. The Awards Poster can be [downloaded here](#), or on Page 14.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Any sold memberships must be sent in to Central Office at least on a monthly basis, as per the constitution. If you have any questions or issues, please let us know.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ◇ **February 3:** Wapella Pipestone Wildlife Federation 35th Annual Banquet @ Moosomin Conexus Centre
- ◇ **February 6:** Convention fundraising items due to Central Office
- ◇ **February 10:** Yorkton Wildlife Federation Sausage & Pickle Competition, & All You Can Eat Sausage & Pierogi Supper
- ◇ **February 10:** St. Walburg & District Wildlife Federation Banquet & Awards Ceremony
- ◇ **February 11:** Tisdale Wildlife Federation Fish Fry @ the Tisdale Recplex Auditorium
- ◇ **February 15-17:** 95th Annual Convention, Saskatoon, SK
- ◇ **March 2:** Weyburn Wildlife Federation Mainprize Fish Derby
- ◇ **March 9:** Moose Jaw Wildlife Federation Youth & Family Ice Fishing Tournament @ Buffalo Pound Lake
- ◇ **March 22:** Moose Jaw Wildlife Federation Fish Fry @ MJWF Hall
- ◇ **March 23:** Tisdale Wildlife Federation Banquet @ the Tisdale Recplex Auditorium
- ◇ **March 23:** Rocanville Wildlife Federation Supper & Fundraiser @ the Rocanville Community Hall
- ◇ **April 6:** Moose Mountain Wildlife Federation 20th Annual Fundraiser Dinner & Auction
- ◇ **April 6:** Shaunavon Wildlife Federation Awards & Banquet @ Crescent Point Wickenheiser Centre
- ◇ **April 13:** Fred Garner Memorial Banquet And Trophy Night
- ◇ **April 13:** Save-A-Goose Wildlife Federation 2024 Trophy Night in Odessa
- ◇ **April 13:** Redberry Wildlife Federation Fish Fry Supper in Hafford
- ◇ **April 13:** Provincial Angling & Henry Kelsey Awards Banquet, Nipawin, SK
- ◇ **April 13:** Valley Trails Wild Game Awards Banquet & Fundraiser @ Brian King Centre in Warman
- ◇ **May 24-26:** Spring Women's Outdoor Weekend @ Hannin Creek Education & Applied Research Centre
- ◇ **June 7-8:** Moose Jaw Wildlife Federation Walleye Challenge @ Buffalo Pound Lake
- ◇ **June 8:** Weyburn Wildlife Federation Walleye Classic Fishing Tournament
- ◇ **June 18:** 18th Annual Habitat Trust Golf Tournament in Humboldt

Remember to submit your branch events to be posted on the SWF website! Email Dianne at sask.wildlife@swf.sk.ca, and be sure to visit the calendar of events page on our website for further event details.



95th ANNUAL CONVENTION
Saskatoon, SK - February 15, 16, 17, 2024

THEME: EMBRACING THE PAST – BUILDING THE FUTURE

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, February 14, 2024

6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Registration: Saskatoon Inn

THURSDAY, February 15, 2024

11:00 a.m. Registration: Saskatoon Inn

11:00 a.m. New Delegates Luncheon @ Saskatoon Inn

1:00 p.m. Opening of 95th Annual Convention – David Yorke, President, SWF
Piper – Max Laplante
O Canada
One-minute silence in remembrance of SWF members & CAF who have passed away during the last year
Welcome from First Nations – Patricia Cook, VP of Corporate Affairs, SK Indian Gaming Authority
Welcome from the Province of Saskatchewan – Ken Cheveldayoff, MLA, Saskatoon Willowgrove
Welcome from the City of Saskatoon – Deputy Mayor Donauer
Welcome & Directions – Dolphyn Boschman, President, River City Wildlife Federation
Introduction of Guests and Board of Directors – David Yorke, President, SWF

Convention Procedures Chair – Dwayne Davison
Chairpersons of the Day – Murray Freistadt & Trent Empey

1:15 p.m. Keynote Speaker – Sean Brilliant, Senior Conservation Biologist for Marine Programs, Canadian Wildlife Federation

1:45 p.m. Adoption of Minutes of 2023 Convention

1:50 p.m. SWF President's Opening Remarks – David Yorke

2:00 p.m. SWF Executive Director's Report – Darrell Crabbe
SWF Finances – Approval of the 2023 Audited Statements - Motion to accept as circulated

