

# THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING  
A DIVISION OF WILDLIFE WATCH, INC.

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Spring 2012

C.A.S.H.  
Presents at  
**Animal  
Rights  
2012**  
National  
Conference  
August 2-5  
Washington, DC

## MISSION STATEMENT:

The mission of C.A.S.H. - Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting - is to accomplish what its name says in the shortest possible time. Understanding that abolishing hunting entails a process, a series of steps taken and not a single action that would effect our goal overnight, a time frame cannot be established. We hope for building a succession of wins, and if not wins immediately then at least a succession of stirrings of consciousness. We hope to encourage those who are still silent to speak out, awakening community after community about the heavy hand of state and federal wildlife management agencies. We hope to alter whatever belief still exists that sport hunters are conservationists and champions of the environment to a realization that they are destroyers of wildlife and ecosystems in the narrow and broad sense. Where the natural feeling for wildlife doesn't exist, we strive to engender among citizens outrage that their own rights are violated by legal hunting and their quality-of-life diminished.

**Luke A. Dommer** was the founder of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. He was its president from 1976 until his passing in August 1992. Mr. Dommer's research and publications served as the foundation for the anti-hunting movement. He remains, through this organization, an invaluable and dedicated warrior in the battle to save wild animals, the environment, and general public from the silent economy that encourages and preys on the passion of a few to kill the wildlife that belongs to all.

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Contributions are tax-deductible.

### C.A.S.H. COURIER

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## Destroying the Wilderness Act of 1964

BY PETER MULLER

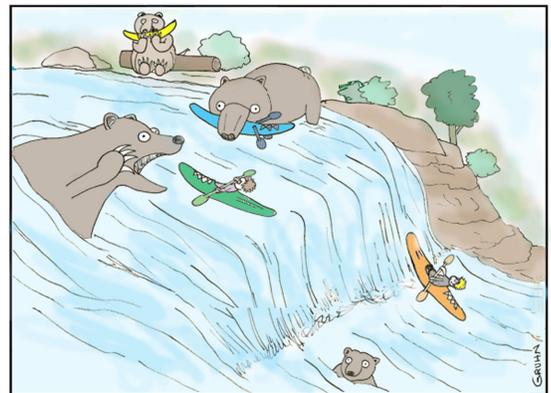
*"A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."*

Howard Zahniser, author of the Wilderness Act of 1964

The Wilderness Act of 1964, passed by Congress and signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson almost fifty years ago, created the "National Wilderness Preservation System" which consisted, initially, of over nine million acres of national forest areas which were administered by various federal agencies. This has by now grown to over 110 million acres. The criteria for the initial areas, as well as the areas added later include:

1. Minimal human imprint
2. Opportunities for unconfined recreation
3. At least five thousand acres in size
4. Educational, scientific, or historical value
5. No enterprises within them
6. Allows no motorized/mechanized devices (e.g.: vehicles, motorbikes, or bicycles)

The Wilderness Act restrains human influences within wilderness areas so that ecosystems can change over time in their own way, free, as much as possible, from human manipulation. Wilderness areas serve



And each year the kayaks make their way upstream.

multiple uses. But the law limits uses to those consistent with the Wilderness Act mandate that each wilderness area be administered to preserve the "wilderness character of the area."

Hunting is and always was permitted in Wilderness areas for hunters who were willing to hike, ride a horse, canoe or kayak into the wilderness areas. That left out the 90% or more of licensed hunters who didn't know how to hike, ride a horse, or paddle a canoe or a kayak.

But more importantly, it locked the licensed hunters' best friends and handmaidens – the game agencies – out of the wilderness areas. These agencies

Please see WILDERNESS ACT, Page 3

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear C.A.S.H. Supporters,



Game managers say that just “a few bad apples” among hunters break the law, but an article from the Sept. 12, 2010 edition of the Sacramento Bee (California) tells a different story. In the article, Jerry Karnow, president of state Fish and Game Wardens Association said “We actually have suspects who have said, ‘Well, we never get checked by a game warden anyway, so we’re not going to buy the hunting license.’” The article went on to say that wardens estimate they catch about 5 percent of violators. Take the insane amount of hunting violations that are prosecuted and multiply that number by *twenty* to more accurately predict how many hunters are breaking the law. The number is as significant as it is disgraceful because it turns the tables on the lies that hunters tell when defending their violent hobby.

If you observe a hunter breaking the law, report it immediately to both your local police and your state fish and game agency. Record names of officers, places, times, and events, and follow up. If you are threatened by game officers who are protecting the hunters, you will have documentation to use in your defense.

Since opening an office in Las Cruces, C.A.S.H. has been involved in diverse efforts such as helping landowners defend themselves against hunters who illegally trespass upon their property; intervening when local municipalities establish recreational hunting opportunities that endanger

the public and damage the ecosystem; raising awareness of how state and federal hunting agencies create overpopulation problems and damage sensitive natural areas to appease the hunting and weapons lobbies; reaching out to elected officials to promote and support laws that protect wildlife; educating the public through the distribution of literature, public tabling opportunities, letters to the editor, media interviews, presentations to schools and civic groups, and more.

Since our last newsletter, C.A.S.H. has answered many inquiries from students who need to argue their opposition to hunting in school papers or debates. C.A.S.H. arms them with well-researched and documented facts. My article in this issue of the C.A.S.H. Courier entitled, “Don’t Allow Your Town to Participate in a Bait and Shoot Program” was adapted from my response to a student who was seeking help.

C.A.S.H. has done several **radio programs** recently, and the one with **Dr. Lori Kirshner** from **Animals Today Radio** can be heard at <http://animalstodayradio.com/audio/042212.mp3>. C.A.S.H. has also tabled at the Earth Day celebration in Las Cruces, NM and will be tabling for the third year at the Southern New Mexico Pride celebration. We are always eager to spread the word about wildlife mismanagement for sport hunting.

Further, C.A.S.H. weighs in on legislation that affects wildlife when we become aware of it, and sends hard copy letters or e-mail to legislators and other decision-makers in support or opposition to bills. On our website,

we **highlight important bills and provide you with sample letters** for your legislators. Of great importance to wildlife federally that your senators in Washington need to hear from you about is H.R.4089 – the “Sportsman’s Heritage Act”. Please read **Peter Muller’s article** in this issue to learn how this bill will harm wildlife. The **C.A.S.H. Courier often provides investigative reports**, please see **E.M. Fay’s article** about live-testing for Chronic Wasting Disease.

Tell a friend about C.A.S.H. today. C.A.S.H. supporters are the kind of people who surround themselves with like-minded individuals who share similar interests and ideas, so please spread the word about the work we do to those who would be interested. Bringing our message to a wider audience will help us protect wildlife even more. If you would like to be on our e-list to receive our letters and reports, or if you would like to receive publications for distribution, or if you need answers to your hunting/trapping related questions, please e-mail me at: [joe@abolishsporthunting.com](mailto:joe@abolishsporthunting.com).

Please don’t forget about the needs of animals and wildlife in our midst this summer. Providing water is the best thing you can do. Be sure to ask restaurants and other stores to put out bowls of water for animal passers-by. Please remember C.A.S.H.’s needs as well, it’s your contributions that sustain our work. Thank you for helping!

For the Wildlife,



Joe Miele

## JOE’S SAMPLE LETTER:

RE: S6801-A – EXPANSION OF RIFLE HUNTING IN NYS

05/19/2012

Dear Assembly Member :

As a resident of New York State (out of state residents should begin the letter with something like “As an American who regularly visits New York to enjoy the outstanding outdoor recreational activities the state offers...”) I oppose S6801-A and urge you to do the same. This bill would expand the use of rifles

for hunting and should be opposed for reasons of public safety and wildlife protection.

