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THE C.A.S.H. COURIER

THE COMMITTEE TO ABOLISH SPORT HUNTING
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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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WOLVES AND COYOTES: THEIR PLACE IN THE ECOSYSTEM IS RECOGNIZED

By E.M. FAY

Man has ever sought to eliminate many of the other predatory animals on this planet. In pre-historic times, it may have made some sense that humans, with their comparatively feeble teeth and "claws," feared the competition that fiercer creatures presented while contending for scarce food resources. However, humans soon compensated for their physical puniness by inventing weapons with which to hunt. Over the millennia, wild animals' physical advantages were more than overcome by mankind's lethal ingenuity.



In modern times, even when food scarcity was not an issue, people have rationalized the killing off of such predators as wolves and coyotes by claiming that they threatened livestock or pets or even, occasionally, humans themselves. While it is true that wolves and coyotes, as well as other species, will kill and eat a chicken, a lamb, or even domestic animals when convenient and necessary for their survival, the situation arises because farmers, ranchers, and homeowners have moved into previously wild territory. By invading the traditional habitat of wildlife, we humans wipe out significant portions of preda-

tors' foraging area, pushing their "normal" food sources - ungulates, rodents, snakes, birds, fish, even berries and grasshoppers - out of that area. With their regular diet thus curtailed, the hungry wolf or coyote must then become an opportunist, and find a meal where they may. An unguarded

flock of chickens or a pet cat may be their only option. If so, it is not of *their* choosing, but because of *our* choice to usurp their native lands.

The unnecessary and cruel practice of "sport" hunting has given some humans yet another reason to wish for the removal of wolves. Sport hunters and their supporters in state and federal agencies believe, or purport to believe, that wolves are serious competitors for the deer, elk, moose, and caribou that the "sportsmen" want for themselves. One huge difference, of course, is that whereas the wolf needs to kill hooved mammals in order to

Shocking - Truckful of Coyotes Photo by Merle Wilson

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live, the "sportsman" is generally killing for a trophy, the "thrill" of the hunt, or to somehow prove himself a superior being. (Never mind the absurd array of deadly weapons he needs to accomplish this feat.) Another important difference is that wolves (coyotes, too) purposely seek out the old, weak, or sickly members of a herd, as these are easier to bring down. That is part of the process of natural selection.

Natural predation actually aids in maintaining the health and viability of preyed-upon species. But the human "sport" hunter, for whom pride is a factor rather than hunger, aims for the largest, healthiest member of a herd - most often the biggest male with the largest set of antlers. (Sport hunters always brag about how many "points" their quarry possessed.) This sort of selection results in a weaker gene pool for the herd.

Most illogical of all the reasoning behind the human decision to kill wolves and coyotes is the quasi-mythological fear of the wild beast. Wolves especially suffer from an ingrained human fear, one that has been propagated well beyond rationality by fairy tales and spurious legends.

All of these factors have led to widespread killing of wolves and coyotes. And commonly, when wildlife advocates protest this slaughter, they have been shouted down by the gun lobby, "sport" hunters, and even such dubious public figures as former Governor Sarah Palin, who would abrogate the Federal Airborne Hunting Act of 1972 (which made it illegal to hunt from the air), or exploit its loopholes to permit shooting wolves, coyotes, even foxes from planes and helicopters on the grounds of leaving the deer and moose for only humans to have the privilege of killing. (

<http://www.slate.com/id/2199140/>)

Even if one were not concerned with

the humane aspect of letting wolves live their natural lives, there is considerable evidence that culling large numbers of them causes harm to the ecosystem of which they are a part. Simply put, by reducing the number of predators in any given area, the plant-eating prey animals increase, thus placing an added strain on the vegetation in that region.

An article by Daniel S. Licht, Joshua Millspaugh, Kyran Kunkel, Christopher Kochanny, and Rolf Peterson, in the February issue of *BioScience*, sheds some much-needed light on the subject of wolf "management." In "Using Small Populations of Wolves for Ecosystem Restoration and Stewardship," Licht, et al., write, "The absence of top-level predators in many natural areas in North America has resulted in overabundant ungulate populations, cascading negative impacts on plant communities, and the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem processes."

Acknowledging that certain segments of gray wolf populations are no longer officially deemed endangered or threatened, the authors continue: "We propose another paradigm for wolf conservation, one that emphasizes ecosystem recovery instead of wolf recovery. Improvements in technology, an enhanced understanding of the ecological role of wolves, lessons from other countries, and changing public attitudes provide a new context and opportunity for wolf conservation and ecosystem restoration. Under this new paradigm, small populations of wolves, even single packs, could be restored to relatively small natural areas for purposes of ecosystem restoration and stewardship." (We recommend that our readers read the *BioScience* article in its entirety, to do justice to the authors' proposal.)

The authors recognize the complications inherent in carrying out such a program, but the salient point regard-

ing the positive impact of wolves on the ecosystem is well taken. And this theory begs another question: If wolves are a necessary part of a balanced environment, might we not infer that coyotes are, also? Dr. Licht has noted that as an ecologist, he "believes that we should strive for ecological integrity to the extent possible, especially on lands dedicated for such use. Coyotes are obviously a native species and part of that ecosystem integrity so as a general statement I would say 'yes' they are a 'useful part of an ecosystem.'" (Of course, ranchers and hunters don't care about ecosystem integrity, and that's partly the reason they view things differently.)"

Coyotes have been demonized and hunted out of all proportion to the actual risks they pose to humans. Like the wolf, they have seen their habitat encroached upon as wild lands are "developed." Coyotes are known to eat a domestic cat when no other prey is readily available, but again, this is a direct result of ever-expanding human habitation - not to mention the carelessness of leaving one's pets outside unattended.

There are numerous examples of harm done when any one species is killed off. Perhaps the most notorious example occurred in 14th century Europe, where it was widely believed that cats were associated with Satan and witchcraft. Because of this irrational fear, cats were slaughtered in huge numbers. The arrival in Europe in this period of infected rats from Central Asia - the source of the Black Death, responsible for killing approximately a third of the human population - demonstrates the folly of eliminating a predator. Without their natural foe to keep their numbers in check, the rats flourished. People did not.

In an effort to restore the natural balance in the ecosystem, researchers and others have called for the reintroduc-

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tion of wolves to the wild in various places, including our national parks. In 2004, a study made in Montana by W. J. Ripple and R. L. Beschta, Professors from Oregon State University, showed that wolves' influence on the distribution and behavior of elk would reduce the amount of time they spend foraging in woody vegetation. If wolves are finally being recognized as beneficial to natural environments, then surely, their cousins, the coyotes, are equally so.