2:20 p.m. SWF Communications & Marketing – Courtney Devins, Director

2:30 p.m. Habitat Trust Report – Darren Newberry, SWF Director of Habitat Lands

3:00 p.m. Coffee – Sponsored by Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority

3:15 p.m. SWF Education Report – Doug Gibson, Director
- National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP)
- Hannin Creek Education & Applied Research Centre (HCEARC)

3:35 p.m. SWF Fisheries / Master Angler – Darrell Crabbe & Blaine Olfert

3:50 p.m. Branch Project Presentations

4:05 p.m. Blaine Calkins, MP / Chair of the Hunting & Angling Caucus

4:20 p.m. Open Question Period

4:35 p.m. Adjourn for the day

6:00 p.m. Reception

6:30 p.m. Contributions Awards Banquet – Sponsored by Adventure Destinations & All in the Wild:
MC – Doug Gibson
Guest Speaker: Amanda Lynn Mayhew
Piper – Max Laplante

Lorne Topley Memorial Stewardship Award – Darren Newberry
Branch & Individual Recognition Awards – Presenters: Darren Newberry, Blaine Olfert
Tailender Award Presentation – Tim & Jackie Kerslake

FRIDAY, February 16, 2024

- 8:25 a.m. Call to Order: Chairpersons – Kevin Guttormson & Larry Pfliger
- 8:30 a.m. SK Ministry of Corrections, Policing & Public Safety, Provincial Protective Services Branch – Steve Dobko
- 9:45 a.m. Open Question Period
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee – Sponsored by Cam Bird Realty
- 10:30 a.m. University of Regina – Dr. Chris Somers, Professor of Biology
- 10:50 a.m. Wetland Restoration – Aiden Bateman, Ducks Unlimited Canada
- 11:05 a.m. Resolutions – Travis Schaeffer & Todd Smith
- 11:50 a.m. The Hon. Christine Tell, SK Minister of Environment
- 12:00 noon Lunch – Sponsored by Inphynite Phreedom Lifestyles Management
- 1:00 p.m. Call to Order: Chairpersons – Dolphyn Boschman & Blair Mitchell
- 1:00 p.m. Fisheries
- Provincial Fish Hatchery – Nelson Bergh, Manager
 - SK Ministry of Environment, Fisheries Unit – Matt Tyree, Director
 - Aquatic Invasive Species – Paige Gilchrist, Ecologist
- 2:00 p.m. Open Question Period
- 2:15 p.m. Coffee – Sponsored by Cam Bird Realty
- 2:30 p.m. Rotating Seminars (25 minutes each w/5 min break)
- Walleye Fishing – Dustin Braun, Pure Fishing
 - The Bear Facts – Blair Mitchell & Amanda Lynn Mayhew
 - Back 40 Wilderness First Aid – Rebecca Mollinson
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn for the day
- 5:00 p.m. Reception
- 6:00 p.m. Fundraising Banquet – Sponsored by Adventure Destinations & All in the Wild
MC – Darren Newberry
Piper – Max Laplante
- 8:00 p.m. SWF Fundraising Evening
Auctioneer – Frederick Bodnarus, Bodnarus Auctioneering

Guidelines for Question Periods

- Delegate/Guest allowed 2 minutes to present a question or make a statement
- 3 minutes allowed for reply
- Timing at the discretion of the Day Chairs and/or Procedures Chairman