Rifle hunting is a dangerous sport that impacts the non-hunting public. Serious rifle hunting accidents occur every year and the victims are both members of the hunting community and members of the public who find themselves in the line of fire due to an errant shot or being mistaken for wildlife. Children have been shot and killed by hunters firing their weapons from distances of over one-

mile away. Because such incidents take place during every hunting season, any expansion of rifle hunting is unsafe and unnecessary. Despite their feelings to the contrary, hunters already enjoy liberal hunting regulations, long seasons, and generous bag limits. The defeat of this bill would not change this.

Thanks you for considering my strong feelings on this issue. Your response will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,  
(your name)

# Wilderness Act

Continued from page 1

manipulate areas through clear-cutting, controlled burns (now frequently renamed “prescribed burns” because they can’t be controlled), bulldozing, etc. to yield browse for deer and food for other “game” species at the expense of all other species and the natural progression of the ecosystems. All this is done to assure the “maximum sustainable yield” of targets for hunters. These, perversely called “conservation measures,” are not permitted in Wilderness areas by the Wilderness Act.

Today there is a bill pending in Congress that would undo all of that — **H.R.4089**, the so-called “**Sportsmen’s Heritage ACT.**” As I write, this bill has passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 274 for vs. 146 against. By the time you read this article, the bill may already have passed or failed to pass in the Senate.

This bill, if passed, would threaten to undo all that the Wilderness Act has achieved over the last 48 years. The bill states:

**SEC. 104. RECREATIONAL FISHING, HUNTING, AND SHOOTING. (a)**

**IN GENERAL.—**

**Federal public land management officials shall exercise their authority under existing law, including provisions regarding land use planning, to facilitate use of and access to Federal public lands, including Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, or lands administratively classified as wilderness eligible or suitable and primitive or semi-primitive areas, for fishing, sport hunting, and recreational shooting “The provision of opportunities for hunting, fishing and recreational shooting, and the**

**conservation of fish and wildlife to provide sustainable use recreational opportunities on designated wilderness areas on Federal public lands shall constitute measures necessary to meet the minimum requirements for the administration.”**

In other words, the administration of the wilderness must assure that opportunities for hunting, fishing and recreational shooting are met; and that fish and wildlife conservation measures (clear-cutting, controlled burns, bulldozing, etc.) are to be instituted by the administration of the wilderness areas so that hunting and fishing can be maintained in wilderness areas.

This repeals the intent of the Wilderness Act whose intent was to “let nature do its own thing” without interference and, especially, without the “assistance” of conservation agencies.

If hunting and fishing opportunities require a few roads and parking areas “**to facilitate use of and access**” we’ll have to construct them. If we need a little more “conservation measures” to grow more deer we need some wider roads to bring in our construction equipment and the fire trucks, etc. If we are to manage the areas to assure hunting and fishing opportunities the “managers” need to bring in their equipment, vehicles, radio transmitter towers to properly manage and monitor the abundance of “recreational opportunities.”

If this bill passes, the primary directive for the administration of wilderness areas will be to accommodate the demands of hunters, anglers, and recreational shooters. The invasion of wilderness areas by roads, vehicles, snack-ammo-worms-shops, hunting blinds, and Porta-potties is inevitable.

The hunters and their apologists deny that any of this is going to happen. They point out that, for example, road construction and the use of motorized or mechanical vehicles is prohibited by the Wilderness ACT in sections 4(c). Since this paragraph is not referred to in H. R. 4089 – it is not repealed by H.R. 4089.

However, even though H. R. 4089 does not explicitly repeal sections of the Wilderness Act, by changing the overall mandate for the administration of the Wilderness Act, it makes all provisions subordinate to the requirements of hunters, fishers, and recreational shooters – especially since it expressly requires the introduction of “conservation measures” to accommodate the need of hunters, fishers, and recreational shooters.

We can speculate as to the reason for the introduction of this sinister bill. On the face of it, it seems a simple enough attempt by and for the over 90% of hunters who are shut out of access to wilderness areas by their lack of hiking, horse-riding, or paddling skills, to gain easier access to wilderness areas. However, there are others who speculate that this is only the initial assault on the primary law to protect nature from the abuse and destruction by human activity. Lurking in the background there are the lobbyists from the mining, oil and gas-drilling companies who would like to see the 110 million acres opened up to extraction and exploitation.

Whatever will ultimately surface as the motive behind H.R. 4089, its passage would destroy the last remnant of sane environmental protection legislation.

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**Peter Muller** is the Vice President of **C.A.S.H.**

**JOE’S SAMPLE LETTER:**

H.R.4089 SPORTSMEN’S HERITAGE ACT OF 2012 or DESTROYING THE WILDERNESS ACT OF 1964

Dear Senator (fill in name):

As someone who is deeply concerned about our natural lands and wildlife, I strongly urge you to oppose H.R. 4089, known euphemistically as the “Sportsmen’s Heritage Act of 2012.”

This dangerous bill would have a devastating effect on wildlife and the environment by opening almost all public lands, including national parks, to recreational hunting. It would spread the use of toxic lead ammunition that hunters use,

and it would amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act to allow trophy hunters to import polar bear trophies from Canada into the U.S. for bears that were killed before 2008 when they were covered under the Endangered Species Act. In short, it is a bill promoted by a small special interest group in an attempt to dominate our public lands.

I join millions of American citizens in strongly opposing H.R.4089 and would appreciate if you did all within your ability to prevent its passage in the Senate.

Sincerely,  
(your name)

# Deer – Why No Live Testing for CWD?

BY E.M FAY



Photo by Dr. Elizabeth Williams, University of Wyoming

Chronic Wasting Disease is a very real problem in North America, both in Canada and the United States. A transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE), it is a progressive, fatal, degenerative disease affecting elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, and moose. CWD is manifested as brain damage, loss of body condition, behavioral changes, excessive salivation, and death.

Caused by abnormal proteins, called prions, which accumulate in the brain, the disease spreads from one animal to another and females can pass it to their young. A probable route is through contaminated water and food via animal saliva and feces. Contagion is more likely when the animals are in crowded situations and when they congregate at man-made feed and water stations.

Although CWD has been found in both wild and captive cervids, there has been no evidence of possible transmission to domestic animals or livestock. There is also none showing CWD affecting humans, but the World Health Organization advises against eating meat from affected animals.

<http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/Sdepartments/deptdocs.nsf/all/agdex3594>

As CWD has been documented in at least 19 states, Departments of Natural Resources have been testing many animals for the disease. It is illegal to import deer from one state to another, but of course deer do not know about crossing state boundaries; and also, some humans who keep captive deer or elk for personal or commercial purposes, such as “canned” hunts or for slaughter, do not follow the rules. The fear of CWD spreading to new states has led to some private properties being invaded by DNR personnel to carry out testing on captive animals.

Unfortunately, this testing is done only after killing them.

In one example, in September, armed wildlife agents from the North Carolina Wildlife Commission brought a warrant to a farm in Asheboro, Randolph County. They killed nine deer there, seven of which were exotic fallow deer; the other two were white-tailed deer who were being rehabilitated either from injury or being orphaned.

The farm owner, Mr. Wayne Kinley, had not been notified ahead of time, and there was no appeal process available to him. The deer had been living peacefully in a two-acre enclosure on the farm.

In August, wildlife agents similarly invaded another North Carolina property and shot and killed 2 orphaned fawns. The property owner, Freddy Snow of Dobson, was not even at home when they were killed. Officials said that neither Kinley nor Dobson had a license to keep captive deer.

Although the agents stated that these deer were killed to test for Chronic Wasting Disease, CWD has not yet been found to be present in North Carolina.

Kinley stated that the killing was done with 12-gauge shotguns, which is considered by some to be a less “humane” method than shooting with a rifle. And wildlife officials admitted afterwards that none of the deer tested positive for the disease.

