

Delaware Valley Chapter
OCTOBER 2011

www.delvalsci.com

EVENTS CALENDAR

MEETINGS

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Peppers Italian Restaurant
239 Town Center Rd
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(610) 265-2416

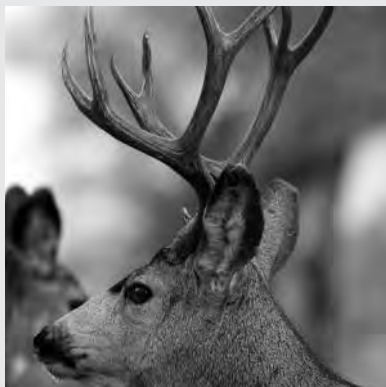
www.peppersitalianrestaurant.com

Oct. 20.....Dinner Meeting

Nov. 10.....BOD Meeting

Dec 15Dinner Meeting

**Saturday, March 31, 2012
Banquet and Fundraiser**



Reservations are required for all meetings!

Contact Bill Pascale @ 610-558-3508
or pascalejr@comcast.net

President's Message

I just spent a great 8 or 9 days doing what many of us enjoy the most. I was hunting for big game in another state. During the hunt I had the opportunity to ask myself some serious questions about why we do what we do, and what we would do if we could not continue to hunt. I spent several days during my time in New Mexico with a disabled veteran. He spends much of his time, nowadays, trying to assist other veterans, with all sorts of difficulties. You see he can no longer hunt, as he said, like he used to, whenever and wherever his desire led him. He is now limited both by his physical limitations and his limited income. His "situation" caused me to wonder, how would each of us react if we could not longer hunt due to a physical limitation? What would we do with our time if it became illegal, or impractical to hunt?

I was startled when he provided me with multiple locations where I should be spending my time hunting. He was sort of an armchair guide, working with topographical maps, and pointing out private property where I "should go". It was bittersweet to here him tell stories of prior hunts in may of the same area's where he played an active role in the hunt.

His situation reminded me of others who no longer hunt. There are those who have lost a treasured hunting partner, so they no longer have "anyone" with whom to hunt. There are those long time hunters whose upstate camps have dissolved, and they say, I have no place to go. There are those guys like Dickie, who have certain physical limitations.

My message this month is simple. Take a friend hunting. He or she could be a young person, someone you know who "has no one to hunt with", or maybe even someone with physical limitations. For me, a good part of the fun is seeing someone else be able to get into the field to spend time doing what we all love...hunting...so pass it on! You may even have to make concessions, to your schedule and or your wallet, to provide someone else an opportunity, a moment in the wild, regardless of their circumstances.



Next Dinner Meeting

Oct. 20, 2011 – 6:30pm

Reservations are required for all meetings!

Contact Bill Pascale @ 610-558-3508
or pascalejr@comcast.net

Awls Camp a Huge Success

Conservationists from around the country are selected to attend one of 6 workshops in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Topics include Wildlife Conservation and Management in the United States, Endangered Species and Outdoor Ethics, Economic Contributions of Sportsmen and many other related studies. The Delaware Valley Chapter was happy to send Jerry Czeck to the 3rd session, July 14-21, 2011. Jerry worked for 10 years in the Fairmount Park System, United States Coast Guard, Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer for 7 years, Abington Park Police for 2 years and for the past 12 years has been the Game Commission WCO for Philadelphia and Delaware County. Jerry will be presenting video and a power point presentation on his valued time at the AWLS camp.

Please join us on Thursday, October 20, at 6:30 PM at Peppers Restaurant in King of Prussia. The \$30 fee includes dinner, speaker, raffles and all tips and gratuities. Come out and see where the dollars our chapter has earned are going. Reservations are required and can be made by calling Bill Pascale at 610-558-3508 or email pascalejr@comcast.net by Monday evening October 17th.

Be There Raffle!



We have a new format for the "Be There" raffle. Only those in attendance at the dinner meeting are eligible that evening. The member drawn will win a FREE Dinner! BE THERE!!

NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING



The Board of Directors for the chapter is inviting everyone to run advertisement for the coming year. You can advertise with us in the newsletter. If you do not have something to advertise yourself, please pass this on to someone who may want to advertise with us. Each and every advertisement will help to continue our fight for hurting rights through:



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Ad Size: ___ B.C. ___ 1/4 Pg ___ 1/2 Pg ___ Full Pg

Please attach the above completed form with your ad and a check made out to "Delaware Valley SCI" for the appropriate amount and return to:

Bill MacFarland
14 Melissa Lane
Limerick, PA 19468

Electronic ad formats accepted. For questions or concerns please contact Bill MacFarland at 610-495-7271 or macdesign@comcast.net or contact any of our board members. **Thank You In Advance!**

RATES

- Business Card (2"x3.5")\$50.⁰⁰
- 1/4 Page (3.75"x5")\$100.⁰⁰
- 1/2 Page (7.5"x5")\$150.⁰⁰
- Full Page (7.5"x9.5")\$175.⁰⁰

* **Newsletter pricing is for 5 issues.**

Please pass this on to:

Friends, Family, Members, Co-Workers, Hunting Buddies, Outfitters, Taxidermists, Sporting Goods Stores, Dentist, Contractors or anyone else you can. **Thanks!**



2012 Banquet & Fundraiser Live Auction

SCI-DVC is not responsible for Typographical Errors

Saturday
March 31, 2012

Westover
Country Club

Follow updates
via our website:
delvalsci.com

1.) Horseback Riding for Two (Keystone Elk Country Alliance)

The package includes: Good, Strong well behaved trail horses for (Two) riders to experience the wild lands elk call home in Pa. Ride through the scenic back country viewing elk. Meet in the afternoon and ride till dark. The ride is approximately 4 hours. Riders will meet near Benezette, Pa. This trip may be taken in 2012 based on availability. Not-included is transportation to and from Benezette, Pa. and accommodations before and after, tips are appreciated. Weekdays are bidders choice as available from Rawley Cogan, Keystone Elk Country Alliance 814-787-5174 or Rcogan@windstream.net for meeting location, date and time.

2.) Plains Game or Big Game Hunt (Numzaan Safaris)

A long time supporter of our chapter. This years donated hunt is for two (2) hunters (2x1) or four (4) hunters (4x2) for 5 days in South Africa. Included are:

- 1.) You travel to South Africa for a five (5) day African Safari and you get \$1000.00 towards trophy fees. If (upgraded) to a 10 day Safari an additional \$2000.00 will be added towards trophy fees.
- 2.) Accommodations at one of their exclusive lodges, daily laundry services, all meals prepared by highly trained chefs, a variety of soft drinks. 3.) An experienced professional hunters, fully equipped safari vehicle, qualified skimmers and trackers to take care of your trophies and field prep.
- 4.) Airport pick up/drop off at Tambo International Airport, South Africa. A 14% Vat and weapon permits included.

Not include: is airfare to/from Tambo International Airport, exporting of your trophies, transportation to shipper, additional days and accommodations pre and post safari and gratuities/tips. This hunt can be upgraded with additional hunters/non hunters, days and game maybe added as per price list. Cost of extra hunters \$450.00/day (1x1) per hunter, \$350.00/day (2x1) per hunter and non hunters \$253.00 per day, per person. Weapon to be used 270. or bigger rifle with a alternate weapon: bow, cross bow or black powder (with prior arrangements with Numzaan Safaris, min.10 days. This adventure may be taken March to October 2012/2013. Contact; Lenette Swanepoel at # +27 82 854 1280 / www.numzaan.com.

NEW SCI MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

US, Canada & Mexico Members

- 1 Year membership - \$65
- 3 Year membership - \$150
- Life Membership - \$1,500
- DelVal Chapter Dues - \$20
- DelVal Life Membership - \$300
- Young Hunter - \$15 per year

Overseas Members

- Payment by US Funds Only
(Includes International Shipping)
- 1 Year membership - \$80
 - 3 Year membership - \$225
 - Life Membership - \$1,500

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Signature _____ Date _____
Chapter Name _____

Please contact any board member for more information.
Please make all checks payable to: **Del Val Chapter**.