SATURDAY, February 17, 2024

- 8:25 a.m. Call to Order: Chairpersons – Josh Michel & Gord Taylor
- 8:30 a.m. SK Ministry of Environment, Fish & Wildlife Branch – Joann Skilnick, Director Wildlife
- Wildlife Health – Iga Stasiak / Ruth Aschim
 - Provincial Moose Management – Gerry Kuzyk
 - Local Experiential Mapping of Elk Populations in SK – Allison Henderson
 - Wildlife Surveys & Deer Populations – Dale Barks
- 10:00 a.m. Open Question Period
- 10:30 a.m. Coffee – Sponsored by Saskatchewan Hunting Dogs Clubs
- 10:45 a.m. Enforcement Dogs – Mitch Hatzenbuehler & Taylor Volke
- 11:15 a.m. Chief Firearms Office – Robert Freberg, CFO
Firearms Legislation – Gil White, SK Firearms Chair
- 11:35 a.m. SK Association for Firearm Education (SAFE) – Shawna Bellavance
- 11:45 a.m. Open Question Period
- 12:00 noon Lunch – Sponsored by Zak's Building Group
- 1:00 p.m. Call to Order: Chairpersons – Travis Schaeffer & Todd Smith
- 1:00 p.m. Donations to SWF Programs – Darren Newberry
- 1:35 p.m. Quigley – Kelly Kozij & Darrell Crabbe
- 1:40 p.m. Presentations for the site of the 2026 Convention (2025 Convention – Regina)
- 1:55 p.m. Canadian Conservation Corps (CCC) – Francisco Bitare & Nydia Chowdhury
- 2:10 p.m. Duck Tunnels – Ryan Kroeger, Delta Waterfowl
- 2:25 p.m. Henry Kelsey – Heath Dreger, HK Chair
- 2:40 p.m. Open Question Period
- 2:55 p.m. Visitors' Remarks
- 3:10 p.m. Coffee – Sponsored by Saskatchewan Hunting Dogs Clubs
- 3:25 p.m. New & Unfinished Business: Resolution Results / Site of the 2026 Convention
- 3:40 p.m. Acclamation of SWF President
SWF President's Closing Remarks – David Yorke
- 3:55 p.m. Adjournment of the 95th Annual SWF Convention
- 6:00 p.m. Reception
- 6:30 p.m. Awards Banquet – Sponsored by Adventure Destinations & All in the Wild
MC – Darrell Crabbe
Piper – Max Laplante
- 7:45 p.m. SWF Awards & Presentations
- Photography: Wildlife & Scenery
 - Bill McDonald Youth Conservationist of the Year Award
 - Clayton Young Memorial Awards
 - Ed Begin Conservation Project Award
 - Resource Management Conservation Award
 - Gordon Lund Memorial Conservation Award
- 9:00 p.m. Corrie J
- Comedy Hypnosis Show
 - Photo Booth
 - DJ Music / Karaoke



SWF 95th ANNUAL CONVENTION CHECKLIST

Convention is just around the corner (February 15 to 17, 2024)! Are you ready? Have you...

- ✓ Booked your hotel
- ✓ Sent in your [registration form](#) (Early Bird Deadline is Jan 26, 2024)
- ✓ Reminded delegates to bring their 2024 membership cards
- ✓ Emailed photographs of your branch activities over the past years to Central Office (Clay Shoots, Scoring Nights, other fundraisers)
- ✓ Provided Central Office with your raffle/auction donation information by completing the fundraising form and returning it to Central Office
- ✓ Packed your winning photos with the photographer's name and branch on the back
- ✓ Reviewed the resolutions and discussed at the branch level

If you are unable to send a representative to the Convention, please have the photographs and fundraising items to Central Office by February 6, 2024

CONVENTION FUNDRAISING

Once again, we are calling on the generosity of our branches to contribute to our fundraising efforts at the Annual Convention, by sponsoring \$50 or more to support the purchase of items to fill the raffle and auction tables. Additionally, branches are welcome to provide items with a value of \$50 (see example list below). All proceeds from this evening go directly to the Habitat Trust Fund, Education, and Conservation programs. Please complete the form on the next page and return to Central Office.

Some suggested items could include: 2-person Tent, Paddle Board, Outdoor Stove/Travel Grill, Sleeping Bags or Sleeping Pads, Solar Charger, Camping Hammock, LED Lantern, or things along this line.

Other items of interest could be one of a kind items.

Things that are unique and that draw attention. Of course guns, and fishing equipment. We would love to see our tables loaded, so please consider donating.

PARADE OF CHEQUES

If you want to be included in the parade of cheques at Convention, but for some reason cannot send a delegate, please contact Central Office at 306-692-8812, and we will read out your donation.

CALLED VOTE

A called vote can be called by any member on any issue at Convention. In the case of a called vote, the procedures are, as per the constitution: Every branch is entitled to one vote for the first 50 members, or fraction thereof over 15, and one additional vote for every 50 members over the first 50 members, up to a maximum of five votes. The number of votes would be based on the membership numbers as of December 31, 2023.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Don't forget to bring your photographs to Convention! Each branch may submit one per category (Wildlife and Scenery) and the delegates will vote for their favorites. Photos are to be 8 x 10" (or 8.5 x 11") and cannot be framed, or matted. Please include the photographer's name, and branch on the back of each photo.

SWF ANNUAL CONVENTION FUNDRAISING

The Raffles and Auctions at the SWF Convention are an important segment of our annual fundraising, and once again, we are calling on the generosity of our branches to donate to these efforts. All proceeds from the fundraising evening go directly to the Habitat Trust Fund, Education, and Conservation programs.