Change.org circulated an online petition, asking citizens to demand that the governor of NC provide protection for tame or rehabilitated deer. (The petition was created by Millie Bowling of Liberty, NC.)

I spoke with Gordon Myers, Executive Director of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. He justified the kills for these reasons: You can’t tell if a deer has been imported from another state; if it has been, then there is a chance of CWD. The fallow deer were illegally imported, he said. He believed that the owner was using them to make chandeliers from their antlers. (We tried to ask the owner to confirm or deny this allegation, but could not reach him.)

Myers also noted that there has been a big increase in cases of CWD since 2002, and they test for safety’s sake, so out-of-

state deer do not communicate it to the local deer population.

When I asked what about the orphaned fawns, who *were* local, according to the rehabber, Myers said they cannot be sure of that.

Why kill the deer first, instead of testing for CWD on live deer? Myers replied that the only practical method is testing brain tissue or lymph nodes, which has to be done after death. We checked this statement with two other sources: a Wildlife Technician in Wisconsin, a state that has seen many cases of CWD in recent years; and a Senior Staff Veterinarian and CWD Program Manager for APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service).

The Wisconsin Wildlife Technician told us that there is a live tonsil biopsy test but it is not approved for use by the DNR in Wisconsin. He said it is used mainly for research purposes.

The CWD Program Manager told us that while tonsils may be collected from live animals, the sampling data collected by the national reference testing laboratory over approximately 10 years has shown that collection of tonsil samples is not very reliable. “Most often the proper sample (the tonsil) is not correctly collected because it is difficult to reach and visualize the tonsillar tissue located far back in the animal’s throat while the animal has been anesthetized for this procedure,” she said. “Therefore, many times the sample submitted as ‘tonsil’ is found in the laboratory testing process to be an adjacent section of soft tissue oral mucosa - and not suitable for CWD testing.”

According to the Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance, however, researchers from the USDA and Colorado State University have evaluated and validated another live testing method using rectal-tissue biopsies in captive and wild elk in Colorado. It appears to be nearly as accurate as post-mortem testing.

“The key advantage to the rectal biopsy test is that it can be performed on live animals. Until now, there was no practical live test for CWD in elk,” said Research

**Please see Deer – Why No Live Testing Story, Page 7**

# DON'T ALLOW YOUR TOWN TO PARTICIPATE IN A BAIT AND SHOOT PROGRAM

BY JOE MIELE



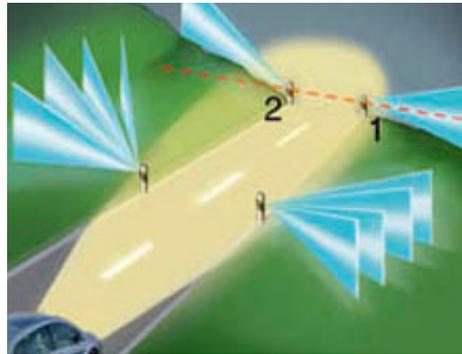
Studies have shown that hunting will increase deer reproduction and spread diseases, and wildlife managers themselves have credited hunting with increasing deer populations. Also, the Town of Amherst, New York has been talking about Bait and Shoot for over a decade, and the fact that they are still touting it is proof that it is not effective at reducing deer populations. After nearly 1,200 deer were killed by “sharpshooters” in a Bait and Shoot program in three years ending March, 2008, deer-vehicle collisions remained a problem. (The Amherst Bee - March 19, 2008)

Is Bait and Shoot a danger to the public? In an article in the Buffalo News of February 6, 2005, the author wrote: “Amherst Police suspended the town’s controversial Bait and Shoot deer management program after an errant shot by a police officer passed through a bedroom window of an East Amherst home and lodged in a wall.” If a police officer - someone who has had extensive training in the use of weapons and ammunition of various types - can put the lives of the public in danger while hunting, imagine what Joe Six-Pack can do while out on a drunken hunting trip.

The only thing accomplished by Bait and Shoot is that hunters are

given the opportunity to kill thousands of deer without having to show that their efforts are addressing any of the community’s concerns about deer. Humane methods can and will address those concerns if given the chance.

Deer/car collisions can be reduced by the installation of Strieter-Lite or Swareflex reflectors, and better road lighting.



*Swareflex optical warning fence*

Lowering speed limits and strictly enforcing the lower speed limits in areas heavily trafficked by deer will reduce collisions. Installing speed bumps in low vehicular traffic but high deer traffic areas will help. Ornamental plants can be protected using repellent sprays and deer-proof fencing.

Another thing that will reduce deer populations would be the elimination of hunting altogether. When deer and other hunted species are no longer manipulated to benefit sport hunters and the agencies that serve them, the number of deer will decline until it meets the biological carrying capacity of the area.

The following information supports the points made above:

“Notebook: Citizen advisory impacts deer regs” Sunday, April 27, 2008 By John Hayes, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

*The Game Commission’s vote last*

*week to increase deer populations in parts of central and south-central Pennsylvania (Wildlife Management Units 4E and 5A), and to continue increasing the population trend in WMU 4B, was based on scientific measurements and the recommendations of a citizen advisory committee, said an agency spokesman.*

University of Florida researchers have shown in their report “Reproductive Dynamics Among Disjunct White-tailed Deer Herds in Florida” that deer reproduction increases once the herd is hunted.

Wildlife biologist Rawley Cogan was quoted in the Buffalo News saying, “One square mile of elk habitat can support one to one and a half elk. The same area might support 20 whitetail deer, and my job is to show the public that hunting is a tool that can actually improve the herd’s size and health,” he said. “It’s hard to make people see that, because say ‘hunting’ and people think of reducing the herd, not helping it to increase.” 9/16/01 Buffalo News

Wildlife biologist Gary Alt said that NYS wildlife agencies have responded to hunters who ask for more deer to kill, but the overpopulated deer herds have caused the forests to suffer (Central New York Outdoor Journal, December, 2005).

North American Hunter magazine (October, 1995) reports the experience of a former Texas biologist who “managed” deer on a ranch: “After shooting 100 does, the ranch actually had more fawns than it did the year before. Because of the significant doe harvest, the fawn survival rate increased from 25 percent (four does to rear one fawn to weaning age) to

Please see BAIT AND SHOOT Story, Page 6

## BAIT AND SHOOT

Continued from page 5

120 percent (1.2 fawns per doe).”

The Union County (NJ) Parks Department report titled “Deer Management Program for Watchung Reservation” concluded that before being hunted, female deer living in the Reservation gave birth to only one fawn.

Afterwards, the birthrate doubled or tripled.

Frank Minter, author of “The Politically Incorrect Guide to Hunting” states: “Every animal in this country that has a hunting season on it has increased in number after a hunting season is placed on it.”

Another quote to prove that game agencies purposely have increased herds:

“New York State has rapidly seen its whitetail deer herd grow from modest thousands to more than an estimated million animals today. Every county in the state has a good population of deer, and many have too many. Management techniques by DEC have changed from how to increase our herd to how to keep it under control and successfully manage it for future sportsmen.” (Bow Season Bounty by Craig Robbins, New York Sportsman, 9/2001)

The bullet points below come from the report “Reproductive Dynamics among Disjunct White-Tailed Deer Herds in Florida,” by Andreas R. Richter and Ronald F. Labisky published in The Journal of Wildlife Management, Vol. 49, No. 4 (Oct., 1985), pp. 964-971. Both Richter and Labisky were with the Department of Wildlife and Range Sciences, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida in Gainesville.

•...Productivity was higher on hunted than on non-hunted sites. Incidence of twinning was 38% on hunted and 14% on non-hunted sites.

The fetal sex ratio was 56% and 39% males on hunted and non-hunted sites, respectively.

