



SASKATCHEWAN
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION

Happy Holidays!

With Christmas just around the corner, we'd like to wish everyone all the best for the remainder of 2020!

We'll see you in the New Year!

92nd Annual Convention Feb 20 & 21, 2021

Though nothing can replace the experience of attending in person, the 2021 convention is the PERFECT opportunity for people who have never attended to get a taste of what convention is all about. Contact central office to register.

BRANCH MONTH END MAIL OUT



Dennis Borowski-Save-A-Goose Wildlife Federation IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ The 2020 Convention Minutes are included on page 5
- ✓ Convention Award nominations must be in to central office by Jan 01, 2021
- ✓ Angling competition is open from January 1st to December 31st. Branches are responsible for forwarding their top entries in each category to Central Office by January 15/21 for the 2020 competition year.
- ✓ Heads must be measured by an official measurer and submitted by the end of the year to be eligible for awards. There is no drying period required.
- ✓ We've updated the affiliate membership with an important age change for 2021 — you can download the poster here.
- ✓ The Ministry of Environment is looking for samples from all hunters; especially in our target zones of 2W, 9, 10, 35, 37, 50 and 55.

Christmas Sale!

USE CODE **25OFF** ON OUR ONLINE CLOTHING ITEMS TO RECEIVE 25% OFF YOUR CLOTHING PURCHASES.

CLICK TO VISIT THE WEBSITE

Ladies' Wear

Men's Wear

Kids' Wear

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 10 - Moose Jaw Horn Scoring Night

Dec 12 - Creighton Horn Scoring Day

Dec 25th to Jan 03 - Central Office Closed for the Holidays

Feb 20 & 21 - 92nd Convention

Remember to submit your branch events to be posted on the 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:
<http://swf.sk.ca/events>



NOVEMBER 2020 MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

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

Active Branch Since	REGION ONE (27)	2020	2020	2020	2020
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1954	BASIN LAKE***	34	16	18	34
1971	BRUNO***	255	129	145	274
1951	Carrot River	279	123	117	240
1961	Creighton	210	100	53	153
1989	Cub Hills	390	173	183	356
1967	Cudworth	193	66	45	111
1947	Humboldt	466	267	168	435
1968	La Ronge	168	97	64	161
1952	Lake Country	700	370	325	695
1970	LAKE LENORE***	174	96	78	174
1957	Lucien Lake	169	89	68	157
1975	Mallard	226	106	116	222
1958	MARCELIN-LEASK***	210	112	133	245
1955	Melfort	445	208	194	402
1980	Mistatim	113	21	17	38
1970	Naiverdale	15	52	55	107
1944	Nipawin	202	104	83	187
1980	Park View	181	77	94	171
2010	Porcupine	163	50	39	89
1947	Prince Albert	533	267	176	443
1977	St. Peters	176	87	74	161
1994	Stony Rapids	40	20	16	36
1966	STRUTHERS LAKE***	384	182	216	398
1945	Tisdale	669	308	331	639
1982	Valley Trails	585	350	277	627
1985	WAKAW***	0	25	5	30
1976	Weldon	146	54	82	136
	Regional	7126	3549	3172	6721

Active Branch Since	REGION TWO (16)	2020	2020	2020	2020
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1939	Battlefords	334	171	128	299
1987	Beaver River	118	21	33	54
2012	Cater Lake	200	90	93	183
1979	Cut Knife	324	68	47	115
1992	DORINTOSH***	71	37	45	82
1954	Fielding	260	81	93	174
1947	LLOYDMINSTER***	1508	1151	498	1649
1983	Macklin	352	141	208	349
1947	Meadow Lake	160	99	22	121
1980	Redberry	92	51	40	91
1973	St. Walburg	215	125	87	212
1981	Thickwood Hills	179	78	84	162
1980	Turtle River	162	82	67	149
1951	UNITY***	230	103	124	227
1947	Wilkie	36	25	7	32
1972	Witchekan	460	236	145	381
	Regional	4701	2559	1721	4280

SUMMARY

OTHER BRANCHES	2020	2020	2020	2020
	Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
Sk Falconry Assoc*** Rgn 5	27	19	10	29
Sask Falconers Club*** Rgn 4	24	13	11	24
SAFTA (SK Amateur Field Trial Assoc) Rgn 5	30	13	14	27
GBHT (SK Game Bird Habitat Trust)*** Rgn 4	26	14	2	16
Branches exceeding their 2020 target				46
Regions exceeding their 2020 target				0
Regular Members				16594
Affiliate Members				13308
Provincial Members				74
Corporate Members				2
2020 Memberships to Nov 30, 2020				29,978
2019 Memberships to Nov 30, 2019				31,153
DECREASE				-1175

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

Active Since	REGION THREE (29)	2020	2020	2020	2020
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1975	BEAVER HILLS***	269	144	127	271
1957	Buchanan	111	48	57	105
1957	Canora	210	101	107	208
1970	DELWOOD***	96	74	38	112
1979	East Shore	184	87	77	164
1990	ENDEAVOR***	12	9	9	18
1959	ESTERHAZY***	601	376	287	663
1980	FOAM LAKE***	336	219	164	383
1980	FORT QU'APPELLE***	95	81	57	138
1973	Hudson Bay	331	125	117	242
1947	KAMSACK***	140	74	71	145
1974	Kuroki	175	63	74	137
1966	LANGENBERG***	196	97	100	197
1986	LEROY***	8	27	30	57
1977	LOON CREEK***	293	258	201	459
1939	Melville	820	480	284	764
1949	Norquay	257	97	140	237
1980	Parkland	158	72	56	128
1990	PHEASANT CREEK***	54	39	23	62
1966	Preeceville	462	199	217	416
1989	River Ridge	213	93	118	211
1977	Sturgis	197	79	82	161
1990	TIMBERLINE***	75	42	46	88
1967	TOUCHWOOD HILLS***	683	370	361	731
1980	Valley View	166	61	83	144
1964	WATSON-ENGLEFELD***	288	168	144	312
1980	WHITESAND***	111	47	78	125
1988	Willowbrook	375	165	147	312
1947	Yorkton	244	109	110	219
	Regional	7160	3804	3405	7209