To those of us who have always believed that coyotes and wolves have been unfairly stigmatized, and hunted with false justifications, the new studies are a welcome vindication. Considering that most people enjoy the company of their domesticated relatives, perhaps we may hope that the virtues of wild "dogs" - i.e., wolves and coyotes - may eventually be recognized, too. Not that they are cuddly pets who may share our homes, but that they are a vital component of a

healthy, balanced ecosystem. And as our wild lands diminish in size and number, it is more important than ever that those that are left maintain their integrity as much as possible. Without wolves and coyotes present that will not be possible.

For those of us who love these animals as the precious beings they are, and recognize the spirit of each individual, we hope for the day that their persecution will end. After all, what is an ecosystem if not the sum total of all the individuals who comprise it?

E. M. Fay is the Associate Editor of the *Wildlife Watch Binocular*. She has been investigating news stories in depth by interviewing scientists, and others who are quoted in mainstream media. Her articles for C.A.S.H. uniquely offer deeper coverage, as well as answering questions that had not been asked by reporters who do not have C.A.S.H.'s focus.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO LIFT RESTRICTIONS ON GUNS IN NATIONAL PARKS

Congress will lift restrictions on guns in national parks. Visitors will now be able to carry concealed and loaded guns into the parks, The Obama administration declined to appeal the ruling, and the law passed without comment as part of a credit card reform package!!!!!!

Bill Wade, President of the Coalition of National Park Service Retirees, said that "...the new law will erase the park system's reputation as a place of solitude and safety." Scot McElveen, President of the Association of National Park Rangers, said, "...readily accessible firearms in parks is one that will lead to lessened preservation of park resources."

Critics are also concerned about an increase in illegal hunting. McElveen further said, "...there's also a group ...that can be tempted by opportunity when they think that no one's around and no one will find out.."

See *The Washington Post* article by Ed O'Keefe on 2/19/2010

WOLF HUNTING IN IDAHO

Robert Millage is flaunting his yearling wolf, the FIRST wolf killed in the ID wolf hunt. Millage wrote: *I am trying to find a company to [take the wolf to shows]...I would think it would be a draw to a companies booth at the shows....just need the ear of the right CEO...seems to be a lot of interest in*



Photo from:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Support-the-Wolf-Hunt/139370149875#>

the 1st wolf taken in 80 years...between the controversy and everything... September 28, 2009 at 5:40pm.

To see what is LEGAL, C.A.S.H. urges you to link to this site: <http://idahooutdoors.blogspot.com/>

Lynne Stone, a wildlife watcher and wolf advocate wrote recently to Idaho media:

Over the past several years, I took several of you out to try and see the Basin Butte wolves around Stanley. Sadly, those wolves are all dead now, killed by Wildlife Services the week of Thanksgiving, and also shot by hunters and ranchers. The days of watching wolves in Idaho are over.

*Idaho may be killing any future of a wolf-ecotourism industry that could bring millions to rural communities. **The legislature is considering a law that makes speaking up against wolf***

hunting a criminal offense. Also, I find it odd that hunters like Robert Millage are complaining about the publicity he has gotten, yet, he posts photos of himself and his wolf "trophy" widely on the internet.

Lynne is Director of the **Boulder-White Clouds Council**, <http://wild-whiteclouds.org> You can also follow **Idaho wolf news at twitter/phantomtoo**.

Lynne asks that you please write Governor Butch Otter. Speak up for wolves and protest Idaho's sledge hammer approach to wolf management.

http://gov.idaho.gov/WebRespond/contact_form.html

We thank **CeAnn Lambert** of the **Indiana Coyote Rescue Center** <http://www.coyoterescue.org/> for letting us know about Lynne Stone.

A DAY IN THE SUN FOR THE HAYDEN WOLVES

BY JIM ROBERTSON

Wednesday, October 24th, 2007, was unseasonably warm and the Hayden wolf pack was stretched out in the bright afternoon light on a west-facing slope just below the tree line, taking full advantage of what may be their last chance to sunbathe for the year. With a snow level creeping toward the valley bottoms, the adult wolves knew that temperatures were soon to plummet and they may not get another peaceful nap like this for a long, long time. The Hayden pack consisted of nine members, including the alpha male, a pure white alpha female, two gray yearlings, three gray pups born that spring and the sole black pack member, another half-grown pup who sported an extra thick coat. A third gray yearling was away on his own excursion.

When the rapidly waning sun dropped enough to shroud their rendezvous site in shadows, the alpha male grew restless, slowly getting up to stretch. One by one the rest of the pack rose and fell in line as their leader started down in the direction of the Yellowstone River.

The procession moved along a sage-covered slope that led to a bank above the river. There they found themselves directly across from a road and a parking area full of waiting spectators. The undaunted alpha male led the pack south along the bank to a point which allowed an easy crossing. He was the first to take to the water, followed by the yearlings. The stark white alpha female was a blinding streak in the harsh light, as she swam ahead of the pups on this, the safer part of their valley crossing. Next, they would have to cross the treacherous and potentially deadly road. One by one, they bolted to the other side of

the man-made obstacle. Fortunately, all cars were stopped since every human eye was glued to them.

Together again, they bounded up into the shade of a lodgepole pine grove, shaking off their uneasy experience as they shook water off their drenched coats. Without pause, they headed up the ridgeline about to cross over and continue west, but something caught the yearlings' attention. Suddenly they tore out after a young doe who had risked leaving the cover of the forest for the lure of an open meadow. The inexperienced deer didn't stand a chance against the incredible, greyhound-like speed of the determined wolves. One quickly caught her by the hind leg and brought her down and a split second later the other yearling had her by the throat. In less than a heartbeat, a living, breathing deer was reduced to a lifeless carcass. The rest of the pack descended like vultures. Now, all the food energy she had secured over her short lifetime was being hastily divided up and consumed by hungry carnivores.

Meanwhile, the missing yearling pack member had returned to the rendezvous site only to find his pack had gone on without him. He began to howl plaintively, but his calls of, "Where did everybody go?" went selfishly ignored as he anxiously searched the wrong side of the river for his unmoved family members.

Hunger-driven and temporarily forgetting her maternal ties, the alpha female's snow white coat was now tainted red and her temperament was equally fouled. Acting like a raging bitch in the throes of PMS, she would suddenly grow tired of sharing and charge the pups with hackles raised

and fangs bared, bowling them over or biting their muzzles. A long-suffering parent who was finally fed up, this may have been her way of saying, "The party's over—from now on no more nursing or regurgitated meat for you. Winter's coming and it's time you learned there's no free lunch."