We are asking all branches to donate \$50 or more to support the purchase of an item for the raffle tables, and/or \$150 or more for an item for the live or silent auction. If preferred, branches can provide items of their choice for the raffles/auction, and bring them with them to Convention. Branches will be recognized for their sponsored/donated items, and will be listed in the evening's program.

As in previous years, we will be grouping items together to make a hunting package for one raffle table, a fishing package for another, and a variety of quality items for 4 other tables. In order for us to ensure we have wonderful, full tables, and to make things a little easier on the staff doing the preparations prior to Convention, we ask that your branch let us know ahead of time what you will be donating.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Dianne at 306-692-8812, or email Central Office at sask.wildlife@swf.sk.ca.

Please complete the form below and return it to Central Office by February 6, 2024.

Thank you for your continued support!!

YES! Our Branch will support the SWF Annual Convention fundraising efforts

Branch Name: _____

Branch Contact: _____

☐ Please purchase an item(s) from us.

Amount donated: \$_____ Cheque enclosed: _____ or Bill our Account _____

Our Branch will be donating the following item(s):

Please return this form to Central Office by February 6, 2024

Fax: 306-692-4370 or email sask.wildlife@swf.sk.ca or mail to 9 Lancaster Road,
Moose Jaw, SK S6J 1M8

**Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
2023 Resolutions to be presented to the 2024 SWF Convention**

23-1. MIGRATORY BIRDS – Region 4 (Weyburn)

WHEREAS only a few rivers, lakes and reservoirs within the province have the possibility of open water to the end of December, and

WHEREAS the water bodies often have semi-permanent flocks of geese and other migratory game birds, and

WHEREAS the current season runs for 107 days opening on September 1 and closing on December 16, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF urge the Canadian Wildlife Service to extend the annual migratory bird hunting seasons to a duration of 121 days to allow the fall waterfowl hunting season to open on September 1 and close on December 31.

23-2. ELK DRAWS – Regions 3 & 6 (Yorkton & Shaunavon)

WHEREAS elk populations in the farmlands are very high, and

WHEREAS the prevalence of antlerless elk is becoming a problem in certain zones, and

WHEREAS the application numbers for antlerless elk tags in these particular zones has significantly decreased, and

WHEREAS the harvest of antlerless elk in these zones has also dropped significantly to the point the elk herds are growing exponentially beyond carrying capacity of the habitat in which they occupy, and

WHEREAS access during these draw seasons is greatly affected by weather, and

WHEREAS antlerless elk draw tags show lower levels of licence purchase and utilization compared to either sex elk draw tags, and

WHEREAS this will bring in a large number of experienced elk hunters that don't put in for the antlerless draw, and

WHEREAS this would allow hunters to maintain their pool status in one or both pools, and

WHEREAS antlerless mule deer and either-sex mule deer draws are operated in the province as two separate draws, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Environment separate the application pools for antlerless elk and either-sex elk into two separate draws, allowing the opportunity to be drawn for both in the same year.

23-3. COW ELK SEASON – Region 6 (Shaunavon)

WHEREAS the harvest of antlerless elk in southwestern zones has drastically decreased, and

WHEREAS access during the season dates of this Saskatchewan resident draw are severely affected by weather, and

WHEREAS the carrying capacity of the herd in these zones are beyond the carrying capacity of the habitat in which they occupy, and

WHEREAS both the natural mortality and hunter harvest of these animals is no longer keeping the herd numbers in check, and

WHEREAS extending the cow elk seasons would allow for sufficient harvest of game animals from the tags allotted in these zones, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the ministry of Environment extend the antlerless elk seasons in the south-western WMZs to run from November 1st through December 31st.

23-4. USE OF CROSSBOW IN ARCHERY SEASON – Region 3 (Touchwood Hills)

WHEREAS traditional and modern compound bows share the same season, and

WHEREAS crossbows have little or no advantage over modern compound bows, and

WHEREAS there are numerous people who cannot pull an archery bow, and could get a Doctor's Certificate to use a crossbow in archery season, and

WHEREAS crossbows are allowed in the archery season in the 3 urban zones, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Environment allow the use of a crossbow in archery season.

23-5. REINSTATING RIFLE CALIBERS TO HUNT BIG GAME – Region 3 (Touchwood Hills)

WHEREAS the Ministry of Environment says it is unlawful to hunt big game with a .25-20 Winchester, .30 Carbine, .32-20 Winchester, .357 Magnum, .41 Remington Magnum, 44-40 Winchester, or .45 colt, and

WHEREAS historically, these firearms met the minimum set caliber established by the government in the hunting regulations for big game, and

WHEREAS these firearms have been used to hunt big game in Saskatchewan for centuries, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Environment reinstate these calibers to hunt big game in Saskatchewan.