Active Since	REGION SIX (12)	2020	2020	2020	2020
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1953	ASSINIBOIA ***	221	188	48	236
1988	BUFFALO LAKE***	6	5	2	7
1965	DEEP SOUTH***	23	15	11	26
1999	DIRT HILLS ***	1085	749	346	1095
1996	GREAT SANDHILLS	105	83	34	117
1953	MAPLE CREEK***	274	194	90	284
1947	Moose Jaw	547	266	221	487
1961	Shaunavon	251	99	91	190
2001	South Shore	13			0
1947	SWIFT CURRENT***	645	372	276	648
2009	WILLOW BUNCH***	16	8	8	16
1987	Wiwa Creek	87	69	6	75
	Regional	3273	2048	1133	3181

Active Since	REGION FOUR (15)	2020	2020	2020	2020
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1993	Boggy Creek	365	87	70	157
1953	Broadview	198	82	87	169
1952	Estevan	1156	579	384	963
1970	Grenfell	193	79	71	150
1977	INDIAN HEAD***	242	183	104	287
2002	Moose Mountain	228	87	99	186
1987	RADVILLE***	118	62	59	121
1967	REDVERS***	375	177	237	414
1962	REGINA***	1100	669	462	1131
1981	ROCANVILLE***	519	246	290	536
1982	SAVE-A-GOOSE***	467	213	268	481
1990	SOURIS MOOSE CREEK***	283	145	155	300
1987	WAPPELLA***	313	148	180	328
1968	Wawota	238	113	113	226
1950	Weyburn	371	187	168	355
	Regional	6166	3057	2747	5804

Active Since	REGION FIVE (18)	2020	2020	2020	2020
		Target	Regular	Affiliate	Actual
1978	Arm River	96	36	30	66
2016	BEAR HILLS***	303	235	100	335
1947	Biggar	99	51	34	85
1983	BRIGHTWATER BLACKSTRAP***	81	57	67	124
1961	Central Butte	228	116	107	223
1971	Eagle Creek	206	79	97	176
1983	Elbow	93	51	36	87
1981	Kerrobert	123	62	43	105
1955	Kindersley	392	238	118	356
1957	Kyle	359	160	194	354
1989	Luseland	53			0
1971	Outlook	372	113	56	169
2017	RIVER CITY***	46	24	28	52
1950	Rosetown	75	30	24	54
1980	SNIPE LAKE***	8	31	12	43
2000	Viscount	45	19	13	32
1993	Watrous	308	177	117	294
1979	Young	93	39	17	56
	Regional	2980	1518	1093	2611

**Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
Minutes of the 91st Annual Convention
Cugnet Centre, Weyburn Comprehensive School, Weyburn, SK
February 20 - 22, 2020
Theme: Ensuring our Outdoor Heritage Legacy**

Thursday February 20, 2020

- 1:00 p.m. Official opening of convention – Clark Schultz, SWF President
- Convention officials piped in by Shantel Kohonick Seitz
- O Canada: Gerald Alexander
- A minute of silence observed in remembrance of members of SWF and the Canadian Armed Forces personnel who have passed away over the past year.
- Welcome from the Province of Saskatchewan – Dustin Duncan, Minister of Environment
- Welcome from the City of Weyburn – Mayor Marcel Roy
- Welcome and Directions: Tim Kerslake, President, Weyburn Wildlife Federation
- Introduction of Guests and Board of Directors – Clark Schultz, SWF President

Convention Procedures Chair – Dwayne Davison & Heath Dreger

Chairpersons of the Day – David Yorke & Richard Petersen

The Honorable Dustin Duncan, Minister of Environment

- Congratulations to you on your 91st Convention and your contributions to the resource.
- We all want to ensure that the wildlife legacy that we leave to our children is greater than we inherited.
- Our government is very appreciative of the excellent relationship we have with your organization.
- You focus on the needs of your members while advancing conservation.
- FWDF lands – 60,000 hectares. SWF help manages these lands, open to everyone and provide habitat to various species.
- Appreciate your contributions to the Game Management Plan-guarantee stability of wildlife populations.
- Woodland Caribou – protection in our province. Concluded one Range plan and public consultations. Good management plan, sustainable population.
- Northern Sask Remote Recreation areas-annual lease frozen @ \$888.00 for next five years.
- Habitat Management Plan- conserve landscape capable of self-sustaining populations of wildlife and fish.
- CWD-Gov't take concrete action to limit trans risks in this province. Working on carcass disposal/population. Working with Agriculture groups. Thanks to the SWF for leadership on this file.
- AIS – increased our focus - Education. Sask Aquatic Strategy is complete and ready for release. No invasive mussels were detected in our waterways in 2019. Thanks to SWF for leadership on this program.
- Thanks to the SWF ongoing contribution towards our provincial fisheries management programs. You have helped this government deliver our fisheries management objectives
- Thanks for the opportunity to speak here today. Look forward to working with you in the future.