•... Mean number of fetuses per pregnant doe was greater on hunted (Camp Blanding WMA, Rotenberger WMA, Eglin AFB/Hunted) than on non-hunted sites (Tosohatchee State Preserve, Eglin FB/Nonhunted), 1.38 and 1.14, respectively ( $P < 0.001$ ).

•... No twinning was observed among pregnant fawns or yearlings from non-hunted areas, whereas 6 of 33 (18%) of the pregnant yearlings and 1 of 3 (33%) pregnant fawns from hunted areas carried twins.

•... Productivity was higher for hunted than non-hunted herds (table 3) Although the pregnancy rate, fawns excluded, did not differ between hunted and non-hunted herds ( $P > 0.2$ ) nor among age-classes ( $P > (J.05)$ ), the number of fetuses per pregnant doe for each age-class was greater in hunted than in non-hunted herds ( $P < 0.05$ ). Productivity also increased as doe age increased. Thus, the younger age structure of hunted herds tended to depress productivity, whereas the older age structure of non-hunted herds tended to favor productivity. The net reproductive gain of non-hunted herds was depressed more by the low productivity per pregnant doe than it was enhanced by advanced age structure.

•...Although pregnancy rates did not differ significantly between hunted and non-hunted sites in Florida, the number of fetuses per pregnant doe was greater on hunted than on non-hunted sites. The index of net reproductive gain, fawns excluded, was 1.240 in hunted herds and 1.075 in non-hunted herds...

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**Joe Miele** is the President of C.A.S.H. Adapted from Joe’s response to an inquiring student.

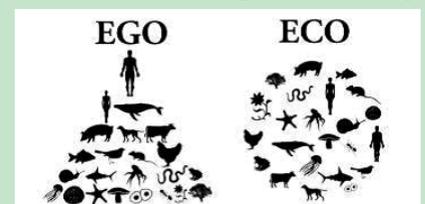
## AVA Seeks Land and Wildlife Help

**ACTION VOLUNTEERS FOR ANIMALS (AVA)** is looking for help to protect land. We are seeking animal advocacy connected, environmentally conscious persons who have a **PASSION** for land and wildlife. The sanctuary is near South Bend, IN (80 miles east of Chicago). Locals are interested in developing this property. AVA is in search of assistance with preservation efforts. There is no need to relocate to meet this challenge, or person/s can live on property if preferred. Stewardship can be discussed and determined. AVA would like this conservation effort to last in perpetuity. The land may not be used as an animal shelter, and needs to be left as is.

The founder of the organization is also searching for the right person/s to be the executor of her will. That person should be in the Chicago/South Bend area, preferably within a 1-2 hundred mile radius. Combining this with the above stewardship position would be desirable, but not absolutely necessary. This could be a nice “permanent part-time job” for the right person/s in these economically uncertain times (present and future).

AVA has witnessed a lot of precious farmland taken over by urban sprawl in the area during the last 40 years. The human population will increase by 3.3 billion by 2050, so land for wildlife will be even scarcer near the cities. If you’d like to be part of this meaningful endeavor (and be monetarily compensated) please contact AVA via mail and tell them about yourself. Please include your phone number. AVA, 1446 W. Argyle, Chicago, IL 60640

**This brilliant graphic was forwarded to us by Zelda Penzel and we need to pass it along:**



**For more on culling:  
Visit Peter Muller's great website:  
[www.nocull.org](http://www.nocull.org)**

# Deer – Why No Live Testing

Continued from page 4

Wildlife Biologist Dr. Kurt Ver Caution with APHIS' Wildlife Services. "The use of this new live test in the initial screening, surveillance and monitoring of CWD will greatly aid in the management and control of the disease in the wild, as well as in captive settings," said Ver Caution.

Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance reports that many thousands of captive elk have been killed in the western United States and Canada in order to control CWD, as well as thousands of free-ranging mule deer, white-tailed deer, and elk.

(Learn more about CWDA's work at: [www.cwd-info.org](http://www.cwd-info.org) )

As congested areas with man-made feed and water stations – e.g., on "deer farms" with animals kept prisoners in a limited space – are more likely to encourage the spread of CWD than when deer and elk



Photo from Colorado DOW

live in wide-open, natural habitats, it is not unreasonable to posit the theory that humans have facilitated the spread of CWD by keeping these wild animals in unnatural circumstances. This would be not unlike the phenomenon of BSE, or "mad cow disease," which even the CDC acknowledged could have been caused by farmers feeding unnatural foods such as meat and bone meal to herbivorous cattle.

While we at C.A.S.H. are in favor of the development of a live testing method, we could wish that the motives behind such studies were concern for the health and welfare of the animals themselves. However, motivation seems to be at least partly on behalf of the captive deer and elk "industry."

The promising progress shown in finding a new live testing method should be encouraged, with government funds channeled in that direction, rather than spent on continuing the inhumane post-mortem test that leads to "shoot first, ask questions later," as is currently being practiced.

CWD information at:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health/animal\\_diseases/cwd/](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health/animal_diseases/cwd/)  
<http://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/zoonoses/cwd.htm>

E.M. FAY is the Associate Editor of the *C.A.S.H. Courier*

## THE SWANS OF MICHIGAN

Karen Stamper has been the go-to person for the swan culling nightmare in Michigan. She has put in a tremendous amount of time to stop Wildlife Services in cooperation with the DNR from doing what they know how to do best: kill, kill, and kill more. You can reach Karen by emailing [disnydolly@sbcglobal.net](mailto:disnydolly@sbcglobal.net).

## New Agribusiness: NYC Canada Geese!

New Yorkers are opposed to the needless killing of Canada geese near NYC airports. David Karopkin of GooseWatch NYC has taken the lead to stop this. If you can help or wish to join, please contact David at: [goosewatching@gmail.com](mailto:goosewatching@gmail.com)



## Reka's Life-Saving Bandana



Reka Before she was shot

In the last issue of the C.A.S.H. Courier <http://tinyurl.com/spdog>, we published a disturbing story about a hunter who severely wounded Reka, the companion dog to veterinarian Lisa Berg. Lisa wrote that she now has a website [www.JusticeForReka.com](http://www.JusticeForReka.com) in honor of Reka. She reports that Reka is doing great!



On Reka's website, there are bright orange dog bandanas that Dr. Berg designed to help offset some of the very costly legal fees she is incurring to go after the shooter. Lisa says, "I think they will make dogs be much more visible when out with

their guardians, and I think they are much easier to slip on/off than the hunting vests our dogs now wear whenever they are off our property. Who knows, maybe a life will be spared because of them!"

EDITOR'S NOTE: C.A.S.H. is happy that Lisa is doing much to bring awareness of the recklessness of hunters to public attention. We at C.A.S.H. do not believe that it's okay to wound or kill a wild animal for whatever insipid reasons hunters have for killing and wounding. Hunting should not be tolerated in a decent, normal society. How about a bandana that reads "Justice For All Beings: Stop! Look! Don't Shoot! I'm Sentient!" We further hope there will be laws to sentence the people who commit brutal acts to very long terms in rehab.



# ARE “BAD” FERAL HOGS RED HERRINGS?



The feral hog is not considered to be “wildlife” by wildlife management agencies, so they have no protection of a season or bag limit, any particular weapon or tool can be used to kill them, and any manner of killing is allowed. They have no protection from anyone at all.

Game management agencies nevertheless recommend firearms so they can collect their Pittman-Robertson taxes. The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) published their Winter, 2012 newsletter featuring a cover article designed to strip the hogs of any saving grace.

The hogs are portrayed as “invading” the New Mexico rangeland. Some are supposed to have descended from long-ago released or escaped domestic pigs, some have migrated in from Texas, but most in eastern NM were escapees from hog hunting facilities in Texas or imported purposely for “sport” hunting or sadistic venting. If the term “aggravated cruelty” can apply anywhere, it applies to feral hog hunting.