Please return to: Delaware Valley SCI
Membership Director
907 Stargazers Road
Coatesville, PA 19320
Ph: 610-486-6218



Annual and Life members receive six issues of Safari magazine and 12 issues of Safari Times newspaper annually. A portion of the membership dues is applied to subscription fulfillment, and dues payment is not a tax-deductible donation. All membership fees are accepted in U.S. funds only. Young Hunter members must be 17 years of age or younger. For information on an SCI Chapter in your area, visit www.SafariClub.org or call Member and Chapter Services at 888-486-8724.

Members WANTED!

Tell Us Your Stories!

Our members would like to hear a few words about your latest adventure. If you would like to tell us about it (in about 5 minutes) and field a few questions at one of our upcoming meetings, please contact Bill Pascale at 610-558-3508 or e-mail at: billpascalejr@cs.com for a reservation.

Photos Needed!

Send us your stories and/or photos of your latest hunting adventures to be included in the newsletter and on our website at www.delvalsci.com. Please contact Bill MacFarland at 610-495-7271 or e-mail: macdesign@comcast.net



Alberta Spring Black Bear

By Richard D. Somers

From Our
Chapter Banquet
Auction



Being raised in the city, since the age of 2, it's hard to explain where, when or how I got bit by the hunting bug. But, it happened !!!

My brother slowly followed in my footsteps. As we have been getting older we have been spending more and more time in the woods hunting together. First, it was deer hunting, then ducks and geese and then pheasants. In 2010, I finally talked him into attending our chapter banquet. It was sometime during the "Live Auction", that I noticed he was raising his hand to bid on a hunting trip. At the conclusion of the bidding... he was the winner of a 6-Day Spring Black Bear Hunt in Alberta, Canada with Chris McKinnon and Company. It was then that I knew that he too has been bitten by the hunting bug.

Unfortunately, he was unable to go in 2010 and Chris McKinnon graciously extended the trip until 2011. Due to a prior commitment my brother was also unable to go on this hunt in 2011. However, my calendar was clear. Another call to Chris McKinnon and it was set, I would be taking my brothers place for the hunt.

In trying to keep this story short, let me say that Chris McKinnon runs an absolutely TOP-NOTCH Operation. The camp was awesome and the food

was incredibly delicious. The guides were seasoned, polite and hardworking. They made sure that every detail was handled. The tree stands were set-up at each active bait site, every afternoon at whatever distance that I decided. This way the bears are not conditioned to look at a specific tree, before coming into the bait site, because that is where the hunters are always at. Speaking about the tree stands, they were unbelievably comfortable and actually the best tree stands that I have ever used.

I saw bears almost every night and some nights more than one. As the week progressed the bigger bears were starting to come out of their dens. I was lucky enough to take a nice 5 ½ foot bear with a thick black coat. I spent the rest of my hunt hoping to see a larger bear or a good sized color phased, but neither presented themselves.

My taxidermist commented on how wonderful the hide was (thick and black). He also noted that the hide was cared for perfectly, so much so, that there was little left for him to do it.

I will be returning to hunt with Chris McKinnon and Company again, but I will be taking my brother with me. I owe him!!!



Elk Hunting Forecast 2011

Courtesy RMEF



MISSOULA, Mont.—Winterkill, habitat problems and wolves have driven elk numbers down in some areas. But many of America's roughly 800,000 elk hunters have reason to be optimistic about upcoming seasons, based on hunt forecasts compiled by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

The following data, compiled from state and provincial wildlife agencies, reflect biologists' best estimates of elk populations. Each year, animal rights activists blatantly misrepresent these data to prop up their argument for keeping wolves perpetually on the Endangered Species List. It's a fact that where

wolves are concentrated, elk herds are being impacted. Calf survival rates in certain areas are too low to sustain herds for the future. Wolves must be managed, same as elk. In spite of the misuse, RMEF believes these data are valuable to hunters and will continue to provide them.