Motion to adopt 2019 Convention Minutes

Moved by David Yorke/Jim Todd, Macklin Wildlife Federation

SWF President's Opening Remarks - Clark Schultz

- Theme-Ensuring Our Outdoor Heritage Legacy.
- Revisiting and updating our Strategic Plan- Five-year plan sets our objectives and goals and is reviewed once a year. Address ongoing and future issues: membership, volunteering, external engagement, SWF programing, fundraising, public imaging, staffing, grants and funding.
- Branch rejuvenation program. Help branches and communities learn what the SWF is involved in.
- Federal/Provincial Conservative Caucus– Particular interest in the Liberals use of OIC on Firearms Legislation
- Pressing government for a meeting with cabinet re: Game Management Plan that they adopted.
- Wild Turkey enhancement program – going very slowly. Problem is sourcing birds. Continue to work on this.
- Staying focused on Trespass Legislation. Lots of questions that need answering, access and management are on top of list.
- Concern - Minimum caliber legislation.
- Ongoing – CWD and AIS.
- New Firearms Chair, Gil White. A huge thanks to Greg Illerbrun for the 17 years he put into this program and he is still here to help us.
- Two Board Resolutions on FWDF- hope we can count on your support on how the.
- Disappointed by the support from our members on: Loss of 19 CSR positions, free hunting and fishing licenses for Canadian Armed Forces. Please remember the world is run by those that show up and get involved. Need to stay informed and engaged to protect the resources we hold so dear.

Thursday, February 20, 2020 - page 3

National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP) – Doug Gibson, Director of NASP Programing

- In Saskatchewan we have a little over 200 schools participating with 20,000 participants. Grade 4 – Grade 12 participate together. Youth with disabilities, learning disorders and confidence issues participate.
- Basic Training – Full Day. 17 instruction courses – 70 teachers & volunteers took this training.
- Provincials – Yara, Moose Jaw: 65 schools with 869 archers - male 484, female 385.
- Canadian National Tournament was held in Evraz Place, Regina: 966 archers/735 3D side, 77 schools.
- Grants – NASP awards grants to new schools: total of \$10,000. Equipment replacement grants \$750-\$1000 each.
- 2020 Provincial Tournament is in Melville April 4 & 5.
- 2020 Canadian National Tournament – Bulls Eye and 3D back to back. April 24-25.
- Lots of changes coming down so please contact me with questions.
- Thanks to everyone. Your support literally may have changed a child's life.

Open Question Period

Greg Illerbrun – Internet page and membership. Need to explore that. Could we sign them up as provincial members and then pass them on to the branches for the next year? We need to plant trees at Federal gov't expenses.

Lorne Scott - What is happening on the FWDF land by Indian Head (destruction of habitat). Not sure of the outcome yet. Fencing – we pulled his lease. Ongoing for two years. Cost of fencing - \$171,000. Cost recovery from the lease. Spending this much on fencing – is it worth it? Not budgeting anything right now. Was a government policy, changed some of the policy somewhat now.

Jack Tweitmeyer - Sit on board of Upper Souris Watershed. Would like to ask the Minister when we find mussels in our waterways what is the plan? We should make it law that any water craft into our province has to be checked. Have to get on this. AIS is a concern and we need to get serious about this.

Shauna Stanley - we share everything that SWF posts. Membership - online memberships please just do it, look at the model that a political party uses. Our communities are not as connected as they used to be.

Joyce Lorenz - What are we going to do with the old canoes? Replaced 14 canoes. Increase our footprint in the south, many discussions with Scouts Canada who have 44 properties in Saskatchewan and we are dealing with them right now. Hope to negotiate with them, and canoes will be used there.

Matt Schidlowsky, Humboldt - Concern with how often branch profiles are updated.

Resolutions – Travis Schaeffer & Kelly Kozij

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| #19-1 | Moved by Travis Schaeffer / Michelle Paulson, Mallard |
| #19-2 | Moved by Kelly Kozij / Ken Somogyi, Melville |
| #19-3 | Moved by Travis Schaeffer / Mike Remenda, Nipawin |
| #BD19-1 | Moved by Kelly Kozij / Clark Schultz |
| #BD19-2 | Moved by Kelly Kozij / Clark Schultz |
| Article V11 -3(c) | Moved by Travis Schaeffer / Clark Schultz |
| Article V11-3(c) iii) | Moved by Travis Schaeffer / Clark Schultz |
| Article X1V 8. | Moved by Travis Schaeffer / Clark Schultz |

Adjourn for the day

Friday, February 21, 2020

8:25 a.m. - Call to order: Chairpersons: Larry Pfliger & Reed Ludwig

MOE Enforcement, Compliance & Field Services Branch

- Rick Post, Executive Director - Thanked the SWF for all their support. Value the trust relationship we have built up with the SWF over several year. TIP program – if you see something strange, contact us.

- Sergeant Rob Stolz: Provincial Response Team (PRT) - Conservation Officers, RCMP/Local Police: Roadside screening/Auto License readers. New ALCO sensor. Involved in several break & enter cases and a spousal abuse case. Since April 1, 2018 participated in 1387 calls, 911 calls for rural area: 166.

Thursday, February 20, 2020 - page 2

SWF Executive Director's Report – Darrell Crabbe

- Challenges and opportunities we have in front of us in 2020 and 2021.
- Corporate Structure.
- Staffing: restructuring staffing. Using existing staff and contracting staff. Hatchery group - negotiated three-year agreement.
- Great North Wildlife Affiliates, Hannin Creek Education Research Centre, Sask Wildlife Assets Management (Hatchery).
- Membership: right across North America club membership (volunteers) are declining. We have plans to buck this trend. Priority to work on an online membership option – difficulty is to customize it for individual branches.
- Advancing Women in Conservation - demographics in our membership – younger than we thought - 35% are females. Have to look at a different system to urge women to get more involved in taking more leadership roles.
- Branch Rejuvenation Program: seminars and Q&A. Explain the benefits, SWF programs, get involved in the local branch.
- Future Challenges: Number one – funding. Over 90% of money raised is on the backs of hunters/anglers/trappers – from their licenses and work. Expand the financial participation of the non-consumptive users. USA does an excellent job of this.
- Develop programs that will develop a positive relationship with landowners. Connect landowners and hunters.