Government agencies are now encouraging ranchers and other landowners to kill as many of the wild pigs as possible because the population is increasing so fast that hunters alone cannot keep up with the increasing numbers. In a mind-blowing example of blaming the victim, USDA and NMDGF wildlife specialists accuse the feral hogs of destroying agricultural crops, killing newborn livestock, contaminating water sources, destroying wildlife

habitat, spreading troublesome weeds, and bringing diseases that affect livestock, and even dogs and cats. The estimated 5 million wild swine in 35 states are accused of causing at least one billion dollars in agricultural damage yearly.

Without looking into the various agencies that have caused the problem, the article notes the pigs’ “capacity for carnage,” describes them as “ravenous” and “aggressive,” as they gobble up food resources needed by native deer and bear, as well as smaller local mammals. Feral swine are even reputed to be “implicated in the notorious California spinach food poisoning case of 2006.” The pigs are being blamed for practically everything but the felling of the World Trade Center.

The cruel irony of blaming these animals for such devastating and diverse damage is, of course, that humans have brought this upon themselves. Not all humans, but the small minority of hunting humans and their lackeys in various states’ wildlife “management” agencies, DNRs, and the like. The latter’s predilection to cater to sport hunters has led to countless cases of mismanagement of wildlife and the environment, whether it be the eradication of natural predators like wolves and coyotes to leave more deer for hunters to shoot, or the deliberate introduction of wolves to areas where they would impact ranchers, with the end result being a delisting of wolves from the Endangered Species List and a hunting season opening in the northwest. The business of hunting has wildlife managers focused on increasing populations of less than 1% of all species at the expense of the 99%!

In virtually every case, the welfare of local wildlife and the desires of the majority of humans who prefer to let wild animals live in peace, and have peace themselves from the incessant din of discharged firearms, are ignored – just so a few troglodytes can realize their bloodthirsty fantasies.

The NM Wildlife article claims that feral hog hunting is popular in New Mexico because there is no kill limit, an open season year-round, any type of weapon is allowed, and no license is required. This anything-goes attitude not only dooms the hogs to pure sadism wherever they roam, but seems to have engendered a kind of mindless ferocity in the psyches of some hunters. Horrifying photos and videos of atrocious cruelty exist that show frenzied attacks on the hapless animals. Reports have come in to C.A.S.H. of people stabbing them repeatedly over and over in what can only honestly be called a sick blood lust.

Pigs as a species are known to be intelligent, social creatures. Even the otherwise antagonistic NM Wildlife article credits them with being innovative in their efforts to find water and other resources. Taking advantage of the hogs’ natural sociable behavior, hunters use one member of a group – called sounders – to locate the rest. A few feral hogs will be caught in a trap, most of them “euthanized,” and one female kept. They will then follow the lone female pig to the next group’s home ground and massacre them all at once by cravenly shooting them from low-flying planes. Adding insult to injury, the one who leads them to the pack is called the “Judas pig.”

USDA Wildlife Specialist Ron Jones justifies this cruelty by calling the proliferation of wild hogs in New Mexico “a nightmare in the making.” But who made this nightmare? Certainly not the hogs, who did not ask to be brought into the area for hunters. And Jones admits that most were “intentionally released for hunting purposes.”

Wildlife agents complain that lack of manpower and money hobble their efforts to handle the hogs. Why did

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## FERAL HOGS

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no one in a position of authority think of this possibility beforehand? Like the introduction of goats to the Galapagos and rabbits to Australia, mankind has repeatedly made disastrous errors of this type. In this case, though, just for the depraved pleasure of a few people – “sport hunters” – the state game agencies have permitted the introduction of a species that is known to propagate quickly and eat a wide range of food. In another instance of the environment and numerous species being negatively affected by the hunting business, wildlife agencies note that the diet of the imported hogs includes frogs, lizards, snakes, birds and their eggs, and even deer fawns. We’ve learned never to trust what they say, considering their agenda, and we will be checking into this for the next issue.

With farmers and ranchers across Eastern New Mexico complaining that feral swine are ravaging range and farmland, belatedly, state game agencies are trying to rectify the problem. How? By killing as many of the animals as possible. The hogs have no legal protection as they are classified as “feral domestic livestock.” NMDGF does not have jurisdiction over them. Most “on the



ground” control is by USDA Wildlife Services, known killers of any number of wild species, from birds to wolves. Although they claim to have little money, they plan to develop an eradication program with the help of “stakeholders” from around NM.

Meanwhile, the state legislature has outlawed commercial feral hog hunting, which means that a fee cannot be charged to hunt them in NM. The same law also made it illegal to move feral hogs around the state. Limiting their commerce-related movement was intended to remove the incentive of financial gain and reduce the possibility of establishing new feral hog communities. But the natural increase in the fertile hog population means that the state game agencies will inevitably continue the killing themselves, as well as asking landowners to join in.

The author of the article, an avid hunter himself, recommends a 30-caliber or larger firearm to “safely and humanely dispatch” the often quite large hogs. Think of all that money going into the Conservation Fund. Every firearm and bullet expended will provide more revenue for the continuation of mismanagement and extreme animal cruelty. The author of the article encourages readers to kill feral hogs by calling it “a challenging and rewarding experience that also helps protect wildlife and the environment.”

Jones says that the people who imported the hogs for hunting don’t care about the damage they are doing to the environment. And apparently, no one in government cares either, except for the contracts they are getting and the revenue. On behalf of the much-maligned feral hogs, C.A.S.H. asks, “Who among you cares about their suffering?” The NMDGF and state legislators need to be told that WE do, and we will not be distracted by their hypocritical use of these innocent animals as red herrings.

Compiled by C.A.S.H. Team

## WHAT YOU CAN DO IF YOU’RE AFFECTED BY FERAL HOGS.

BY JOE MIELE

Feral hogs are horrifically poisoned, shot, stabbed, and trapped by pest control agencies, Wildlife Services, and landowners who do not want them around. They do cause damage to private property, but like all other animal damage situations there are humane ways to protect what you own.

Donkeys have been known to chase away hogs. There are always donkeys up for adoption and in need of good homes, so if you can open your heart to a donkey or two they can repay you by keeping the hogs away.

Exclusion fencing works, but a sturdy metal fence must be buried at least one foot underground if you are to prevent hogs from impacting sensitive areas. Hogs are strong animals and if they are determined to get to a certain place, the exclusion fencing that you put up must be built solidly and always well maintained.

If you have the stomach to read this, it will give you an idea of the types that enjoy killing these animals:

<http://www.jackboulware.com/uncategorized/hunting-wild-boar>

## Unconstitutional Hunter Harassment Law

The Iowa Constitution, Art. 1-Bill of Rights, Section 6 says, “...the General Assembly shall not grant to any citizen, or class of citizens, privileges or immunities, which, upon the same terms shall not equally belong to all citizens.” How in hell would the hunter harassment law stand up in an impartial court? It isn’t illegal to harass bird watchers or animal protectors. Here is a case of “FAVORED STATUS.”

By Herman Lenz, Iowa

# New Anti-hunting Book now Available!



During the Nineteenth century, a serial killer known as Buffalo Bill terrorized the American West, shooting and dismembering his victims, who numbered in the thousands. But no special agents from the F.B.I. headquarters in Quantico were sent to stop Bill, or the procession of copycat killers who joined in the fun. The carnage was endorsed and encouraged; the victims, though gregarious, caring and benign, were nonhuman, after all.

A holocaust 10 times over.... 60 million bison, a species once synonymous with the Great Plains, were massacred in a shameful era that nearly brought an end to them, along with elk, wolves, grizzlies, prairie dogs and every other animal hunters could get a bead on.

Still more shocking is that nowadays hunting is considered a sport. Modern hunters feel no remorse for the onslaught, nor empathy for the victims. Indeed, they are targeting those very same species with glee.