23-6.1. BIG GAME RECOVERY WITH LEASHED¹TRACKING DOGS – Regions 1, 3, 5

WHEREAS “it is unlawful to: Injure or kill a game bird or animal without making every reasonable attempt to retrieve it”^{2,3} and

WHEREAS dogs have 300 million smell receptors⁴ and can follow efficiently not only i) blood but also ii) microscopic cells shed regularly by animals and iii) soil disturbance⁵ created by a hoof, and

WHEREAS tracking ability is greatly influenced⁶ by a dog’s inherited⁷ will to track and in addition, 58% of Canadian families have pet dogs at least some of which could be trained to follow simple tracks⁸ and

WHEREAS four Canadian Provinces (Nova Scotia⁹, Quebec¹⁰, Ontario¹¹, and British Columbia¹²) and 44 U.S. states have amended regulations to allow tracking of wounded ungulates with leashed dogs, that can serve as practical examples for appropriate legislative amendments, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation encourage the Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment to amend its regulations to enable hunters¹³ to use leashed dogs to recover legally shot big game.¹⁴

¹ To have a dog on leash while tracking is important for several reasons. i) It makes compliance with hunting regulations easy to enforce and ii) greatly enhances tracking success. Even experienced tracking dogs are prone to move too fast on the track. Hasty tracking can cause dogs to miss changes in track direction, be unable to notice fading amounts of blood from a closing wound and not shift to tracking hoof impressions instead, be misled by hoof prints from healthy ungulates, and so on. Slow and concentrated tracking is crucial. iii) Leashed teamwork also means that dog and handler arrive at the animal at the same time, and iv) the handler can ensure the safety of the dog throughout.

² Saskatchewan Hunters and Trappers Guide. (2022) Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, 3211 Albert Street, Regina, SK, S4S 5W6; 39 pp.

³ In 2015, the Versatile Hunting Dog Federation of Canada (VHDF-Canada) and the Saskatoon Gun Dog Club (SGDC) sought the advice of Conservation Officers and Ministry of Environment biologists, and began to offer workshops and field tests on how to train and handle a leashed dog on an artificial blood track (venison or beef blood, or minced hamburger diluted with water) simulating the recovery of shot big game. This was in keeping with an old tradition in Europe and rapidly growing practice in North America, beginning about 1980s. Permitted blood tracking increases hunter satisfaction and helps those hunters who have used their dogs to retrieve birds, and unknowingly were in breach of the law when their dogs helped them recover big game. In addition to shot big game, Conservation Officers or their designates can track and humanely dispatch game crippled in traffic accidents (e.g. Nell McKim (2020). "Scent sense: The need to let leashed tracking dogs recover lost big game. Outdoor Canada: 12.) Unrecovered big game animals often lead to continued hunting and underreported kill statistics distorting harvest data used in management. Unrecovered game may attract wolves and bears to kills, possibly compromising people’s safety.

⁴ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dog_sense_of_smell

⁵ Instead of a hoofprint, Police- and Rescue dogs can follow a human shoe print in a park and even on pavement.

⁶ Contrary to a human searching for blood, rain or snow does not automatically preclude tracking success when a dog is used. For blood or any other trigger to stimulate scent receptors, the trigger has to go into solution first anyway. All physiology of animals or plants is water-based physiology. As with bird hunting, moisture actually favours scenting. Only a flash flood washing away all scent or tightly packed and driven snow would provide a hindrance to tracking dogs.

⁷ Matsumoto, Yuki, et al. (2023). "Genetic dissection of behavioral traits related to successful training of drug detection dogs." Nature Portfolio **13**: 13:7326.

⁸ While some breeds have been bred for and excel in tracking, many dogs are attracted to a blood trail. With modest training by a hunter, there is a good chance that many of the pet dogs owned by 58% of families in Canada, from Shih tzu to Dalmatian, could be useful for the simple tracks that humans would spend hrs to follow, especially in the snow-free season.