SWF Financial Report – Darrell Crabbe

- The audited Financial Statement was presented and explained to the delegates.
Motion to move for the acceptance of the Financial Statement as presented - David Yorke, Nipawin Fish & Game League/Ken Somogyi, Melville Fish & Game League. Carried

SWF Communications - Chelsea Walters, Director of Communications & Marketing

- Digital - Traditional - Internal
- Webpage: Home Page -Contact Us - Members Page
- Camo Day-Received over 300 photos. News release picked up on this.
- Youth newsletter – NASP program – 329 subscribers.
- Traditional – Outdoor Canada; meet your neighbours – let branches advertise what they are doing. CTV ads – keeping home alive. Access-fish stocking program, wrapped the trailer, hatchery sign and logo nailed down. Internal brochures, donation cards, tick cards, place mats. We have an archive of articles available for you to submit to your local newspapers.
- Advancing Women in Conservation – encourages women stepping into more decision-making roles. Proposed to CWF to hold a conference May 22-24 in Saskatoon. \$150 plus accommodations and travel. Dr. Michelle Oakley will be the Keynote Speaker.

Habitat Trust – Darren Newberry, Director of Habitat Lands

- Overview on land acquisitions, land donations, Hide Collection, golf tournament and land stewardship for 2019 - page 45.
- Land acquisitions for 2019: Cost Share – 3 parcels/1120 acres; 1 SWF purchase - 145.57 acres; Donated - 3 parcels/312.06 acres.
- Antler collection – no sales for 2018/19. 3500 pounds in storage. Estimated sale in April 2020.
- Land Management – Tree Canada-20,000 spruce seedlings planted in 2019; 43,000 to be planted in 2020 on parcels northeast of Canora.
- Lease Program – \$261,891.00. Management tool to make the land better, money put into the program to make it more successful.
- Upcoming for 2020: Hamm Property, Perdue – person from Tree Canada will assist with the tree planting.
- Purchases already in 2020 – 480 acres. Number of donations in progress.
- Habitat Trust Golf Tournament – June 16, 2020
- Will be doing routine inspections in 2020.

Coffee Break

SWF Education – Shannon Anderson, Director

- Youth Conservation Camp: Report on 2019 camp. 63 campers – 2 boys camps / 1 girls camp. Donation from Touchwood Hills branch for 15 new canoes. Murray Doell winners – Emily Kaplin, Tisdale; Owen Booth, Witchehan; Chet Saretzky, Bruno.
- W.O.W. very successful. Had 30 participants, started a waiting list last year.
- Youth Conservation Leadership Program: Stage 1 – Weekend wilderness. Stage 2 – job opportunities. Community Outreach.
- Bigfoot Snowshoes – Repaired 70 pairs and bought 50 more pair. In very high demand.
- Geocaching – We have 20 to 25 out there. Brings in people from all walks of life. Putting out more in 2020.
- Classrooms in a Box - Grades 4 to 6.
- Posters – 15 posters. Last poster was bottom feeders, next will be minnows and friends.
- CWF Canadian Conservation Corps – 15 participants volunteered @ SWF. Stage 1-Survival Training and Leadership. Stage 2-Home- work projects. Stage 3 – Help promote SWF programs. Brings people together across the country.
- Wonders of Wildlife manual reprint - back by popular demand.
- Sporting Clay Shoot – will hold another one in July.

Friday, February 21, 2020 - page 4 (MOE Enforcement, Compliance & Field Services Branch cont'd)

- Detective Sergeant Chris Clarke - UC Study – Special Investigations. Taken down 3 files -\$162,000 in fines in the last 3 months. Total fines in last three years-\$350,000. Undercover operation- Trafficking in Bear parts @ Sandy Bay- 3 year undercover. Covered Sandy Bay, Saskatoon, Toronto.
- Sergeant Ted Glass: Control Wildlife Models. The decoys designed to look like wildlife. Safety violation, predispositions (has to be a history), homework/leg work, location has to be safe for anyone in the area, operation is reviewed. Constantly assessing operation for safety, for the officers and the violator, this is very important Target specific. Safe, efficient & effective.

Open Question Period

- Control Wildlife Models: How is this not considered entrapment? We never put our large trophy animals in an area where an ethical hunter could shoot it.
- Do you have a data base for offenders so you discover if they are reoffending? Yes, we do so you can present their past history.
- Sandy Bay and Saskatoon- are they still operating restaurants. Yes, no repercussions to their businesses.
- Any info re: offenses of people shooting cattle. Unfortunately, we have not received any tips.
- PRT - What kind of fines-break and enter/domestic issues-everything turned over to RCMP and not aware of the prosecutions.
- Ituna area – Guided moose hunters-they say they have the rights to hunt there and are keeping others out. First Nations are involved in commercial outfitting on their land. Allocations/ export permits. Most are doing a good job.
- What are the legalities dealing with animals considered not native to our area? Landowners have the right to protect their livestock.
- PRT-Does it have an impact on rural crime? Yes, it does show that it has. Alberta is considering moving ahead with this.
- Fines, were they out of pocket re: gall bladder? Yes, fines were \$6700.
- What did you do with the money you received from the sale of gallbladders? Turned back in to fund our projects.
- Renting land from the landowners in the fall and putting up No Hunting signs. Keep the conservation officers in area informed. Tough to prosecute.
- Low caliber rifle in two years. Any statistics. Really don't have anything to track that, if you have concerns please talk to your MLA
- Trespassing Act: Not proclaimed.
- When guns taken away, why are they given back? Trucks, guns, hunting equipment should be forfeited and sold. Depends on what the infraction is and due to the mentality in Canada, firearms have to be destroyed.
- Trespassing – Nothing to do with wildlife, goes to the RCMP. Why isn't the PRT involved? So circumstantial. Usually 911-crimes in progress.
- RCMP are they trained to dispatch a wounded or sick animal? Their primary response is public safety.
- Manitoba First Nations - Preeceville, Sturgis, Canora – landowners pretty distraught re traffic through their standing crops. Moose shoot in their yards at night. The whole east side problem areas. We do have some plans next fall.
- Three moose shot on neighbour's property - land was posted, license plates taken, and charges laid but nothing happened. Prosecution - up to judges.
- Can they transport the meat back to Manitoba (CWD)? As far as the transport of meat, it is up to Manitoba. We did bring in officers from the north and south in the south-eastern part of province.
- PRT- see it as a tool to use our Conservation officers. First Nations Manitoba shot 9 moose, only took 8 moose. Cannot understand how they get away with this. Not sustenance hunting, getting paid for guiding.
- Management of FWDF Lands – New signs. Vehicles parked on Wildlife Lands – it was reported and nothing was done – need to get on the same page. How the laws are enforced is certainly circumstantial.