Exposing the Big Game takes on hunting and defends the animals with equal passion, while challenging the readers to reexamine their stance on killing for sport.

<http://exposingthebiggame.wordpress.com/>

*Exposing the Big Game: Living Targets of a Dying Sport* is now available! To order through Amazon, follow the link on the right hand column here: <http://www.earth-books.net/books/exposing-the-big-game>  
For signed copies, contact me at [exposingthebiggame@gmail.com](mailto:exposingthebiggame@gmail.com)

## REVIEWS & ENDORSEMENTS

• Robertson's new book could be titled *The Big and Dirty Game*, because that's what it is about — the dirty, bloody business of killing other animals for sport and fun. Fun? Sure, that's what the Sportsmen say — but read about it for yourself . . . ~ *Farley Mowat, Author of Never Cry Wolf and A Whale for the Killing*

• With humor and poignant satire, Jim Robertson reveals the ugly underbelly of the "consumptive use" minority that has so dominated, exploited, and desecrated America's native wildlife since colonialism. From coyotes to bison to ravens and prairie dogs, Jim shows how each of these animals has been unfairly maligned, misunderstood and often slaughtered in unfathomable numbers in the name of "wildlife management." At once a no-holds-barred revelation of North America's ongoing war against wildlife, *Exposing the Big Game* is also a celebration of these animals, their rich and complex lives, their individuality and their important ecological role. With gorgeous images Jim captures the beauty and majesty of each of his chosen subjects, balancing sometimes painfully honest prose about America's relentless persecution of species—hunted as trophies, trapped for profit or fun or killed because they are simply deemed undesirable— with the gentle and fierce beauty of the non-human animal kingdom. ~ *Camilla H. Fox, Executive Director, Project Coyote and co-author of Coyotes in Our Midst and Cull of the Wild*

• *Exposing the Big Game* is a must read for anyone interested in the "sport" of hunting. There's nothing sporting or fair about going out to kill innocent wild animals for the fun of it. Doing this means adopting a perverse set of values. If killing a dog bothers you, as it should, then so should killing other animals. Far too many sentient

beings find themselves in the crosshairs of people who claim they love the animals they kill. I'm glad they don't love me. ~ *Marc Bekoff, University of Colorado, Boulder; author of The Emotional Lives of Animals and The Animal Manifesto*

• Jim Robertson is best known for his breathtaking wildlife photography as well as his clear and thought-provoking articles about wildlife and the cruel, repulsive and altogether perverse nature of hunting. Now Jim has put it all together: his spectacular photography, the indisputable facts and clear reasoning in "Exposing the Big Game." Jim does not mince words in describing the senselessness and depravity of hunting and the psychopaths who kill for pleasure. ~ *Peter Muller, President and co-founder of the League of Humane Voters*

• For years, Jim Robertson has inspired reverence for wildlife through his photography. Now he has created a book that ought to be mandatory reading for those who still think there's reverence in hunting. ~ *Ethan Smith, Author of Building an Ark: 101 Solutions to Animal Suffering*

• I read this book with wonderment at what our species has done to other species, and with admiration for how staunchly Jim Robertson comes to the defense of those other species, with intelligence, humor, understanding, but above all, compassion. Warning to all hunters: this book could be life-changing, both for you and the animals so senselessly killed. Jim ends his book with these ringing words, both true and eloquent: The passenger pigeon, the great auk and

Please see Book Review  
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## Book Review

Continued from page 10

the Steller's sea cow each held a worthy place in nature. The same cannot be said of sport hunting. Sooner or later, the obdurate hunter crouching in the darkness of ages past must cave in and make peace with the animals or rightfully, if figuratively, die off and be replaced with a more compassionate, more evolved earthling—one who appreciates nonhumans as unique individuals, fellow travelers through life with their own unassailable rights to share the planet. ~ Jeffrey Masson, *Author of When Elephants Weep, and Dogs Make Us Human*

- Exposing the Big Game, a passionate and informed indictment of America's hunting culture, exposes the savagery, cruelty, environmental recklessness and yes, the pathology of this most murderous of sports. Jim Robertson is that rarest of breeds, a talented writer with a gift for telling a story who is also a lifelong outdoorsman with a profound knowledge of the natural world as well as a compassionate human being with a deep love for all living creatures. Exposing the Big Game is quite simply a masterpiece, a treasure not to be missed by anyone who cares about wildlife, the environment and living gently on planet Earth. ~ Norm Phelps, *Author of The Longest Struggle: Animal Advocacy from Pythagoras to PETA*

I find Exposing the Big Game to be a very inspiring book. Jim Robertson has a gifted eye for wildlife photography and his writing incorporates humor, insight and factual observations. ~ Captain Paul Watson, *Founder and President of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society*

- Not since Cleveland Amory's

Man Kind? Our Incredible War on Wildlife, has a book been more explosive in exposing the politics, hypocrisies, and brutality of big game hunting in North America than Jim Robertson's Exposing the Big Game. Robertson has keenly studied hunters and their lobbies for as long as he's professionally studied wildlife behind the lens of his camera — and he knows them all well. In Exposing the Big Game, Robertson strips away the veil behind the claims of government agencies and hunters themselves to show us the stark reality behind the suffering, decimation, and endangerment of America's wild animals that are targeted by sportsmen ~ Laura Moretti, *Founder of The Animals Voice*

- Jim Robertson is not only an enormously talented wildlife photographer; he provides a much needed voice for the animals whom he captures so beautifully with his camera lens. Chapter by chapter, the reader is introduced to each species and learns detailed facts about their natural behaviour, their daily lives, and the important place that each holds in the ecosystem. We also read of the seemingly endless ways in which humans have historically exploited, terrorized, and brutally extirpated these animals. This brutality (which continues today), juxtaposed against the stunningly beautiful photographs, sends a powerful message. It is a message of empathy and understanding, and also one of much needed change in our nation's wildlife management "practices." Kudos to Jim Robertson for possessing the deep knowledge, the talent, and the courage to convey this message in a way that is at once both spectacular and powerful. ~ Linda Case, *Author of Canine and Feline Behavior and Training*

## ATTENTION GUN OWNERS

If you oppose hunting, please join with other like-minded gun owners and contact C.A.S.H. at

[cash@abolishsporthunting.org](mailto:cash@abolishsporthunting.org)

# Hope



## The Precious Few

But each year,  
a few,  
a precious few,  
of these misled or ignorant "heroes"  
look into the soft brown eyes  
of an orphan fawn  
whose mother  
they have just slaughtered  
and, at least for one fleeting moment,  
or maybe even longer,  
they think,  
"What in the world have I just done?"

By John Cannon,  
Shenandoah Valley, VA

# God's Dog

We were happy to learn from Hope Ryden that her amazing book, **God's Dog** is back in print. We encourage you to read it and give it to others to read. Ask libraries to order it, and give it to friends for holidays and birthdays. It will be a gift that will last a lifetime, for it will change the reader's perspective of coyotes forever.



*God's Dog :  
A Celebration  
of the North  
American  
Coyote  
by Hope Ryden*

"Full of charm and tenacious inquisitiveness as the appealing animal she pleads is allowed to live."—*The Washington Post*.

\$24.95 or \$20.95 members.

# Why Wildlife Management for Hunting Must Go

BY ANNE MULLER

In all my years of hearing hunters and pro-hunting advocates provide fabricated reasons to kill deer, blaming deer for the decline of bird populations stretches credulity to its limits. It is truly creative.

In a recent New York Times Op-Ed, contributor Prof. Cristol was aware of the problems with wildlife management for hunting purposes, but who does he blame? The deer! Why is he blaming the victims?

Cristol touches on a few of the disturbing practices of wildlife management that intentionally create a large deer population, and he “outs” the real goal of wildlife management agencies which is to increase encounters between deer and hunters; but strangely, he then goes on to blame the deer for being more abundant than he would like.