Following are condensed forecasts for 29 states and provinces. See full-length versions here. For even more detailed coverage, see the Sept./Oct. 2011 edition of the RMEF member magazine, *Bugle*. To join, call 800-CALL ELK.

RMEF members have now helped to conserve or enhance 5.9 million acres of habitat for elk and other

wildlife.

In the forecast intro, *Bugle* Hunting Editor P.J. DelHomme notes, "When RMEF launched in 1984, there were 550,000 elk in North America. Fifteen states and four provinces had elk hunts. Today almost 1.2 million wild elk roam the continent and 23 states and six provinces are holding elk hunts. There's also been a huge surge of bulls entering the record books, with world records for Roosevelt's, tules and non-typical Rocky Mountain elk all falling in the past decade."

This may indeed be the Golden Era of elk hunting. Good luck this autumn!

New Humanitarian Services Slide Presentation for SCI Chapters

SCIF's Humanitarian Services programs show the caring and compassionate side of our hunting community.

A brand-new Humanitarian Services Projects Highlights slide presentation (dated 9/1/11) is now available under the "Members" section of the www.safariclub.org website and on the Humanitarian Services home page of the www.safariclubfoundation.org website. Click to view or download the Adobe PDF version or the Microsoft

PowerPoint version set to music. (If you prefer, you may also request that a hard copy be mailed to you on disk.)

The 12-minute presentation contains photo montages and descriptive blurbs covering nearly 50 recent projects undertaken by SCI chapters and individual members in the realm of the Disabled Hunter, SafariCare, SafariWish, Sensory Safari and Sportsmen Against Hunger programs.



Deadly Snow Goose Hunting Technique

Biologists want snow goose numbers reduced, and these hunters have come up with a deadly technique for hammering late-season birds by the truckload.

by Bob McNally

It was Valentine's Day, the date of an annual post-duck-season goose hunt among a group of hard-charging waterfowlers in east-central Arkansas. Taxidermist and outfitter Pat Pitt, his two sons Stephen and Patrick, and six other hunters were up at first light looking for "white" geese (snows, blues and Ross') as the birds flew off roosting ponds.

They were driving through countryside when Pat suddenly spotted a group of snows settling into a sprawling wheat field. A quick scan with a binocular revealed that thousands of birds were in the flat, clean field. The geese were slowly moving toward the hunters' side of the field to get away from a pickup truck that was parked on the other side.

Pat knew exactly what to do, and quickly got all nine of his hunters in a deep, hard-bottom ditch that paralleled the field and ran the length of the wheat. In minutes Pat and his crew were strung out along the ditch, in the area where the geese were soon massed.

"They had no idea we were there, and they were only 10 steps away from the ditch edge," Pat remembers. "We were strung out about 30 yards apart, and we just started walking up the ditch side toward the geese. When we popped our heads up, the geese flushed, and we all just started shooting.

"The first volley I guess we likely dropped 60 to 70 birds, and by the time they finally rose, circled, and left, we'd taken 161 geese," he says. "It must have been quite a show to the people in the truck on the far side of the field.

"That sounds like overkill to most sportsmen, because it's so many geese, and we took them in such an unconventional way," Pitt continues. "But we did everything legally. We picked up every goose with our dogs, and all the birds were cleaned and utilized by our hunters. It's not classic goose hunting over decoys, not by a long shot. But 'walking up' birds sure is effective. That day we shot 371 snow geese — which is our one-day record. We've had other days, though, when we've taken 298 and 244 birds. One year, my sons, friends and I shot 2,391 geese hunting this way."

Pitt may sound like a goose game hog and wildlife law violator. But in reality he's a staunch conservationist, one of the few hunters who actively pursues late-season snow geese, trying to bring their

numbers under control — for the good of the birds and their nesting habitat.