Then again, it could well have been PMS (or some kind of unfavorable flesh-fueled hormones) behind her power-tripping display, which included the mannish practice of raising a hind leg while peeing. She even charged the alpha male and feigned a bite to his muzzle, but Mr. Mellow just tried to stay out of her way. Too dignified to get his ruff all bloody, he didn't join in on the group gorge. Instead he chose to wait until the carcass was reduced to a few meaty bones, which he carried off one at a time to gnaw on in peace. But his quiet meal was intermittently interrupted when a pup or two would squirm up to him seeking approval, falling all over themselves like court jesters.

When the pack moved on there was nothing but bare bones and hide left for the missing yearling. Instead of sustenance, all he got was a learning experience—a tough lesson on staying together. But if he misses out on a meal like this during the frigid winter months, he may not make it through one of the many long, windy nights.

The mule deer population was booming in Yellowstone that year and the wolves were efficiently playing their part in nature's saga—a role that has served populations of both predator and prey for eons. Like rightful kings returning from exile, wolves are far from new to the Yellowstone ecosystem. Their 71 year absence

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from the area was the result of the senseless bounty set by the real newcomers on the scene.

Modern humans with their traps, snares, poisons and rifles are the only thing new to the fine-tuned system of checks and balances that has regulated itself since life first evolved. New to the scene are cowboys and their monoculture “crop” of cows, along with barbed wire fences and four-wheelers. New are pack trains of sport hunters, intolerant of any competition from mere canines, yet eager to take trophies of wolf heads and hides, while leaving the unpalatable meat to rot. New is the notion that humankind can replace nature’s time-tested order with so-called “wildlife management”—a regime that has not yet managed to prove itself worthy.

Unmatched manipulators, modern humans have moved so far beyond the natural order that population constraints like disease or starvation are no longer a threat to the species’ survival (as long as society continues to function). But wolf packs are at the mercy of nature’s generosity. Wolves can’t afford to be acquisitive; without a plentiful prey base, they perish.

Theirs is a precarious struggle, without the comforting promise of immortality.

Jim Robertson is an ethical photographer. He photographs animals in the wild only, not in captive settings. Visit his website at www.animalsinthewild.org.

TRAPPING DESTROYS WILDLIFE WATCHING AND THE WOLVES

A photo that had been circulating on the internet showed a wolf and bear fishing for salmon. The comment was that it was a rare sight. We forwarded the photos to **Jim Robertson**, an ethical photographer, who has spent much time in our national parks photographing ani-

mals. He wrote:

Why aren’t wolves seen fishing alongside bears in Katmai (National Park and Preserve in Southern AK) more often? One reason is that the wolf population around there is nearly trapped out every winter. That has happened to the Katmai wolves on several of the years I’ve been there.

Though it is prime habitat, all I’ve ever seen is one set of wolf tracks in Katmai. In winter, when the lakes and rivers are frozen over, the wolves head down to the lowlands out of the park and into the “preserve” or state land that allows trapping by anyone who wants to hop on his snowmobile and set out a trapline.



Jim Robertson’s photo of the Hyder wolves titled, “Wolves Resolve Argument SE Alaska”

For some background on the photo, Jim wrote: *The first time I beheld the sight of wolves in the wild was outside the decrepit mining-town-turned-tourist-*



trap of Hyder, at Fish Creek, a bear-viewing reserve on the Alaska/British Columbia border. Due to local persecution, wolves had not been seen in the area for decades, and their return that year was greeted with generous appreciation by an assembly of lucky bear watchers and photographers who shared in my elation.

But the spectacle lasted only one short season and by late fall a few resident tyrants—under the self-delusion that it’s all here for them—had trapped, shot or otherwise driven off the entire pack. Today the only sign of wolves in Hyder is a hand painted plywood sign advertising “Wolf Hides For Sale” in front of a detestable trinket shop on a muddy back road of the wretched little town. Wolves in Alaska can legally be killed by anyone, practically anytime, by any means imaginable (former Alaska Governor Sarah Palin’s personal favorite is strafing from low-flying aircraft).

All photos from www.animalsinthewild.org have been printing with permission.

C.A.S.H. ANSWERS TRAPPING QUESTION

C.A.S.H. President, Joe Miele received the following request for information:

My name is **Eva Mizer** and I am a reporter with the online version of All Points North (found at www.apn-mag.com). I am currently writing a story about accidents related to trapping, and would like to interview you through email. If you wouldn't mind answering these questions by the end of the week, it would be greatly appreciated.

Joe replied with the following:

Thank you for contacting the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting. I'll be happy to help with your story about trapping. Feel free to call me if you need additional information.

1. What is your opinion on trapping on public lands?

If I assume correctly, you're speaking of recreational trapping, fur trapping, and sport trapping - not the kind of trapping that is done to help injured or orphaned animals or the kind that helps manage feral cat populations through Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR)

C.A.S.H. is opposed to all fur trapping and recreational trapping when the intent is to harm, rather than to help an animal. We are opposed to it on both private and public lands. We support animal damage control trapping when the animals are humanely and safely trapped and relocated.

2. What are the general trapping laws that apply to most counties you can explain?

Laws vary from state to state and county to county, but many include the amount of time an animal can remain in a trap, what kinds of traps can be used, what times of year trapping can occur, which species can be legally trapped, etc. Some states do not have limits on seasons or the number of certain species that can be killed, and trapping these animals is unregulated to a large degree.

3. Are trappers required to register each trap? Are there other



This little raccoon should be the poster boy for all things wrong with trapping. Here's Rackus once again. His hands trapped off at two different times.

guidelines for how many traps may be set in a given area?

Laws vary. In certain circumstances trappers are required to obtain a trapping license and to mark their traps with their name and address, or an identification number approved by the state hunting agency. I know of no laws that limit the number of traps that can be placed in a legal trapping area.

4. Have you ever witnessed or been a part of the investigation/rescue of a trapping-related accident? When was it? Who was involved?

I have observed a wildlife rehabilitator as she was helping a hawk who had been caught in an illegal leghold trap (this was in New Jersey, many years ago) The bird was able to recover, but she needed to be confined to a sanctuary because she was unreleasable. The facility is named Raptor Trust.

5. Which is more common, trapping accidents on public or private land?

Trapping accidents are not as common as hunting accidents, but it seems that most take place on public land.

Each year there are many cases of dogs being caught in leghold traps or being killed by conibear traps. A simple google search will yield many links for you to pursue.

6. What kind of traps are used for which kind of animal? Which are dangerous to humans, cats, and dogs?

Although there are several different kinds of traps, the main three are leghold traps, Conibear traps and snares. Leghold traps and conibear traps are used on the same species of animals - coyotes, minks, muskrats, weasels, beavers, otters. Squirrels, fishers and marten are most often caught with conibear traps, while foxes and wolves are trapped most often with leghold traps. Snares are often used on coyotes and bears.

Cats and dogs fall victim to each of the kinds of traps. There have been instances of children being caught by leghold traps and conibears, but because of their footwear they have not been seriously injured.