Prof. Cristol knows full well that wildlife management agencies manipulate public and private lands to create overpopulations of “game species” at the expense of the many other animals that share the ecosystem. Shouldn’t we be putting the blame on the perpetrators of what I would call a “crime against nature?” Should the answer be to allow wildlife management agents to increase deer hunting? Instead, shouldn’t we demand a change in the policies and practices of wildlife management? Why are we providing tax-payer support for agencies that are destroying our environment, ecosystems, wildlife, and even the economy? Think of the energy, focus, and expense that go into providing a few species for hunters to kill, while the 99% of other species lose their homes and food sources. We need to occupy wildlife management offices!

By failing to protect land for wildlife watching, a non-lethal form of wildlife recreation, wildlife managers are losing an important source of income and



*Kingfisher*

will continue to harm species, individual animals, and the public.

Let’s look at some of the details of wildlife management practices. Prof. Cristol correctly pointed out that public lands are highly manipulated to provide browse for deer at the expense of other wild animals. He was also on target when he said that private landowners are encouraged to allow their lands to be manipulated for the sake of growing high deer populations. He did not say why: The reason is that the sale of firearms and ammunition, and bows and arrows carry an excise tax that funds wildlife management agencies. Consequently, wildlife management agencies manage wildlife solely as targets for hunting rather than for peaceful, popular, and lucrative wildlife watching.

What is not so obvious is that **the guns and bullets that are used to kill people in cities also provide revenue for wildlife management agencies.** The income is then used to creating more hunting! In other words, our wildlife management agencies benefit from inner-city crime committed with firearms. Shouldn’t that revenue at least be used to compensate the victims or their families?

Another deplorable aspect of wildlife agencies’ managing for increased hunting opportunity is that

of landowner abuse. It’s one thing to “encourage” willing property owners to develop their land for growing deer for hunters, and it’s quite another to impose hunting on property owners who do not want individuals with lethal weapons trespassing on their land. The latter is happening all too frequently. What I will call homeland invasion and landowner abuse by hunters who are backed by state and federal agencies is taking place across the country.

In Pennsylvania, an attorney was charged with 5 counts of hunter harassment for telling hunters to leave her property; in South Carolina, a university administrator was charged with stealing a dog collar that she had removed from a hunting dog in an effort to locate the dog’s owner; in North Carolina, a mother and daughter were harassed by hunters who left obscene messages. Supporting the hunters, the Forest Service changed map boundaries to allow incursions onto their property; in Michigan a teacher was charged with hunter harassment for collecting firewood on her property which allegedly disturbed a hunter; and in New York, a man was charged with hunter harassment for using his cell phone on his own property within earshot of a hunter.

These agencies basically serve only a small special interest group. Hunters are less than 5% of the population. Sadly, if you enjoy birding or other forms of wildlife watching, you are going to be disappointed by what the government offers. All too often “wildlife watching areas” on public land are barren areas littered with garbage, without interpretive signs; wild animals that have been spooked by hunters are in hiding so that spot-

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# OPPOSE SNARING

FACTS SLEUTHED BY JOE MIELE



*The necropsy study uncovered the fact that one-third of the animals had suffered slow, agonizing deaths.*

<http://www.meeipi.org/files03/pa031103.htm>

The following facts offer us pretty damning info on snaring. The Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife is one of the sources, so it's definitely not coming from an animal rights slant.

<http://tinyurl.com/6oqlv79>

Beavers who are snared are often drowned. Confirmation that this type of trapping is inhumane comes from the American Veterinary Medical Association, which on page 35 of its publication "Guidelines on Euthanasia" condemns drowning as being inhumane. In addition to drowning, trappers will commonly kill animals with a blow to the head – a method the AVMA describes as being an unacceptable way to kill animals of most species.

Lynn Rogers, a wildlife research biologist with 35 years experience working in government, academia, and private nonprofit organizations reports:

"All snares share the same failing—they restrict the flow of blood back to the heart through surface veins while the deeper arteries continue to pump blood into the foot or head. The result is painful swelling. I quit using snares 30 some years ago."

• "Another problem is that so many non-target animals are snared. The man who was neck-snaring wolves caught everything from bears to deer to a moose that stepped into the snare."

• "Another problem is that Maine law allows snared animals to suffer so long in the snares. Before I quit snaring, I could see that it was necessary to check the snares two or three times a day to minimize injury. Allowing an animal to suffer for days under a state-sanctioned recreational practice is extremely inhumane. On top of that is a possible problem of these cheap devices being abandoned in the woods similar to gill nets being abandoned in the Great Lakes or the ocean."

• "I find it just unbelievable that any state would condone recreational snaring with all that is known about modern wildlife management."

Biologists from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife repeatedly observe that killing coyotes **stimulates reproduction** and that in order to lower a population you have to kill at least 70 percent of the animals every year.

Chuck Hulsey, one of Maine's seven regional wildlife biologists recently wrote to his bureau director: "Killing an animal by strangling it with a wire loop often results in a slow, painful death, sometimes lasting days ..." and "It would violate state humane laws to treat a domestic dog in the same manner."

Last fall Wally Jakubas, the agency's top mammal scientist, got concerned when, checking 94 snared coyotes during a study to determine the genetics of animals, he noticed a large proportion of carcasses with grotesquely swollen heads, bullet holes, fractured limbs, and broken teeth. Of particular interest were the ani-

mals with swollen heads—"jellyheads," the snarers call them. When the snare doesn't close sufficiently, it constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery keeps pumping blood into the brain, eventually rupturing its vascular system. In a memo to his supervisor, Jakubas wrote: "**I think it is also safe to say that [this] is an unpleasant death. Anyone who has had a migraine knows what it feels like to have swollen blood vessels in the head. To have blood vessels burst because of pressure must be excruciating.**" Almost a third of the animals Jakubas looked at were "jellyheads." Almost another third had been clubbed or shot, indicating that, contrary to department claims, the snares hadn't killed them quickly. Coyote-control agents have to check their snares only every three days, and under the liberalized regs suggested by the legislature, they can get permission to check them only every seven days.

The department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife organized an ad hoc "study group" to make recommendations for new snaring regs, but ignored a lot of advice from its own biologists who had expressed concern for the nontarget wildlife that have been found dead in coyote snares - eagles, deer, moose, bears, fishers, foxes, bobcats, and especially Canada lynx, now federally threatened.

Whenever the public expresses concern about the threat to lynx, the department responds that no snarer has reported killing a lynx since the species was listed. Of course no snarer has reported killing a lynx: Such a confession could elicit prosecution under the Endangered Species Act!

## Wildlife Management

Continued from page 12

ting them is often an unfulfilled dream.

My question is, why are we tolerating or suggesting even more hunting/culling and other forms of lethal

aggression against wildlife when we need to take our anger out on the agencies and legislators who have created the problems?

I agree with Prof. Cristol that wildlife management practices have to change. I agree that it's high time for wildlife watchers to have full use of

public lands managed for all species.

Where Prof. Cristol and I part ways is that he thinks the deer have to go and we think that the current practices of wildlife management for hunting have to go.

**Anne Muller** is President of **Wildlife Watch**.

# ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO [CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.COM](mailto:CASH@ABOLISHSPORTHUNTING.COM). WOULD YOU RATHER SNAIL MAIL YOUR QUESTION? SEND IT TO:

**ASK UNCLE JOE,  
P.O. Box 13815, LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO 88013**

UNCLE JOE GETS A LOT OF MAIL SO DON'T BE OFFENDED IF HE CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION IN THE COURIER. HECK, HE'S GOTTA WORK A DAY JOB, TOO.

LETTERS ARE PRINTED AS RECEIVED. THEY ARE UNEDITED.