⁹ <https://novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/widog.htm> **(8)** Despite subsection (7), a person may use a dog to track and recover a wounded deer, moose or bear if: **(a)** the deer, moose or bear was wounded by a person hunting it pursuant to a valid hunting licence for that species and in accordance with the Act and regulations; **(b)** the hunter

who wounded the deer, moose or bear is the dog's handler or accompanies the dog's handler during the tracking and recovery of the wounded animal; and (c) the dog is on a leash that is held by the dog's handler at all times when the dog is in a wildlife habitat. **Subsection 9(8) added: O.I.C. 2004-222, N.S. Reg. 162/2004.**

¹⁰ <https://www.quebec.ca/en/tourism-and-recreation/sporting-and-outdoor-activities/sport-hunting/general-rules/searching-game#c80580> **What the Act and regulations say (Computer translation).** The Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife now provides a framework for the search for injured game while hunting with a bloodhound. A pilot project will document the activities of bloodhound handlers (in French only) and develop new regulations that will govern the search and killing of injured game. It should be noted that the Act prohibits the use of dogs in areas where large game is found. A dog used to find injured game must therefore always be kept on a lead rope. In addition, a dog used in a search is not roaming, because it is following its master's orders to perform a specific task, i.e. finding a big game animal that has been injured and is probably dead. Consequently, a dog trained for this purpose may be used in these circumstances. The Hunting Regulations specify that hunting with dogs is only permitted for small game hunting. Therefore, it is prohibited to use a dog to hunt white-tailed deer, moose or black bear. You may also use a dog at night or after the end of the hunting season, provided you comply with the rules set out in the section entitled Searching for big game at night.

¹¹ <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/980665#BK11> Section 86 (4) For the purposes of subsection 25 (2.1) of the Act and despite subsections (1), (2) and (3) of this section, a person may use or be accompanied by a dog while hunting bear, elk, deer or moose in any part of Ontario without a licence issued in respect of the dog if, (a) the person is using the dog only to search for a bear, elk, deer or moose that has already been wounded during the hunt; (b) the dog is kept on a leash that has a maximum length of 10 metres; and (c) the dog is under the physical control of the person at all times. O. Reg. 544/17, s. 9; O. Reg. 38/20, s. 10 (1, 2).

¹² An excerpt from the 2023 British Columbia Hunting Synopsis states: "The use of dogs is permitted in the hunting of all game, but dogs must be on a leash when used to hunt deer, elk, moose, mountain sheep, mountain goat and caribou. Unleashed dogs may be used to hunt small game, lynx, bobcat, black bear, or cougar. Any person may train dogs by allowing them, under supervision, to pursue game birds from Aug 1- Apr 30." Additional details are provided in Section 78 of the BC Wildlife Act and related statutes."

¹³ The Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation could invite hunters, police- & rescue-dog handlers and kennel-club members who track for sport to provide information for interested SWF members including how-to workshops. A complete guide is provided by Jeanneney, J. (2015). "Tracking dogs for finding wounded deer." <http://www.amazon.com/Tracking-Dogs-Finding-Wounded-Deer/dp/0972508929>

¹⁴ The following organizations in Saskatchewan have indicated their support for a legislative changes to enable tracking (Nell McKim, personal communication): Saskatchewan Bowhunters Association, Saskatchewan Black Powder Association, Saskatchewan Trappers Association, Saskatoon Gun Dog Club, Saskatoon Retriever Club, Nature Saskatchewan, Versatile Hunting Dog Federation of Canada.

23-7. ENCASED FIREARMS ON ATVS - Region 2 (Thickwood Hills)

WHEREAS many areas north of Highway #40 have heavily forested areas, resulting in reduced hunting opportunities due to poor accessibility, and

WHEREAS encased firearms can be transported on ATVs in the forest fringe zones, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Environment allow encased firearms to be transported on ATVs (including snowmobiles) in all zones.

23-8. ATV ACCESS – Region 3 (Watson-Englefeld)

WHEREAS outfitters have different rights than general hunters for access to land in certain Provincial Parks using ATVs, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that outfitters and SK hunters have the same ATV access in provincial parks.

23-9. LAND ACCESS – Region 3 (Watson-Englefeld)

WHEREAS land access for resident hunting has been greatly reduced due to the enactment of the Saskatchewan Trespass Legislation, and

WHEREAS the number of resident hunters has decreased substantially over the past 2 years, and

WHEREAS the most effective tool to control wildlife populations is hunting, and

WHEREAS the Provincial Government owns hundreds of thousands of acres of prime wildlife habitat in Agricultural leases that are in most cases not accessible to the hunting public, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF request that the Provincial Government revise Provincial grazing leases to make it mandatory to allow hunters access for the regulated hunting seasons.