7. The stereotypical trap in the public eye is the kind with metal teeth, is this trap used often, if ever? What is the most common trap used?

Leghold traps with teeth are still legal in the following states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. They are not used as often as traps without teeth, but they are still legal for use. The most commonly used trap is indeed the leghold trap.

8. What is your advice to people traveling through parks and private land to avoid getting caught in a trap?

The risk to people is very slim, but

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dogs who are allowed off-leash run a significant risk of being caught. My advice is to know when trapping season is open and to not allow ones' dogs to run free. Trappers cannot be trusted to keep their traps away from areas where people bring their animals for a little bit of recreation.

9. If you find a trap, what should you do? Set it off with a stick and remove it? Report it to the police?

Disturbing a legally-placed trap is against the law in all 50 states. In New

Jersey, leghold traps are illegal in all cases so if someone finds one the best thing to do is to set it off with a sturdy stick and then turn it in to the police. Since possessing a leghold trap is illegal in New Jersey, turning it in to the police is a requirement. In other states, if you find a trap that has been set outside of trapping season, my advice would be to carefully set it off and then to take it home. There is nothing illegal about disturbing an illegally placed trap.

10. If a person wanted to formally protest trapping in general, what

would they have to do?

There are many areas to pursue. Getting in touch with local officials to ban trapping within a local municipality is a positive step. Nation-wide bans on leghold traps are often introduced but they die in committee due to lack of support. Writing letters and op-eds to newspapers is a way to keep the issue in the public eye. Public demonstrations outside of stores that sell traps can educate the public. Setting up information booths at street fairs and community events is also a positive thing that someone can do.

HOW TO PROTECT CANADA GEESE ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

BY DEBRA MUCCI

More and more people are becoming interested in wildlife watching. Seeing the beauty of God's creatures living their lives as they were intended to, right before our very eyes, can be fascinating and a wonder to behold. Nature as God intended is beautiful!

Unfortunately, not everyone appreciates the beauty of nature. Some people want to control nature, and they become angry when nature carries on without their approval. They do not see anything but reasons to be upset when wild animals have the "nerve" to live their lives, occasionally encroaching on their property without their permission.

These people can be dangerous! They will do anything to stop wildlife from behaving naturally in their midst. They demand that life be lived their way or not at all. Their way usually involves either hurting or taking the lives of creatures who get in their way and are bothering them.

I believe that all of God's creatures have a right to live their lives as God intended. And, if anyone does not like wildlife living on their property, perhaps they should not have purchased that particular property. Perhaps these



Photo by Anne Muller

people would be better off in a high-rise apartment building, or as far away from wildlife as possible. Why these people actually buy a place on a lake, and then complain when wildlife visits the lake, is beyond my comprehension. It is a mystery to me.

The following is a list of ways to protect Canada geese on private property:

1. Beware of people that get upset about geese on the property. Watch to see how they behave near the geese.

2. If you are living in a multi-unit property, report any abuse of the geese to the management company in writing, right after you have reported it to the police. You may even want to send a copy of the police report with your letter to property management.

3. Do not argue with other home owners, as it will become a case of you against them.

4. Carry a camera with you at all times and take pictures of any abuse taking place. Keep these pictures as they can be used as evidence against the abusers.

5. Do not feed the geese, as they will come back again and again which will annoy property owners, causing some of them to take their anger out on the geese or their goslings; which they may do any way, but it is wise not to give them an added reason.

6. Have wildlife experts come to the property to suggest ways to coexist with the geese. For example, **Wildlife Watch, Geese Peace**, etc. These organizations will usually come out and speak to property owners and/or property management at no cost, suggesting humane ways to coexist with the geese. Attempting to get rid of the geese in any way will not work unless the geese want to leave.

Debra Mucci is a resident of a condominium complex in Dutchess County, NY.

ILLEGAL LAWS - THE OXYMORONIC NIGHTMARE OF ANIMAL ACTIVISM!

BY PETER MULLER



There are a number of laws in the US that are primarily intended to put a chilling effect on animal protection activism. These laws are judged by many disinterested attorneys to be blatantly unconstitutional – yet they exist on the federal level as well as state levels. They are tools for harassment and intimidation. Most of them will not withstand a serious challenge in the courts. Unfortunately, under our system of laws it is up to us, the intended victims, to muster up the resources, time, effort and often personal sacrifice to undo these laws.

The most notorious and destructive of these is the Federal **Animal Enterprise Terrorism Act (AETA)** which, by its very terms, violates the first amendment.

Under AETA you can be imprisoned for 10 years, if the offense results in economic damage exceeding \$100,000, and for 20 years if the offense results in economic damage exceeding \$1,000,000.

If you or your group is contemplating an action and the following elements are present:

1) Interstate communication is involved (you send an announcement of your demo or boycott to an AR-listserv, or call friends in neighboring states).

2) You intend to cause economic damage to your target company (boycotts, advertisements, and demonstrations).

3) The target is an animal enterprise (any commercial or academic enterprise that uses or sells animals or animal products).

Yet state cognates that often provide for even more severe penalties exist in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota,

Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin

Under the Pennsylvania law, for example, you can get up to 40 years for the same offense that gets you 20 years under the federal law.

Hunter harassment statutes exist in all 50 states, which most activists concerned with hunting issues know, but there is also a federal hunter harassment law. Many of the state laws prohibit speech directed at hunters. This is a clear violation of the First Amendment.

The federal law (16 USC CHAPTER 72 - RECREATIONAL HUNTING SAFETY) provides:

It is a violation of this section intentionally to engage in any physical conduct that significantly hinders a lawful hunt.

What does that include: Playing a clarinet, waving a banner, singing hymns? I don't know of a single instance where someone was charged with the federal law. What is its intent? To frighten activists into self-censorship?

Our attention was very recently called to a new twist in a proposed change to the Idaho hunter harassment statute; the change provides not only penalties for engaging a hunter afield with speech or physical action but to communicate with a hunter at any time by phone, electronic means, or mail in a manner that indicates our displeasure with hunting and is perceived by the hunter as "intimidating." House bill no. 531 (currently in the Resources and Conservation Committee) accessible at <http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/legislation/2010/H0531.pdf>

states (in part):

No person shall..

Harass, intimidate or threaten by any means including, but not limited to,

personal or written contact, or via telephone, email or website, any person who is or was engaged in the lawful taking or control of fish or wildlife. ...

Whenever a hunter feels intimidated by what's on your website – you'll go to jail in Idaho.

The sponsors added a contradictory weasel-clause:

The conduct declared unlawful in this section does not include constitutionally protected activity. Even though it clearly does do just that.

We can only pity the judge who is going to try to make sense of this legislative mess.