Coffee Break

Hannin Creek Education & Applied Research Centre – Shannon Anderson/Dwayne Davison

- Joint ownership Sask Poly/SWF since 2015 – camp at Candle Lake.
- SWF runs the camp and rents it out.
- Camp is staffed by employees and staff and in 2019 we had 619 guests and 118 days of occupancies.
- \$40,000 Cabela's Outdoor Fund Grant.
- We need volunteers to make this happen. A lot of credit goes to Jim Kroshus and Phil Haughian.
- We have work bees to help with the upgrades and repairs. Volunteers are welcome.
- Camp is open to the public for rental.

Friday, February 21, 2020 - page 5

University of Regina Sport Fish Tagging Program – Dr. Chris Somers

Objective Sport fish we value and to keep the population viable. Establish a population of marked fish. Long-term recapture database. Important activity - science of fisheries management is very important.

- Fisheries is a very important to us as a province, financially and culturally.
- Context of management – Catch and Release.
- Active tagging – to put a tag on fish is resource intensive – fish transports information. Device in water listens and uploads information, reports data. Doing this for the last 3 years on Buffalo Pound Lake – pike, walleye and burbot.
- Passive tagging – put tags on and angler reports. T-Bar tags - walleye, pike and yellow perch. Started in 2017. 8500 fish tagged.
- Watch out for those tagged fish.
- Competitive fishing events: Riverhurst – 9 tagged fish from Diefenbaker caught and reported 2 times and 1 fish caught and reported 3 times. Others that were tagged at Riverhurst were caught 100K from where they were originally tagged

Prussian Carp – Shayna Hamilton

- Common Carp has whiskers and Prussian Carp has no whiskers.
- Established in the province in 2018. Two main objectives – where are they in SK, what food do they use and what native population will they be competing with? They reproduce very quickly. Compete with food spaces.
- Most invasive fish species in Europe and competes with native species.
- While looking for Prussian Carp were able to study some of the different fish in the province.
- First introduced in Alberta and first detected in Swift Current Creek
- Most important data we have is from citizen science – 80% of our distribution locations in our database are from citizen science.

How Old are Cisco? - Linnea McLellan

- Healthy walleye population is linked to a healthy cisco population.
- Analyze scales – count bands to determine age of fish. Use growth pattern, light band is from summer and darker band is from winter. Cisco are growing old in our water systems. Wide range that are susceptible to winter fishing.

Genetics of Hatchery Brood Stock – Ryder Rutko

- Three main species looked at for the study: brook, brown and rainbow trout.
- Is there genetic diversity. Yes, in brook trout and rainbow trout still diversity however only one strain in the brown trout.
- Origin – used DNA Barcoding. Looked into where the original brood stock was from. Rainbow/brook have not become genetically homogenized due to captive breeding.

Canadian Wildlife Federation – David Pezderic

- David brought greetings from CWF.
- Two members from Saskatchewan sit on the CWF Board.
- Truly a Canadian conservation charity inspiring action to protect Canada and wildlife.
- Overview of all CWF programs.
- How can we change government funding for conservation programs?

Open Question Period

- Prussian Carp at Swift Current Dam. Keeping track of them
- Hannin Creek project - encourage political parties of all stripes to show off what we do that is very positive. Opening it up to get more bookings.

Lunch

1:00 p.m. - Call to order: Chairpersons Warren Howse & Trent Empey

FISHERIES REPORT

James Villeneuve, SWF Director of Fisheries

- Showcased some of the projects worked on this previous year.
- 37 new projects in various stages of development.
- Urban Fishing; Angler Access Projects (aeration); Fish passage restoration (Loch Levan spawning bed)
- Assessments – participated in 13 Ministry-led assessments. Determine viability, health and potential of a fishery.

Friday, February 21, 2020 - page 6 (Fisheries Report cont'd)

- Maintenance: change in programming. Develop rotational inspections for existing projects, modified for regional coverage.
- Aquatic Invasive Species - participating in education.
- Improved reporting and tracking.
- Mapping and GIS
- Partnerships – develop new relationships.
- Fish in Schools (FinS): 38 schools participating. Online registration makes applying easier.
- Angling Registry & Awards
- Go Fish Sask – youth can borrow fishing tackle.
- Communications: get a database of problem areas.

Provincial Fish Culture Station - Nelson Bergh, Manager

- Trout Spawning 101-Video

Introduction and Review of Regulation Changes – Matt Tyree, Manager, Fisheries Unit, MoE

- James is doing so much for the efficiency, that this allows that money to go other areas.
- Nelson Bergh and the hatchery delivers year after year.
- Fisheries Act, regulations and red tape-review so it is better aligned with the Wildlife Act. Modernize the language and Public Lands Act.
- Consistency with related regulations: internal review; public; Fisheries Advisory committee; Indigenous; Stakeholder groups. Try to review unnecessary red tape as it may impact economics. Excessive administration.
- Encouraged all members to take the survey once it is released.
- 2021 expect regulations to come into effect.