23-10. REPLACEMENT TAGS – Region 3 (Hudson Bay)

WHEREAS previous legislation allowed replacement tags to be issued for game deemed unfit for human consumption, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, when an animal is taken and is found to be unfit for human consumption, after the tag has been filled, that a replacement tag be issued by the Minister of the Environment.

23-11. WILDLIFE MITIGATION LANDS – Region 4 (Moose Mountain)

WHEREAS the Wildlife Mitigation Lands (WMLs) were planned, designated, developed, and protected to mitigate the loss of important natural habitat and wildlife populations that occurred when the valleys of Moose Mountain Creek and Souris River were flooded by provincially operated dams in southeastern Saskatchewan, and

WHEREAS the current management regime for the WMLs is operating in a manner opposite to the original intent of the WMLs in that public access to the lands is being denied and wildlife habitat, acquired or created at great public expense, is being degraded by overgrazing, and

WHEREAS the SWF played an integral role in having the lands legally designated, and partnered with Saskatchewan Water Security Agency in the development of the Rafferty – Alameda Crowns Lands Management Study 2012 which was intended to protect habitat and encourage public use of the lands, therefore

- a) BE IT RESOLVED that the SWF strongly request that the Water Security Agency and Ministry of Environment collaborate with the SWF to properly manage the Wildlife mitigation lands according to their original and legislated intent.
- b) BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that local SWF branches and members be fully involved in management of the land through the formation of an advisory committee which would meet at least once annually for the purpose of developing and implementing conservation plans.

BD 23-1 LAND ACCESS

WHEREAS since the introduction of the Saskatchewan Trespass Legislation in January of 2022, Resident over-the-counter hunting licence sales have dropped substantially, and

WHEREAS the Trespass Legislation has created a significant increase in the pressures on provincial wildlife lands, and access to provincial crown lands is becoming increasingly restricted, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the government facilitate a task force of Agriculture, Environment and Justice Ministries and associated stakeholders to investigate other jurisdictions' land access policies and procedures, with a goal to implement an integrated access program.

BD 23-2 GAME MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS numerous Saskatchewan Government Ministries and Crown Corporations have management processes and policies that are in contravention to the Cabinet-approved Saskatchewan Game Management Plan, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan Government renew its commitment to science-based decision-making to foster confidence in its management of the Public Trust in accordance with the Game Management Plan and ensure compliance to the Plan by all Saskatchewan Government entities.

SASKATCHEWAN WILDLIFE FEDERATION



2023 PROVINCIAL ANGLING & HENRY KELSEY BIG GAME AWARDS BANQUET

Nipawin Evergreen Centre, Nipawin, SK

Hosted by: Nipawin Fish & Game League



April 13, 2024

TICKETS:

12 & under: Free

13 years & older: \$45

For Hotel
Information, please
visit swf.sk.ca

To purchase tickets, contact the SWF Central Office at
306-692-8812, or sask.wildlife@swf.sk.ca

JANUARY 2024 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Check your totals to this sheet every month. If there are discrepancies, please contact Central Office.

Active Since	REGION ONE (26)	2024	2024	2024	2024	Active Since	REGION TWO (16)	2024	2024	2024	2024
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual			Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1954	Basin Lake	56			0	1939	Battlefords	266	41	41	82
1971	Bruno	326	102	143	245	1987	Beaver River	110			0
1951	Carrot River	224	20	24	44	2012	Cater Lake	217	75	112	187
1961	Creighton	168			0	1979	Cut Knife	93			0
1967	Cudworth	211	33	26	59	1992	Dorintosh	58			0
1947	Humboldt	380	151	103	254	1954	Fielding	132	37	54	91
1968	La Ronge	148	1		1	1947	Lloydminster	1366	557	316	873
1952	Lake Country	489			0	1983	Macklin	293	87	130	217
1951	Lake Lenore	268			0	1947	Meadow Lake	78			0
1957	Lucien Lake	217			0	1980	Redberry	70	21	15	36
1975	Mallard	185	54	75	129	1973	St. Walburg	264	36	37	73
1958	Marcelin Leask	303			0	1981	Thickwood Hills	326	79	84	163
1955	Melfort	338	59	47	106	1980	Turtle River	98			0
1980	Mistatim	117	28	24	52	1951	Unity	259	32	57	89
	Naiverdale	225			0	1947	Wilkie	38			0
1944	Nipawin	230	98	70	168	1972	Witchekan	391			0
1980	Park View	126			0		Regional	4059	965	846	1811
2010	Porcupine	163	26	25	51	SUMMARY					
1947	Prince Albert	415	199	173	372	OTHER BRANCHES		2024	2024	2024	2024
1977	St. Peters	208	3	5	8		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual	
1994	Stony Rapids	33	14	18	32	SK Falconry Association	22	21	11	32	
1966	Struthers Lake	376	74	107	181	SAFTA (SK Amateur Field Trial Assoc)	26	13	20	33	
1945	Tisdale	1122	197	222	419	GBHT (SK Game Bird Habitat Trust)	38			0	
1982	Valley Trails	538	107	93	200	Branches exceeding their 2024 target					
1985	Wakaw	37			0	Regions exceeding their 2024 target					
	Regional	7278	1166	1155	2321	Regular Members					
						Affiliate Members					
						Provincial Members					
						Corporate Members					
						2024 Memberships to January 31, 2024					
						2023 Memberships to January 31, 2023					
						INCREASE					
						373					