The "silliest" of these anti-animal-activists laws are perhaps the "food disparagement" laws. In Wisconsin, if you sell tofu and tell people that cheese stinks, you're in serious trouble:

§96.03 states (in part)

No market development program may be funded under a marketing order which makes use of false or unwarranted claims on behalf of an affected commodity **or disparages the quality, value, sale or use of any other agricultural commodity.**

These laws are so silly and so blatantly against the first amendment guarantee of freedom of speech that attempts to enforce them are rare. Whenever there is an attempt to enforce them they provide endless material for comedians throughout the world. The laws are invariably held to be unconstitutional – but not before costing the defendants tens of thousand of dollars in legal fees. Yet these laws exist in Alabama, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Louisiana, Mississippi, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Wisconsin.

We need a federal ombudsman who will bring court challenges against laws that are clearly in violation of the constitution to make it unnecessary for individuals to spend time and resources to undo laws that should never have passed.

HUNTING: MYTH VS. FACT

MYTH: Hunting prevents starvation among wildlife populations

FACT: Scientific studies show that deer reproduce at a greater rate after being hunted. Wildlife agencies exploit this fact to keep hunters interested in their sport.

MYTH: Hunting protects the public against the spread of Lyme Disease

FACT: According to the Centers for Disease Control, there is no evidence that people can contract Lyme disease directly from wild animals. The American Lyme Disease Foundation does not recommend hunting to combat the disease.

MYTH: Hunting lessens the number of accidents involving cars and deer

FACT: The two most dangerous days to drive in terms of deer/vehicle collisions are the opening day and first Saturday of hunting season (Erie Insurance Group) because hunted deer dash across roads as they run for their lives.

MYTH: Hunting contributes to stronger wildlife populations

FACT: Hunters kill the strongest and healthiest of the species, leaving the oldest and weakest to breed. With hunters seeking either for a trophy or meat, they pass up weak and sickly animals and wait for healthy animals to kill.

MYTH: Only hunting can control wildlife populations

FACT: Deer immunocontraception has been extremely effective in reducing deer populations. Further, as wildlife populations are intentionally **INCREASED** to satisfy hunters' demands for animals to kill, by stopping management for hunting, the deer population will be reduced.

To learn how hunting agencies use *YOUR* tax dollars in manipulating wildlife populations to satisfy sport hunters:

www.AbolishSportHunting.com



JOIN C.A.S.H. at AR2010 in WASHINGTON, D.C. Join in the discussion about Hunter Harassment Laws

THE HUNTER HARASSMENT LAW: WHY IT MUST BE ANNULLED

As managing editor of *The C.A.S.H. Courier*, the newsletter of the Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting, Anne Muller has received reports from landowners in many different states of Hunter Harassment Law abuse. Landowners who told hunters to leave their property were charged with hunter harassment. The law amounts to a backdoor taking of property, and violates First and Fourth Amendment Rights. This panel provides the first public exposure of hunter harassment abuse of regular citizens who had no connection with the animal rights community — until they fell victim. They could not get help from law enforcement officials who had charged them with the crime, nor from the courts that upheld the charges, nor from their neighbors who, in some instances, had caused the abuse. The Hunter Harassment Law must be annulled. The first step is....exposure.

Kathy Andrews lives in South Carolina. She is an award winning journalist and a former reporter and anchor with BET, WJLA-TV (ABC) in D.C., and PBS. She works for a university in S.C.

Kathy's dream was to return to S.C. to live on her family's farm.



That dream turned into a nightmare as hunters trespassed and terrorized Kathy with gunfire after she complained to police. Kathy was arrested for removing a tracking dog collar from a hunting dog on her property after local authorities advised her she needed proof of trespassing hunters. Today, Kathy is an outspoken voice against hunting and hunter harassment.

Jan Haagensen lives in Pennsylvania. She was an English teacher prior to getting her law degree. She specialized in environmental and civil rights cases, and lived quietly on a farm in Pennsylvania UNTIL the local hunters decided to invade her home ground. Because her family resisted any and all attacks on the creatures with whom they shared their lives, the local hunters would not leave them alone. Jan was ultimately arrested and charged with nine different "crimes" as defined by the PA hunter harassment statute, basically because she insisted that the police stop hunters from trespassing. She has had to spend years appealing her original convictions and is presently in federal court challenging the constitutionality of the harassment law; she is also seeking damages for the harm inflicted on her by the

State Police, Game Commission, and law-breaking hunters.

Terri MacKenzie lives in Michigan. She has two bachelor's degrees, one from the University of Minnesota in Social Work, and the other in Special Education from Western Michigan University. She has a master's degree from Concordia University. She served two years as a volunteer for the Kalamazoo County Sheriff Police Reserve Division. She owns a house with 10 acres and an additional 5 acres of leased power line property. Voicing the regular concerns about safety of her family and companion animals on her property during hunting season, she became a victim of the hunter harassment law. Fighting these charges will cost her both time and money. The Hunter Harassment law was used as a club against her for trying to keep her family out of danger.

**Your additional
contributions to C.A.S.H.'s
legal fund will help
Jan Haagensen to continue
her battle to overturn
the PA Hunter
Harassment Law.**

[Click here to Help](#)

HUNTERS AND GAME AGENCIES COLLUDE TO TAKE PROPERTY FROM PROPERTY OWNERS TO GIVE THEMSELVES MORE HUNTING LAND

In a letter from **Merle Wilson**, he enclosed an ordinance that amends chapter 50 of the Buchanan County code by adding the following new paragraph:

A dwelling shall not be erected, constructed, or moved to or within 200 feet of a Public Hunting Area!!!!

YET ANOTHER HORROR STORY OF PROPERTY OWNER ABUSE/ASSAULT/MURDER BY HUNTERS

Frank Shaffer, a property owner in York County, PA, asked a gang of trespassing hunters to leave his property. They didn't and instead Shaffer was shot dead on his property. What was the result?

All hunters walked scot-free. The killing was considered an act of self-defense!!!!

The game agency spokesman, said "We tell everyone that a hunting license is not a license to trespass. ...Be respectful of the landowner."

[Now, that was said AFTER Frank Shaffer had been KILLED!]

C.A.S.H. tried to contact the family for further information, but our call was not returned.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

- ✓ As president of C.A.S.H., Joe Miele has been busy since the publication of the last Courier.
- ✓ He assisted citizens from over a dozen states by supplying information on how to address local hunting issues.
- ✓ Contacted the Thurston County (Washington) Commissioners about duck hunting in the County, and suggested several ways to support the local economy by banning hunting and encouraging wildlife watching opportunities. As a result, at least one of the commissioners reached out to a local activist for more information and for suggestions on how to implement such a plan.
- ✓ Reached out to a Texas housing complex and provided information on how to prevent deer from dining on ornamental landscaping.
- ✓ Participated in discussions on the C.A.S.H. Facebook page and answered questions asked by our new "friends."
- ✓ Worked with a local activist in Iowa to develop a plan for reporting hunting violations to the DNR and making sure the DNR is held accountable to following up or not following up on them.
- ✓ Tabled at the Las Cruces Earth Day celebration.
- ✓ In addition, he is finalizing plans to be a featured guest on KTEP's ACT Radio with Greg Lawson and Elizabeth Walsh.