Creel Survey – Rebecca Eberts, Fisheries Biologist, MoE

- Stocked Trout Angler Survey – Creel Survey
- Preliminary results, what is next.
- 258 submitted as of Jan 10, 2020
- 56 different stock waters – reports from 41%.
- Success of harvest – 63%. Average 2.1 trout and 1 hour to catch trout.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) – Jeri Geiger, Invasive Species Coordinator, MoE

- Non-native organism with potential to out compete native species when introduced. Harm ecosystems – damage to shoreline, infrastructure.
- 19 species are listed. Number of plants listed also.
- All efforts put into prevention - education, partnerships. Provincial/partnerships/research/trans-boundary.
- Four Pillars: Prevention; Early Detection & Surveillance; Rapid Response Plan; Management & Control.
- Watercraft Inspection program; 7 decontamination units.
- Early detection rapid response plan

Lanigan Creek - Brad Uhrich, Ducks Unlimited

- Lanigan Dam/Last Mountain Lake structure went up in 1969 – 50 years old and end of life
- Difficult for fish to get upstream
- Arm River Dam - Smith project and Ridell project

Open Question Period

- Greg Illerbrun - Tours at the fish hatchery? Begin in May
- Rob Cholin - FinS applications. FINs@sk.swf.ca. Start-up cost \$1600. Branches provide the tanks.
- Ryan Englot - Process for new fish introduced, for example Cisco into Rafferty? Committee study habitat suitability, deal with trans water bodies, genetics, how many and what efforts would that take. Contact your area biologist.
- Ken Somogyi - 2020 Angler Guide hardcopy? Yes, but scaled it back.

Coffee Break

TroutReach Saskatchewan – Paige Collopy

- Research: What happens when oil enters into a fresh waterbody-changes in ecosystem – commonly use invertebrates to study the health of a waterbody.
- Sampled invertebrates in over 300 sites.

Friday, February 21, 2020 - page 7 (Troutreach cont'd)

- No research on oil spills. Study oil spill in Moose Jaw 1980. Sampled sediment in river and invertebrates. Not upstream but multiple sites within the city. Some species seemed to be sensitive and others not effected at all.
- Managing industry and the environment.

Branch Project Presentations

- Regina Wildlife Federation - Pheasant Program.
- Kindersley Wildlife Federation - Pollinator Project

Adjourn for the day

Fundraising Evening: Total - \$35,845.00: Live - \$12,195; Silent - \$7,070; Pick of the Litter - \$1600; Elimination Draw - \$1,425; Raffle Tables - \$8590; Ping Pong - \$2,260; Region 3 Liquor Raffle - \$2,180; 50/50 - \$525.

Saturday, February 22, 2020

8:40 a.m. Call to Order – Chairpersons Jim Vancha & Ken Somogyi

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT WILDLIFE BRANCH

– **Brian Kerchuch, Executive Director Wildlife & Lands** introduced the presenters:

Update on Game Management Plan Objectives - Joann Skilnick

- You contributed to the development of this plan. In the future people can pick up this plan and know what our plans were for the wildlife populations in this province.
- 10-year plan – can go back to see if we are achieving our goals.
- Based on Fish Management Plan & ten species.
- Three main outcomes in the plan-Sustainable management; Transparent – Game Allocation Framework & establish a two-year cycle; Shared responsibility in public engagement in wildlife management.
- Engaged with First Nations
- HABISASK App. FWDF lands are listed here.
- Clear framework for our plan. Review and update language.

Chronic Wasting Disease Update – Todd Whiklo

- 2018/19 - 2000 samples – 349 positives: 24 whitetail; 270 mule deer. 91 management zones.
- GIS - CWD application/public interface.
- New diagnostic contract-PDS Prairie Diagnostic Services.
- 2019/20: 3561 samples – 1 moose, 5 elk, 78 WT, 379 MD tested positive.
- Management Challenges/ Carcass Disposal/ One Health Approach and become more efficient with the resources we have. Increase budget and public education. Moratoriums on new Game Farms.
- History of this disease shows that deer populations decline, resulting in a decrease in hunting opportunities.

Harvesting Big Game Lymph Nodes - video being created with SWF & CWD technicians

- Hunter tissue samples - most done well, easier to transport. Some issues – incorrect tissues, packages without proper info, packaging was a big one for sure. Please put in hard plastic containers. Samples so much better when taken immediately.
- Tissue sampling workshop. Cost and time saving when taken by hunter.
- Video shown.

Hunter Education Verification Audit - Travis Williams

- Audits - 4 types – Positive; Exceeds more than legislation requires; Type 1-Does not pose a threat to health & safety; Type 2-Corrective action plan to come into compliance; Type 3-Action to take place immediately.
- Determine if people are purchasing licenses without the required certification. Info taken from HAL/SAFE
- Letters will be sent out to those that are non-compliant. 213 hunters were randomly chosen. No final numbers at this time.
- Continue to manage on a provincial basis.

Hunting and Angling Licensing System - Matthew Weiss

- Reported on 2019 Big Game Draw. Small increase in number of applicants.
- Legacy Pool went down slightly last year and slightly up this year.
- Unpurchased licenses -3500 draw licenses not purchased. Trying to figure out why.
- Majority drawn for one species, not that many drawn for three species.
- Veteran hunting and angling licenses issued. 848 registered to date.

Saturday, February 22, 2020 (cont'd) - page 8

Mandatory Reporting – Katherine Conkin / Matthew Weiss

- Hunter Harvest Survey and the importance of sample size - more data supports better decisions.
- 28 different license tag surveys. Surveys available - 116,148; surveys completed – 24,568
- Completed 2017 – 28%; 2018 – 25%; 2019 – 21%. Non-resident WT - 59%
- Try to make it easier. Education and information.
- Looking at mandatory Hunter Harvest Surveys. Look at it as a responsibility.