*** Indicates Branches that have met or exceeded their Membership targets. Congratulations!

Active Since	REGION THREE (29)	2024	2024	2024	2024	Active Since	REGION FOUR (15)	2024	2024	2024	2024						
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual			Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual						
1975	Beaver Hills	327	104	127	231	1993	Boggy Creek	149	32	23	55						
1957	Buchanan	98			0	1953	Broadview	253	61	62	123						
1957	Canora	128			0	1952	Estevan	1119	145	106	251						
1970	DELWOOD***	106	65	42	107	1970	Grenfell	210	17	25	42						
1979	East Shore	203	61	51	112	1977	Indian Head	282	71	35	106						
1990	Endeavour	20			0	2002	Moose Mountain	190	14	16	30						
1959	Esterhazy	642			0	1987	Radville	222	52	53	105						
1980	Foam Lake	347	86	103	189	1967	Redvers	347	55	80	135						
1980	Fort Qu'Appelle	167	37	43	80	1962	Regina	1116			0						
1973	Hudson Bay	273	55	55	110	1981	Rocanville	632	211	301	512						
1947	Kamsack	161	53	62	115	1982	Save-a-goose	598	153	258	411						
1974	Kuroki	171			0	1990	Souris Moose Creek	159	30	12	42						
1966	Langenburg	238	82	121	203	1987	Wapella Pipestone	276	80	115	195						
1986	LeRoy	60			0	1968	Wawota	431	59	63	122						
1977	Loon Creek	332			0	1950	Weyburn	432	85	100	185						
1939	Melville	730	125	81	206		Regional	6416	1065	1249	2314						
1949	Norquay	337	18	30	48												
1980	Parkland	134	28	39	67												
1990	Pheasant Creek	82	14	17	31												
1966	Preeceville	513			0												
1989	River Ridge	262	34	50	84												
1977	Sturgis	267	21	22	43												
1990	Timberline	73			0												
1967	Touchwood Hills	819	72	43	115												
1980	Valley View	209			0												
1964	Watson-Englefeld	309	71	53	124												
1980	Whitesand	99			0												
1988	Willowbrook	172			0												
1947	Yorkton	283	52	60	112												
	Regional	7562	978	999	1977												
												Active Since	REGION FIVE (16)	2024	2024	2024	2024
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual							1978	Arm River	90	13	18	31
1953	Assiniboia	223			0							2016	Bear Hills	337			0
1965	Deep South	28			0							1983	Brightwater Blackstrap	116	22	33	55
1999	Dirt Hills	941	100	59	159							1961	Central Butte	240	34	35	69
1996	GREAT SANDHILLS***	48	41	8	49							1971	Eagle Creek	198	37	45	82
1953	Maple Creek	260	110	63	173	1983	Elbow	43	2	1	3						
1947	Moose Jaw	631	87	65	152	1981	Kerrobert	116	15	16	31						
1961	Shaunavon	291	54	80	134	1955	Kindersley	239	38	7	45						
1947	Swift Current	576	213	160	373	1955	Kyle	361	112	159	271						
1987	WIWA CREEK***	15	21	4	25	1971	Outlook	257	1		1						
	Regional	3013	626	439	1065	2017	River City	203	54	46	100						
						1950	Rosetown	36			0						
						1980	Snipe Lake	30			0						
						2000	Viscount	33	18	7	25						
						1993	Watrous	253	43	30	73						
						1979	Young	43	23	11	34						
							Regional	2595	412	408	820						

*** Indicates Branches that have met or exceeded their Membership targets. Congratulations!