For years Canadian waterfowl biologists have been alarmed that booming snow goose populations are decimating their tundra nesting grounds. Too many snow geese are literally eating their way to possible oblivion. An overabundance of birds denudes the slow-growing tundra, eliminating important summer food in traditional goose nesting areas. With no other food or other prime nesting areas available, snow goose populations could completely collapse and bird numbers would be decimated if populations are not brought properly into balance with their habitat.

Biologists and waterfowl game managers have "taken the gloves off" for the snow goose harvest, hoping to reduce bird numbers to manageable populations and save the tundra. As a result, snow goose hunting extends far beyond the traditional fall/winter waterfowl season. In many states, like Arkansas, where snows are abundant, there are no limits on snow geese. Electronic calls are legal, guns need not have plugs, and hunting can be done for many weeks beyond traditional seasons.

Yet for all the liberal harvest adjustments, snow geese wise up quickly, and traditional hunting methods have not made much of a dent in the bird population. Thus the tundra — and "white" geese — are still in jeopardy.



Tips for Field Judging Elk

Courtesy RMEF

MISSOULA, Mont.—A trophy bull can turn up almost anywhere in elk country but opportunities to take one are rare. When a monster steps out, a hunter often has no time to count antler points, much less compute scores. But not always. Sometimes there's ample chance to really focus and size up an elk in your search for the bull of a lifetime.

Will you know a world-class trophy if you see one?

"All elk hunters are fascinated by antlers, but not everyone recognizes what it takes to grow trophies. Big headgear is a product of genetics, age and nutrition provided by great habitat," said David Allen, president and CEO of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. "Learning to field judge antlers will help you understand even more about the elk you're looking at, whether it's one for the record books—or one to let walk away and grow up."

Counting Points—Most mature bull elk are 6x6s. An elk's first antlers are usually spikes. In good habitat, a bull may have a 5-point rack as a 2-1/2-year-old and then a small six-point rack as a 3-1/2-year-old. Its best antlers, however, usually come at age 9-1/2 to 12-1/2, so remember that not every 6x6 is a trophy. Instantly identifying a six-point bull is not difficult. The fourth point, sometimes called the dagger point, is normally the longest point and most distinctive feature of an elk rack. If the main beam goes straight back from the dagger you're almost certainly looking at a five-point antler. If there's



another point rising upward behind the dagger, perhaps making a horizontal "Y," then you're looking at a six-point antler.

A perfect, typical trophy rack has a combination of long points, long beams, good mass and a wide spread. However, some of these criteria are more important than others. Let's look at each.

Beam Length—Most great elk have long main beams. In the all-time records book, the average beam length of the top 10 typical heads is over 58 inches. However, the average beam length of the bottom 10 is 55-4/8 inches—not much difference. If a bull appears able to "scratch his rear-end with his antlers," it likely has the frame to be a trophy. No need to spend much more time considering beam length.

Inside Spread—Boone and Crockett records show a wide variation on spreads of trophy elk. Interestingly, the narrowest head in the book outscores the widest, which should be enough to tell you that spread isn't everything. The top 10 typical entries range from 38-2/8 to 53 inches of inside spread

for an average of 46-2/8 inches. The bottom 10 range from 38 to 49-4/8 inches for an average of 42-4/8 inches. Again, not a significant difference. In the field, simply look for a spread that stretches well outside the ears. This should indicate a spread somewhere in the low to mid-40s, and that's really all you need be concerned about.

Mass—Most really big elk have heavy

antlers that carry good mass through the length of the main beam. However, mass is very hard to judge. It's unusual to have a lot of time to look at a big bull and mass is not where you should spend most of it. Just remember that very few elk considered "big" in the more visible characteristics have thin antlers. When hunting, quickly look for antlers that are visibly as large or larger in circumference than the ear bases, which are about 9 inches around. More importantly, the antlers should maintain that thickness to at least the fifth point.