Open Question Period

- Greg Illerbrun - CWD Link it to license application. What do you do with the head? Specific set of dumpsters taken to the PA landfill.
- Shauna Stanley Seymore - Video is wonderful - produce something that is a downloaded link. Yes, will be done.
- Ron Heisler – When people are drawn for multiple tags and they turn them back in do they get redistributed? No we do not have a way to do that.
- Tracey Wilson – Making hunter survey mandatory - what would be the punitive measures/reward them who fill in the survey. Yes, we are looking at that, decisions still being made.
- David Pezderic - Why are the heads not incinerated in Saskatoon? Facility in Saskatoon not an incinerator, it is a digester with limited capacity. CWD survey to stakeholder groups, when is this happening? Ministry of Health, Agriculture and Environment and senior levels of government. Depending on the direction of the survey that comes back, actions are well established. Grind to get through this, unfortunately just delays. Hopefully have something in the next 12 to 24 months.
- Ryan Lauf, Sask Bowhunters - Cross contamination? Hunters wear protective gear - goggles, gloves and sterilize tools with bleach; skin and debone in the field. Butcher shops – out of the scope of the department, under the Ministry of Health.
- John Gabruch, Maple Creek- Mule Deer population is exploding. Why do we not have over the counter tags for a few seasons. Increased licenses to 1500 licenses. We didn't allocate 1000 licenses. Looking at different measures, we are meeting in next two weeks.
- Richard George, Redvers - no cases of CWD in our area. People hunting in other zones and their animals tested positive and they are now using the infected animals for bait. They should be disposed of.
- Doug Gibson, Cut Knife branch - Audit re HAL/Hunter Safety. Goal to clean up for draw season. Will this be done prior to the draw? If done after the draw, tags will not be used. Awareness will be helpful.
- Matt Schidlowsky, Humboldt - Close offices and then ask SWF branches to help. Could we get help with freezers, generators, etc. Will sit down with branches.
- Todd Smith – Lack of funding to FWDF. Free licenses for veterans – over \$24,000 did not go into the FWDF. Gov't not planning on putting in the funds.
- Heath Dreger - What do we do with our deer hides. Catch 22, illegal to dump these hides. Find an appropriate land fill, bag it and dispose of it.
- Joyce Lorenz - There should be somewhere that the license seller can look to see if the person does have their HAL/Hunter Safety Certificate. Once audit comes through will see how deep this issue really is.
- Jack Twietmeyer, Souris Moose Creek – Audit is for 2018-2020. Took mine in 1962. How far do you go back? If you were born before 1971 you do not need a Hunter Safety card.

Coffee Break

Workshop – Habitat Trust Lands Access/Signage

- Talk about signage going forward – Only Habitat Trust Lands.
- Signs out there right now – 1247. These lands are considered PRIVATE LANDS/under the trespass lands act.
- Do restrict access on these lands now.
- Access on Foot Only-except to retrieve game and management work.
- Seeking your input on how you want your lands accessed.
- All other lands will be closed so the Trespass law will put increased pressures on accessible wildlife lands.
- SWF members already have written permission on membership cards so will be non-member access.
- Increased pressure to identify your lands.
- Hunting on Foot Only will allow year-round hunting access to first nations.
- Assume the act will come into proclamation by 2020 Hunting Season.
- Each table discuss: Pros & Cons -Status Quo; what will be different, all other land will be closed, otherwise posted or with permission only.
- Pros & cons of members-only – accused of having hunting preserves.
- Pros & cons of a program allowing non-members access. Extremely short time-line.
- Suggest additional options. Straw poll on preferred option. Will take these to Spring Regional Meetings.

Saturday, February 22, 2020 (cont'd) - page 9

Lunch

1:00 Call to Order: Chairpersons – Travis Schaeffer & Kelly Kozij

Donations to SWF Programs – Darren Newberry

HT - \$95,825; Education - \$17,700; Hannin Creek - \$11,835; Outdoor Camp - \$3,800; NASP - \$4,335; SWF - \$4,200; Poster - \$1,500
Total Donations: \$139,195.

Presentation for the site of the 2022 Convention

- Yorkton and Estevan branches made presentations.

Henry Kelsey Report - Warren Howse, Provincial Chair

- Brett Seidle and Kelly Kozij are going through all the old Henry Kelsey entries.
- 2019 there were 217 entries and 4 new provincial records.
- Provincial Chair and six Regional Chairs. Kelly Kozij is record keeper. 65 official measurers.
- Banquet in Melville on April 25, 2020
- Next book – hope to have it out by Christmas.
- Request for branch workshops starting in early 2021.
- Jack Clary is retiring as an official measurer.
- Thanks to all the measurers for all the time and work they put into this program

Firearms Legislation – Gil White

- Report on page 52 of Convention Book.
- Thanks to Greg Illerbrun for all his past work on this committee.
- Who makes up the Recreational Firearms Committee? IPSC/CPCA/NFA/CCFR/SAFE/Sask Trappers/T&T Guns/SWF/SARM.
At some point would like to involve the Outfitters.
- SWF stays involve on anything that would impact their members.
- Politics-F/A platform of Liberals & NDP leaves only Conservatives supporting Firearm Owners.
- 200 rifles on confiscation list. C-71 still waiting for proclamation.
- Recreational shooters are very important to some of our clubs.
- E petition – 170,000 submissions. Over 10,000 signatures from Saskatchewan residents, where were the rest of the gun owners in Saskatchewan. Need to get our friends and relatives involved. We need to really get involved. We need to be loud, the antis are.
- Facebook Page - Recreational Firearms Community Sask.