OUR HUNTING POSTER IS CIRCULATING

Upon a supporter's request, C.A.S.H. designed a hunting poster for store windows, dorm walls, etc. Feel free to copy and use it. You'll find it on page 9

Joe Miele of C.A.S.H. responded to a letter from Victoria Monroe, Fairfax County, VA. Ms. Monroe is a wildlife biologist who supported culling. We thank **Richard Firth** for sharing her letter with us. Please see Joe's response online.

It's an Ambush

A hunter who condemned trapping got this comment from **Ann Fanizzi**, a C.A.S.H. member: "Trapping definitely is not hunting..but let's be honest, sitting in a tree stand for 8 hours with a rifle waiting for a deer to walk by isn't hunting either. It's an ambush."

WHY ARE YOU STILL RECEIVING A MAILING OF THE C.A.S.H. COURIER?

We have found that C.A.S.H. still has many contributing members who do not use the Internet.

FOLKS AND ORGS TO KNOW ABOUT:

Wild Earth Guardians

<http://www.wildearthguardians.org/AboutUs/MeetOurStaff/tabid/95/Default.aspx>

Battling Deer Culling in KS

Jason Miller has been battling deer culling in KS.

To learn more about that, please visit <http://thomaspainscorner.wordpress.com/tpc-editorial-collective/>

C.A.S.H. tries to be as responsive as possible to those who need our help. We were asked to do a postcard Action Alert to our Iowa members asking them to report hunting violations and demand enforcement of existing laws. We did. Further we sent out the following letter:

*Mr. Richard Leopold, Director
Iowa Department of Natural Resources*

502 E. 9th Street

Des Moines, IA 50319-0034

December 28, 2009

Dear Mr. Leopold:

On behalf of our members and supporters throughout Iowa, we wish to bring your attention to what appears to be the inability of the officials within the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Bureau to enforce violations of the state's conservation laws. We were alerted to this situation by one of our members who has witnessed the following:

- *Hunters using motor vehicles to chase or head off animals*
- *Hunters shooting into private property from a public road and/or a vehicle*
- *Hunters trespassing on private property*
- *Hunters parking side by side on roads and impeding traffic and pedestrian movement.*

Such violations threaten the safety of Iowans and should not be tolerated or overlooked by the state conservation law enforcement agency. As an organization that represents the interests of our members and supporters throughout Iowa we urge you to investigate whether or not conservation laws are being enforced consistently. When you do, we're confident that you will find lax enforcement and a plethora of illegal activity taking place

Your response to this matter of great importance will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joe Miele, President

Please use your pen or computer to communicate with your game agencies when you see a violation. Ask that they send you a copy of the report of your complaint.

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO

C.A.S.H. PARTNERS WITH GOODSEARCH!

Now there's a great way to support C.A.S.H. while you work online. Instead of "Googling" use GoodSearch instead! Powered by Yahoo, GoodSearch is a search engine that donates money from every search to your favorite charity. The next time you search the web, go to www.GoodSearch.com and enter Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting as your charity of choice. Click "verify" and you're all set to support C.A.S.H. with every web search, at NO COST to you!

You can make this process even easier by clicking the link that says "Get the GoodSearch toolbar or add us to your search box." Through that link you can set

Goodsearch as your default search engine, and download a plug-in for I.E., Firefox, or Google Chrome.

Even better, you can shop through the GoodSearch partner "GoodShop!" By going to

<http://www.goodsearch.com/goodshop.aspx> and entering **Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting** as your charity, up to 30% of every purchase made through that page will go to C.A.S.H. to help fight hunting, trapping, and other abuses of wildlife.

Start using GoodSearch today and thank you for your generous support of C.A.S.H.!

Lawmakers Consider an Animal Abuse Registry

BY JESSE MCKINLEY

San Francisco may soon judge animal abusers as equal to sex offenders, listing them online, complete with home addresses and places of employment.

The bill, proposed by Dean Florez, State Senate Majority leader, would be the first nationwide, and the latest law supporting animal rights in a state which recently afforded new protections to farm animals.

Florez, Democrat, and Chairman of

the Food and Agriculture Committee, said the law would help those who "have animals and want to take care of them," a broad contingent in California, with many farms and millions of pet owners. Animal protection is a rare bipartisan issue in the state, which has bitter partisan fights and protracted budget woes.

See the rest of the article at: <http://www.nytimes.com/2010/02/22/us/22abuse.html>

DOG SHOT BY NEIGHBOR IN ROCKLAND COUNTY

Denise and Augie DePalma's gentle, family dog was shot and killed by a neighbor while she was in her own backyard. The family was devastated. The dog had grown up with their children. **Ken Vassilatos**, a friend of the family, and a staunch animal advocate, is working with the family to bring about legal justice for **Karma** and her family.

See *The Journal News* (Rockland County, NY) article of 12/18/09

RIP BB



A senseless tragedy was reported via the Pennysaver. CASH was sent a memorial about a beloved 11-month-old Husky mix, B.B., who was cruelly shot through the head while in her own yard. B.B. was "full of life, playfulness, love, and kindness," her broken-hearted guardians said. To B.B.'s murderer, they added, "We only hope you felt your life was in danger to commit such a heinous act. If not, we can only hope you get what you deserve."

What We've Been Up To Newspapers written to since last Courier (61 different papers)