Tine Length—If you have time to study a bull, really look at the tines. Length of the points is the single most important trophy criteria. The good news is that point length is one of the easiest things to judge because there is a yardstick. On a big American elk, the distance from the burr of the antler to the tip of the nose is about 15-4/8 inches. Let's start at the bottom of the antlers and work up. A curved brow tine that appears to reach the end of the nose will be about 18 inches long. The next two points are usually shorter, but they still need to approach the burr-to-nose yard-



Indiana Sees 82 Percent Spike In Lyme Disease Cases

Indiana's confirmed human cases of Lyme disease soared 82 percent over a five-year period, and experts say the surge might have been caused by an increase in the tiny ticks that spread the illness to humans.

LAFAYETTE, Ind. (AP) — Indiana's confirmed human cases of Lyme disease soared 82 percent over a five-year period, and experts say the surge might have been caused by an increase in the tiny ticks that spread the illness to humans.

The Journal & Courier reported (<http://bit.ly/paPVQD>) that Lyme disease cases in Indiana rose from 34 in 2005 to 62 in 2009, the most recent year for which detailed data has been released.

Health officials aren't sure what's behind the increase, but theories range from an upswing in reporting of cases to an increase in ticks infected with the Lyme disease bacterium.

Deer ticks, which are black-legged and about the size of sesame seeds, feed on deer and can pick up the bacterium when they also feed on white-footed mice. Infected ticks then spread it to humans by feeding on them.

Purdue University entomologist Timothy Gibb said the deer tick is most likely being transported south and east across the state on the backs of deer, especially as the state's deer population increases.

Antibiotics easily cure most people of Lyme disease. But early symptoms are vague and flu-like, except for Lyme's hallmark round, red rash. People who aren't treated can develop arthritis, meningitis and some other serious illnesses.

"Chances of transmission are pretty slim but still the consequences of the disease are serious enough that we've got to be careful about it," Gibb said. "It's prudent for people to use discretion as much as possible to prevent it."

In northwestern Indiana, where a possible surge in cases has occurred, nearly 20 people at a recent town hall meeting in Ogden Dunes said they had Lyme disease.

Jennifer House, an epidemiologist with the state health department, said she could not confirm the number of Lyme disease cases in that area. She said the situation in Ogden Dunes, a town along Lake Michigan, is under review.

Gibb said it would not be surprising for that area to see a surge in cases since northwestern Indiana, northeastern Illinois and southern Wisconsin are "traditionally a hot spot for deer." He said less than 3 percent of deer ticks — the only tick species that transmits Lyme disease — are infected with the bacterium.

State health officials say May through September is the period in which ticks are most active. In 2009, 83 percent of Lyme disease cases were reported during that span, with the bulk occurring in June, July and August. Six cases were reported in September and five in October.

Gibb said that as adults, deer ticks primarily feed on deer and not people.

"So hunters or taxidermists who deal with deer will sometimes get the adult ticks on them," he said. Other ticks such as the American dog tick are more common and often find their way onto humans, Gibb said.

stick. Now comes the truth-teller, the dagger point. The dagger point is usually the longest point, and on a monster bull it will be half-again longer than the burr-to-nose yardstick, or even almost double that measurement. On a 6x6, the last point matters a lot. It has to be strong, at least 8 or 10 inches. This is less important if the bull is a 7x7, but you still need some inches in the top of the rack.

For a typical American elk, Boone and Crockett requires a minimum of 360 points to enter the Awards Book, and 375 points for entry into the All-time Records Book. For most bulls, inside spread is only 10-15 percent of its score. Mass is usually less than 20 percent. Beam length is worth close to 25 percent. This math means tine length accounts for about 40 percent of the score, sometimes more but rarely less.

So let's look through the spotting scope at a really good 6x6 American elk. Get your notebook out. The bull seems to have really long beams, almost scratching his rump. Estimate 55 inches on each side: 110 points. Spread is fairly wide but not noticeably played out. Figure 45 inches of inside spread: 45 points. Mass isn't huge, but pretty good. It starts at a normally heavy 9 inches and keeps it pretty well, maybe 30 inches of circumference on each antler: 60 points. So far, the bull is totaling 215.