*Dear Uncle Joe:*

*I understand and support the 2nd Amendment and want to be able to own a personal weapon to protect my home and family from an intruder. I thought this was the purpose of the NRA. Yet I see them consistently commenting on hunting accidents when a story appears in the news. Is there a connection between these 2 other than a firearm was involved? I do not see that as an NRA issue from what I know about the founding of that organization. An animal foraging in the woods is not 'bearing arms' against me.*

*Laura,  
Arlington, VA*

Dear Laura:

Thanks for writing. We don't believe that the Second Amendment has anything to do with hunting, and I'm sure the framers of The Constitution would agree. The text of the amendment reads: "A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed." We have no stance on gun ownership per se, but we certainly have an opinion of gun use when its purpose is to bring violence and death upon wildlife.

From our point of view, the NRA is an organization that, for better or worse, defends gun ownership with as few restrictions as possible. They have an ally in the Supreme Court of the United States, which has repeatedly interpreted the amendment to mean that individuals have the right to own guns for any lawful purpose. Contrary to what many gun enthusiasts may believe, our mission to ban sport hunting in all forms is not an assault on the Second Amendment. We take no stand on people who own guns for non-violent recreational shooting or for the security of their homes, possessions, and families. Many of our members are gun owners, and many are staunch opponents of gun ownership. We believe that wildlife protection is not a gun rights issue, and those who

are passionate about wildlife from both sides of the fence can find common ground when it comes to sport hunting.

We wish the NRA would not be involved in hunting issues, because it is not a matter of gun rights. Leave hunting issues up to the experts: us.

Peace,  
Uncle Joe

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*Dear Uncle Joe:*

*It looks like Ted Nugent is up to his old tricks again. Shortly after being investigated by the Secret Service for making comments that some understood to be a national security threat, he was banned from hunting in Alaska for a year and was fined and sentenced to probation for illegally killing a bear.*

*What's wrong with him?  
Michael,  
New York, NY*

Dear Michael:

Ah - Ted Nugent. Is there a more demented person on earth? If so, I've not heard of them. Even hunting guides have called him "unethical" because "He shoots at anything... He just likes to kill a lot of animals." (From an article entitled "Why Sit on the Beach When You Could Stab a Wild Pig?" in the July 25, 1995 edition of The Wall Street Journal). He somehow thinks he's a man because he kills dangerous, fearsome animals like squirrels, armadillos and goats, but we don't consider him to be much of a man - what we think of him can't be printed in this column.

One of his more recent quotes intrigues us. "If Barack Obama becomes the next president in November, again, I will either be dead or in jail by this time next year." With that stroke of brilliance he just may have secured another term for Obama. If that comes to fruition, we certainly hope that he lives up to his promise.

Peace,  
Uncle Joe

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*Dear Uncle Joe:*

*There were over 600,000 hunters this season in the state of Wisconsin. Allow me to restate that number: 600,000. Over the last several months, Wisconsin's hunters became the eighth largest army in the world. These men deployed to the woods of a single American state, Wisconsin, to hunt with firearms, and no one was killed. That number pales in comparison to the 930,000 who hunted the woods of Pennsylvania and Michigan's 700,000 hunters, all of whom have now returned home safely. If you get rid of hunting (which you can't do) you'll be putting the security of the nation at risk. What foreign army in their right mind would invade us since we're a nation well armed and ready to fight? Why? Thanks to hunters!*

*Mitch,  
Appleton, WI*

Dear Mitch:

Where on earth do you get your information? The numbers you quote are very rough, but that's not what matters. What matters is that you're nuts if you think there were no hunting accidents in Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Michigan last year. Here are the facts to set you straight: of the number of accidents we've been made aware of (and this is only a small fraction of those that actually have occurred), 28 happened in Wisconsin, 15 took place in Pennsylvania, and 22 happened in Michigan. Of these, 14 were fatal across the three states. Since we have reason to believe that for every hunting accident we become aware of another 20 fly under our radar, the true number of accidents and fatalities is grim.

Are you really afraid that we're going to be invaded by a foreign army?

Really? I guess we should never say never, but I'd buy a lottery ticket before I'd believe anything like that could ever happen. Unless of course, Canada decides to come and take our best hockey players. That might happen.

Peace,  
Uncle Joe

## C.A.S.H. CATALOG

### A Voice in the Wilderness

Videotape approximately 20 minutes.  
\$12.00 and \$8 for members.

This video is an expose of wildlife management by **Luke Dommer**, founder of C.A.S.H. It was produced by **Focus on Animals**, CT. **Esther Mechler** of Focus has generously given C.A.S.H. the right to sell this videotape. Copies have been generously donated by **Nancy Gordon of HAVE**, an audio-visual company in Hudson, NY.



Luke Dommer

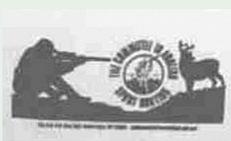
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Back of shirt, left. Front of shirt, right.

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP US DO MORE:

√ Become a member  
√ Include WILDLIFE WATCH, INC. in your will (you may earmark bequests for C.A.S.H.). If you have general questions about leaving a bequest in your Will to Wildlife Watch, or making Wildlife Watch the beneficiary of life insurance or other assets, you can contact Frances Carlisle, Esq. at 212-213-0172. Frances Carlisle is a trusts and estates attorney with expertise in advising clients about bequests and other types of disposition to charitable organizations.

√ Donate shares of stock, avoid capital gains and get a tax deduction! Notify your broker or the company whose stock you hold. Ask them to transfer stock to Wildlife Watch, Inc. Federal Tax Identification Number: 13-3076705

A copy of our latest annual report may be obtained from Wildlife Watch, Inc., or from the Office of the Attorney General, Charities Bureau, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271.

## PETER'S HUMOR? C.A.S.H. apologizes if you are not amused

BY PETER MULLER, V.P. C.A.S.H.

Jethro had been hunting all day without even taking a shot at anything. To console himself he was having a drink at his favorite bar. Suddenly his hunting buddy, Zeke, comes rushing in and yelled, "Ah think somebody's stealin' yore pickup truck!" Jethro ran outside and saw his truck in the distance getting farther away. When he came back inside Zeke asked, "Well, did yew try to stop him?" "Naw!" said Jethrow, "He was too fast. But ah got his license plate before he got away!"

☺☺☺

Rufus, a hunter, was fantasizing about the exploits of Buffalo Bill. So, he decides to learn horse back riding unassisted and without prior experience or lessons. He mounts the horse with great effort, and the tall, shiny horse springs into motion. It gallops along at a steady and rhythmic pace, but Rufus begins to slip from the saddle. Out of sheer terror, he grabs for the horse's mane but cannot seem to get a firm grip. He tries to throw his arms around the horse's neck, but he slides down the side of the horse anyway. The horse gallops along, seemingly oblivious to its slipping rider. Finally, giving up his frail grip, he leaps away from the horse to try and throw himself to safety.

Unfortunately, his foot has become entangled in the stirrup. He is now at the mercy of the horse's pounding hooves as his head is struck against the ground again and again. As his head is battered against the ground, he is mere moments away from unconsciousness or even death when Frank, the Wal-Mart manager, walks over to shut the horse off.



☺☺☺

Two hunters, Clem and Jeb, were walking down a small footpath in dense forest. Suddenly they came to a high, solid brick wall. Wondering what was behind it, Clem boosted Jeb so he could take a look. Jeb reported excitedly "Looks like one of them nudist camps." "Men or women?" asked Clem. "Can't tell," said Jeb. "They don't have no clothes on."

☺☺☺

A hunter walked into his local State Department of Wildlife office to renew his hunting license. As he waited in line, he noticed a new sign on the wall: Man Wanted for Robbery in Hicksville. When he got to the head of the line he told the clerk "If'n only that job was in Brownsville, Ah'd take it!"



Fans of Pete's Humor

[www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#](http://www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#)

As always, we are grateful to  
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