AK Peninsula Clarion (Kenai)	NC The Dispatch (Lexington) News & Observer (Raleigh, Durham, Cary, & Chapel Hill)
AR North Little Rock Times	ND Burke County Tribune Jamestown Sun
CA Orland Press Register San Jose Mercury News	NE Kearney Hub
CT The Day (New London)	NJ Daily Record (Parsippany) Hunterdon County Democrat The Independent (Long Branch)
DC Washington Post	NY Albany Times Union Wall Street Journal Adirondack Daily Enterprise (Saranack Lake) The Journal News (Westchester County)
FL Florida Today (Melbourne) Naples Daily News	OH Marion Star Newark Advocate Fairfield Echo Bucyrus Telegraph
IA Des Moines Register	SD Argus Leader (Sioux Falls) Brookings Register Rapid City Journal
ID Idaho Statesman (Boise) Idaho Mountain Express & Guide (Ketchum)	TN Knoxville News Sentinel
IL Journal Gazette/Times Courier (Mattoon) State Journal-Register (Springfield)	TX The Anahuac Progress (Anahuac and Chambers Counties) The Dallas Morning News
IN Evansville Courier & Press	WA Daily News (Longview)
KS Topeka Capital-Journal	WI Wausau Daily Herald Milwaukee Journal Sentinel The Northwestern (Oshkosh)
MD The Aegis (Bel Air) Cecil Whig (Elkton)	WV Charleston Gazette Charleston Daily Mail Register-Herald (Beckley)
MI Traverse City Record-Eagle Flint Journal	WY Wyoming Tribune-Eagle (Cheyenne) Torrington Telegram
MN St. Paul Pioneer Press Minneapolis Star Tribune Rochester Post-Bulletin The Sebeka Menasha Review Messenger	
MO St. Joseph News Press Trenton Republican-Times Branson Tri-Lakes News Columbia Daily Tribune	
MT Laurel Outlook Helena Independent Record The Missoulian to the Flathead Beacon (Kalispell)	

CULLING PAVES THE WAY FOR TROPHY BUCKS IN SUBURBAN AREAS

The Duping of Municipal Governments by Game Agencies and the QDMA

WWW.NOCULL.ORG



Photo of fetuses removed from does immediately after the culling of 64 deer at Vassar College.

Published on the HVQDMA website.

The hunters are chomping at the bit to hunt Vassar's "preserve" annually.

One hunter commented that he was "happy to see what can be accomplished when groups work together towards better conservation of our natural resources."

More will be written about this in the next issue of the C.A.S.H. Courier.

C.A.S.H., and other organizations with which we consult, have noticed a serious increase in the number of "culling" operations that are being considered by various municipal, county, and park-management boards, as well as some boards overseeing privately owned large expanses of land.

"Culling" amounts to "Killing with an excuse." The usual rationalization that is put forth to assuage the normal instinct of most citizens and decision makers to not permit the gratuitous killing of deer are:

- deer are a vector of the tick that causes Lyme disease
- deer are destroying the understory of the forest that song-birds need for nesting
- deer "overpopulation" is the cause of deer-car collisions
- there is no effective and economical non-lethal means to reduce the deer population
- a quick "cull" followed by bow-hunting (or some other form of hunting) in perpetuity is an effective way to reduce the deer overpopulation

The good news is that all of the above rationalizations are **false**, and we have the

scientific articles to back us up.

The bad news is that science and ethics play, at best, a supporting role in political decision-making. The lead is played by the "perceived political will."

It is up to us to organize and present the decision makers with evidence that most voters don't want to kill deer when there is no rational reason to do so — and there is no rational reason to do so. Here is a letter that Wildlife Watch routinely sends out:

We are writing on behalf of our xxx members in [municipality, state] who protest the plan to kill the deer at [place] in the strongest possible terms. Killing wild animals is a decision that should and can be avoided with the diligent use of non-lethal means.

Culling is brutal and ignorant of the causes of deer overpopulation. It amounts to applying a band-aid to the deep-rooted problem of deer management in [your state]. The game agency manages deer populations for hunters, without regard for most of the stakeholders who are non-hunters.

*Below are the many reasons that hunting should **not** be used to control deer populations:*

Bow-hunting will exacerbate an overpopulation problem.

We cannot assume that the majority of local residents do not tolerate the current deer density based on the claims of the bow-hunters.

Deer density is not the sole factor in the diminishing of the understory of the forest. There are other known causes, such as canopies of mature trees inhibiting sun from penetrating to the understory. The diminishing understory is not an aberrant phenomenon; it is a natural occurrence. It is part of normal ecological succession.

Bow hunting exacerbates deer-car collisions.

The density of the black-legged Lyme-tick depends primarily on the density of rodents, not deer; further, deer do not carry the ticks in the stage of life that promotes the disease.

Immunocontraception is relatively inexpensive and has worked successfully in parks and urban/suburban settings.

Bow hunting is ineffective and cruel; the

crippling rate exceeds 50%. Wounded deer suffer for days before they die.

Rather than taking your vengeance out on the deer, you should be requiring your State [game agency: DEC, DNR, etc.], [Head of the game agency for the state], or your state legislators, to stop the management of deer for hunting — any kind of hunting.

*The public and the deer will continue to lose while the alleged "sportsmen" and the game agents continue to win so they may pump vast amounts of lead into living beings, the environment and water supply; and threaten the safety of residents. Additionally, they are threatening the food banks. The deer meat will not be inspected, and in many cases will be ground up with lead that is in them from having been shot in non-vital organs in prior hunting seasons. Further, the deer have fed on lawns treated with pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides that bio-accumulate in the muscle-tissue of animals. For example, the only time "culled" deer were inspected in NY was in Irondequoit, NY, where the deer carcasses were going to be donated to Attica Prisoners. All 22 carcasses were rejected as "unfit for human consumption." **Let's not cynically turn this despicable deed into altruism.***

We hold out hope that at some point, before this brutish act is committed, that some of the decision-makers involved will break ranks with those who voted for a cull and deliver the community and the deer from the fruitless plan. Culling will only have to be continued year after year due to its inability to succeed. Culling can be likened to trying to keep a rising river from overflowing its banks during torrential rains with a few paper towels. The game agencies must be the focus — they must be stopped from managing deer for the sake of sport hunting. By following their plan, you are aiding and abetting deer mismanagement that is bringing strife to the community.

**To aid in your battle to fight culling, visit: www.nocull.org
Website designed by C.A.S.H.**

ASK UNCLE JOE



BY JOE MIELE

GOT A QUESTION FOR UNCLE JOE? YOU CAN E-MAIL IT TO AskUncleJoe@hotmail.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 don't believe that you would actually want to abolish hunting or as you call it sport hunting. Why? The department of conservation was created to protect animals and that's what they do. Without hunting, deer get diseased when there are too many of them and those pictures are more gruesome than you can imagine. And then there are the amount of people losing the family dog or cat to coyote, and how many people die each year in car accidents caused by deer?

I think if you want people to listen to you you should also present both sides of the argument because by abolish hunting and you will have diseased animals, hungry families, more car accidents, and more animal attacks upon humans.

Corrie L.
Pasco, WA

Dear Corrie:

There are many reasons why we want to abolish sport hunting. Using a weapon to intentionally kill an animal who poses no threat to you or to anyone else is an unnecessarily violent act. We believe that the world is already too violent and that any increase in the amount of violence is not needed. When we're violent we dismiss the needs, feeling and suffering of others, and that makes us weak inside and lesser people.

State wildlife agencies were established to regulate hunting, not to protect animals. If their mission is to protect wildlife (show me in writing where this is so) they are failing miserably. Every time I see a dead deer in the back of someone's truck it is evidence that no one protected that animal.