Canadian Coalition for Firearms Rights (CCFR) – Tracey Wilson, VP, Public Relations

- Only single gun lobbyist in Canada.
- Video to introduce you to the CCFR
- Educate non gun owners project; Show who we are – good people, lobby government friendly and unfriendly. Stand up for legal gun owners at all times, do not allow misinformation on gun owners.
- To accomplish all of this you have to work hard every day. How can you help. www.firearmsrights.ca – Why Join. Membership - \$40.00
- Divide between hunters/shooters. Must defend our community (legal gun owners) as a whole. Unity above all else. Zero poaching your clubs.
- SWF members can purchase a discounted CCFR membership for \$30.00 – non-insured because you want to support us to help keep your guns.

Thanks to Greg Illerbrun for all his past hard work on this issue.

Greg Illerbrun strongly encouraged everyone to join the CCFR- Golden opportunity for us to sign up and have representation in Ottawa.

Open Question Period

- Can you give a brief over view of what to expect from the Liberal gov't in the next few months- House of Commons – usually debated, voted on three times. Committee is assigned, giving MP's, groups, etc. time to debate it, and once it is done there, it goes to the Senate.
- OIC circumvents this. Gun ban takes the heat off the Prime Minister. C-71 has not been implemented yet – very complicated. Gives them the power to confiscate firearms. Complicated process. Expect to see something come down on AR-15.

2020 SWF Convention Minutes

Saturday, February 22, 2020 - page 10 (Question Period – cont'd)

- C-17 is very dangerous. Can change the classification of firearms. OIC is the scariest thing they have done.
- What happens if you refuse to give your semi-automatic to them? I guess that is when they find out what the west is really like. Gov't doesn't see that people will be non-compliant. Don't think most will experience that – enforcement will be impossible.
- Understand the municipalities will design their own ban on handguns. That is what the gov't expects, who is going to enforce – bylaw officers? Incredibly unenforceable.
- NFA used to be a partner with the RFC. Presence in Sask almost faded away.
- You need to make us more aware of your organization. Need to make your name a household name. We are only four years old. Massive education program coming out March 18th – spending \$400,000.

Coffee Break

Visitors' Remarks

- Visitors from SARM, Ducks Unlimited, Nature Sask left early. Suggestion that we move the visitors' remarks to earlier on the agenda
- Sask Trappers Association – Thanks to the SWF for working together. The STA convention – March 13 & 14 in Humboldt
- Sask Outfitters – Thanks for the invitation and look forward to working with the SWF.
- SSWA, Moose Jaw – Kelly Martin – extremely informative. Look forward to doing more in the future.
- Weyburn Wildlife Federation – Tim Kerslake - Thanks to everyone that came out. Thanks to all the volunteers.

New & Unfinished Business

- Harry Laurent, Moose Mountain - strongly advised to not register your guns.
- Michael Miller – if teaching Hunter Safety Classes had to register your guns. Major victory with the cancellation of the long gun registry in a large part to the people in this room.
- Lorne Scott – like to move a vote of appreciation for the board and staff for all their hard work in keeping this organization going forward. Only thing to note is the need for more communication with the branches.
- David Pezderic – Invite all to the 2021 convention in Saskatoon.
- Darren Newberry – On behalf of the staff we want to thank the Weyburn group for all their help in the set-up and throughout convention.
- **2022 Convention – Estevan Wildlife Federation**

President's Closing Remarks – Clark Schultz

- Thanks for letting me serve you.
- Great job by the Weyburn club and everyone involved. Thanks to all that attended. Thanks to all the great presenters and to all the guests from the other organizations.
- Thank you and a big round of applause for the great, dedicated staff of the SWF.
- Board of Directors – a privilege to work with this extremely hard-working bunch of people. Thanks.
- Thanks for your support on Board resolutions. See where we can go with the F&WDF. Moving it out to an NGO, ask for 100%.
- Workshops give us the direction and you have a say on the direction. Try to find a way in this extremely difficult situation we have been put into.
- CCFR – looking forward to what is coming next.
- Will be revisiting our energy policy – look at nuclear energy.
- River City club in Saskatoon will be hosting 2021 convention. Hope to see you all there.
- Congratulations to the Estevan branch, hosts of the 2022 convention.

Adjournment

Clark Schultz moved for the adjournment of the 91st annual SWF convention.

Resolutions Results

19-1	Lost - 33%	Article V11c)	Carried – 99%
19-2	Lost – 32%	Article V11 c) iii)	Carried – 97%
19-3	Lost – 53%	Article X1V 8.	Carried – 97%
B/D 19-1	Carried – 99%		
B/D 19-2	Carried – 96%		

2020 SWF Convention Minutes

Annual Photo Contest Winning Photos:

Wildlife: #1-Dianne Bloski, Moose Jaw Branch; #2 – Ryan Tynning, Swift Current Branch; #3 – Caroline Blanke - Kyle Branch

Scenery: #1- Dennis Borowski, Save-A-Goose Branch, #2 – Jody Rhodes-Boggy Creek Branch; #3 Linda Chambers, Lloydminster & District Branch

Clayton Young Memorial Awards:

Region 1 – Lorne Wozniak, Mallard Wildlife Federation

Region 2 – Lyla Millar, Witcheakan Wildlife Federation

Region 3 – Norman Johnson, Preeceville Wildlife Federation

Region 4 - Lyle Cattell, Regina Wildlife Federation

Region 5 – Darren Thomson, Outlook & District Wildlife Federation

Region 6 – Trent Empey, Maple Creek Wildlife Federation

Tailender Award: Chelsea Walters

Past Board of Directors: James Wright – Region 1; Darren Thomson – Region 5

Lorne Topley Memorial Stewardship Award: Jim Brown

Ed Begin Conservation Project Award: Regina Wildlife Federation (Pheasant Release Program)

Resource Management Award – Jennifer McKillop

Gordon Lund Memorial Award – Heath Dreger