Now let's work out the points. The brow tines curve nicely and seem to pass the tip of the nose, about 18 inches each: 36 points. The next two points are about 16 inches each on both sides: 64 points. The daggers are quite good, about half again longer than the burr-to-nose yardstick. Let's give them 22 inches each: 44 points. The back fork is also pretty good, about 8 inches on each side: 16 points.

Assuming both sides are equal, with no deductions for lack of symmetry, and you're looking at a bull that will score 375—a Boone and Crockett-class typical bull!



SCI "In the Crosshairs" – Fall 2011

SCI Will Move To Intervene In The Latest Round Of Wolf Litigation

SCI is preparing to move to intervene in the two appeals recently filed by groups seeking to challenge the Constitutionality of the law passed by Congress that effectively removed the wolves of Montana, Idaho, and portions of Oregon, Utah and Washington State from the list of endangered species. After Judge Molloy of the Montana federal district court upheld the constitutionality of the law, both groups of plaintiffs quickly appealed their loss to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Both groups are attempting to persuade the Ninth Circuit to take action that will stop or interfere with the wolf harvests set by the states of Montana and Idaho. The Alliance for the Wild Rockies appellant group has asked the Court to expedite the briefing of their appeal and the appellant group led by Center for Biological Diversity is seeking emergency relief to prevent the wolf hunts from moving forward while the appeal is pending. Safari Club will soon ask the Ninth Circuit to allow SCI to participate as a party to help defend against the two appeals.

Hunters Snapping Up Wolf Licenses In Montana

"Officials with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks say hunters bought more than 2,000 wolf licenses within the first two days they were offered for sale." Many of those permits were bought by SCI members. (Source: Billings Gazette)

Grizzlies Return, With Strings Attached

"In 1975, when grizzly bears were listed here in the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem as threatened — a less restrictive form of protection than endangered — there were 200 to 300 grizzlies. Now, there are more than 900 in the ecosystem, and the population increases 2 to 3 percent each year. It is the largest population of grizzlies in the lower 48. After more than three decades of recovery efforts, though, they are coming down from their refuge and greatly expanding their range." (Source: New York Times)

SCI Remains Heavily Involved In Wild Horse Litigation

Since 2010, SCI has been involved in a case brought by In Defense of Animals ("IDOA") to challenge the Bureau of Land Management's plan to gather close to 2,000 wild horses and burros in the Twin Peaks Management area in northeast California/northwest Nevada. Early in the case, the District Court in California denied a request to halt the gather. IDOA appealed this ruling to the Ninth Circuit. SCI participated in the case as an amicus curiae and filed a brief in support of the gather. On August 15, 2011, the Ninth Circuit dismissed the appeal as moot because the appeal concerned the gather and the gather has already taken place. The case continues in the District Court, where briefing is expected to begin soon. SCI is getting involved in another case involving a gather of wild horses at the Triple B Complex in eastern Nevada. This case is proceeding in both the District Court in Nevada and in the Ninth Circuit. SCI recently filed a motion to intervene in the District Court and will be moving to participate as an amicus in the appellate court.

Nevada Panel Asked To End Sage Grouse Hunting

"The Nevada Wildlife Commission is being asked to ban hunting for sage grouse statewide as a way to help keep the bird off the federal list of threatened and endangered species, while state biologists say hunting has little impact on its population." (Source: The Seattle PI)

Avoiding Problems With Trophy Import In The EU

"The International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) advises all outfitters, taxidermy companies and trophy exporters outside the European Community that pursuant to the EU-Commission Regulation 142/2011 they have to be registered at the EU authorities, if they intend to export hunting trophies into countries of the EU in the future. This rule refers to all trophies of animals with horns, feathers or hooves. Elephants, carnivores and crocodiles are not affected." (Source: CIC Wildlife)





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