Don't we already see diseased animals, hungry families, car accidents and animal attacks on humans with all the hunting that is going on? Think about the kinds of animals that hunters most often kill - pheasants, deer, squirrels, rabbits, etc. How many of these animals are likely to attack a

person? Last time I checked, no one was very concerned about being attacked by a flock of ducks. And think about this one - when was the last time you heard a hunter talk about using his tag to kill a "diseased" or sick deer? Hunters kill the strongest and healthiest animals, leaving the sick and weak to breed. That is how they hurt wildlife species in addition to the individual animals

As for presenting both sides of the issue, we do. We address hunting from the standpoint of how it affects wildlife and how it affects the environment. We also expose how 99.99% of hunters kill for recreation and not for survival. We look at hunting from many angles, not just from the standpoint of animal cruelty. Now, when was the last time you heard a hunting organization or agency present both sides of the argument?

Peace,
Uncle Joe

Dear Uncle Joe. [Uncle Joe asks that you try to follow the following letter; it's not easy.]

"Wolf control" is about giving a few twisted macho men a chance to blow away a wolf ... from an airplane. How sporting! Since hunting was banned in these areas and the wolf population got out of control, we had to hire professional hunters and snipers to keep the population in check, not "a few twisted macho men." And you know, Deer Hunting is Good for the Soul There are facts that support our point of view backed up by statistics and biologists, whereas on the other side it's supported by emotion and feelings, not a very strong argument. One thing you probably don't know is that almost every hunter would get just as much satisfaction out of hunting just by watching the animals opposed to harvesting one. Hunters enjoy watching the animals alot, ther's no way describe how you feel when there's a deer right under

neath you and is unaware of your presence. It takes a lot of work and preparation to be able to actually get a deer or any animal Find a hobby where you can be more productive and stop trying to ruin everyone's tradition.

Stephen B.
Capitan, NM

Dear Stephen:

I do not believe that wolf populations are "out of control." Wolves are disliked by ranchers, but they seldom give anyone else a problem. The wolf killing is done to pacify those who make their living by killing other animals, and in our opinion these kinds of people should not be supported. And how can something that is "good for the soul" be "backed up by statistics" when the presence of a soul cannot be proven scientifically? Aren't you hunters supposedly all about science?

It's also interesting that hunters talk about camaraderie and tradition, and then try to claim that they are not relying on emotion when they kill. Are you trying to tell me that when you hunt, you do not experience a range of emotions? It seems like you're saying that hunters are machine-like and kill without emotion. Heartless is another word for that - thanks for confirming what so many of us already know.

You wrote: "One thing you probably don't know is that almost every hunter would get just as much satisfaction out of hunting just by watching the animals opposed to harvesting one." If you get just as much satisfaction from watching the animals, why do you feel the need to be so violent?

And like with pretty much everything else you've written, I disagree that it is difficult for hunters to kill wildlife. You people kill tens of millions of animals every year, so you can't possibly say that it is difficult to do so.

Peace,
Uncle Joe

PETER'S HUMOR?

C.A.S.H. apologizes if you are not amused

C.A.S.H. CATALOG

Gods 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 readers' 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.

A hunter, still in camos, goes to a McDonalds for lunch. After staring at a woman seated at the counter for a few minutes, he walks over to her and kisses her. She jumps up and slaps him silly.

He immediately apologized and explained, "I'm sorry. I thought you were my wife. You look exactly like her."

She screamed at him "Why you worthless, insufferable, wretched, no good killing savage - get away from me!"

"Funny," he mutters, "you even sound exactly like her."

☺☺☺

Q: What did the hunter get on his IQ test?

A: Saliva

☺☺☺

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

A turkey hunter who prided himself on being an intellectual accidentally shot and killed his partner because he had a turkey decoy on his back while he was using a turkey caller. While talking to the inquisitive reporters, he wasn't able to contain his disdain for his dead colleague and said: Some drink from the fountain of knowledge; he only gargled.

☺☺☺

Contrary to public opinion, hunters actually do hold patents and copyrights on some major inventions; here are some of them:

- Inflatable dart board
- A dictionary index
- Ejector seat in a helicopter
- Powdered water
- Water-proof tea bag



Fans of Pete's Humor

www.ebaumsworld.com/pictures/view/557305/#

HUNTING GOING DOWN THE TUBES ☺

ANNE MULLER, EDITOR, C.A.S.H. COURIER

A February 10th *Wall Street Journal* article could have been titled, "The Hunting Industry is Going Down the Tubes.". "Down the tubes" was Luke Dommer's favorite expression. Luke was the founder of C.A.S.H. This would make his heart glad! February 10th was also my birthday!

Here are some of the reasons people in the business give for the decline of the "sport":

- Can sit in living room and shoot all day long (referring to video games)
- More people living in cities
- Stigma of guns
- Economics
- Broken families
- Fishing is hurting, too.

A lot of the businesses are starting to appeal to the non-hunter for camera safaris.

CASH HAT

Neon Orange, one size fits all. \$7.50



C.A.S.H. T-SHIRT,

X-LARGE,
BRIGHT ORANGE—\$12.00



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.

As always, we are grateful to
The Mary T. and Frank L. Hoffman Family Foundation
for hosting the C.A.S.H. website!



Wildlife Watch, Inc.
C.A.S.H. Committee To Abolish Sport Hunting
 PO Box 562
 New Paltz, NY 12561
 Phone: (845) 256-1400 Fax: (845) 818-3622
www.wildwatch.org
www.all-creatures.org/cash
www.canadageese.org



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PLEASE CLIP OUT AND MAIL IN THE ENCLOSED REMITTANCE ENVELOPE:

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- ☺ I AM HAPPY TO BECOME A Basic Plus Member for \$50 _____
I will receive the C.A.S.H. hat, return address labels, and newsletter. Check if you do not want a hat. _____
- ☺ I am happy to become a Basic member for \$35 _____
I will receive the C.A.S.H. newsletter and return address labels.
- ☺ I am happy to contribute but cannot become a member now _____

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Amount _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature _____

All donations are tax-deductible.

My e-mail address is _____

You can also pay through PayPal at www.abolishsporthunting.org link to "Donate" Thank You!

C.A.S.H. CATALOG ORDER BLANK

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NYS residents must add appropriate sales tax: _____

Additional contribution to help

C.A.S.H. carry on its work: _____

Total: _____

You can now pay with:

Mastercard/Visa # _____

Expir. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Your Name: _____
 Street: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Day Phone: _____
 Eve Phone: _____
 Fax: _____
 E-Mail: _____
 Date: _____
 Special Instructions: _____

 Ship to address below (if different from above):

Please make checks payable to: C.A.S.H. or Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting or Wildlife Watch, Inc.