

BIG GAME REPORT 5-11-16

1. Hunters harvested an estimated 202,973 deer during the 2015-16 hunting seasons, approximately 15% less than the prior year. The 2015 deer take included an estimated 103,401 antlerless deer and 99,572 antlered bucks. Statewide, this represents a 20.5% decline in antlerless deer harvest and an 8.3% decline in buck harvest from 2014. Over half of the bucks harvested in 2015 were aged 2.5 years and older. The buck take for Sullivan County was 1,911 and the total deer take was 3,206. For the full DEC deer report go to the following website http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/wildlife_pdf/2015deerrpt.pdf
2. Two bills now in the state legislature would quadruple the minimum fine from \$250 to \$1,000 for shooting deer out of season or after legal shooting hours. The New York State Conservation Council is against the bill in its current form. They stated that if judges find the minimum penalty too high they tend to dismiss the misdemeanor charge and accept a plea to a violation with a lower penalty range.
3. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation hosted a webinar "New York Deer Management Update" the evenings of May 10 and May 12. Both nights had the same content. The presentation was in three parts:
PART 1-COMPLETED PROJECTS
Containment of Chronic Wasting Disease
Expanded hunting opportunities-youth hunts, longer bow season
Enhanced DMAPs
Deer management focus areas
Coyote Study
Structured decision making process
Encouragement of voluntary restraint of the taking of yearling bucks
PART 2-WHERE WE ARE GOING
Reduce yearling buck harvest by choice
Monitor deer impacts on forests through a public program
Revise the citizen task force process
Adopt interagency CWD prevention plan
Increase antlerless harvest
Urban-suburban deer management
PART 3-OTHER ISSUES
Non-lead hunting ammunition
Hunter recruitment and retention
Hunter access to land
No change in current antler restriction areas and no expansion in antler restrictions to new areas.
Current WMU's with antler restrictions will be looked at in the future
The DEC is encouraging all deer hunters to watch the presentation-
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/57795.html>
The DEC is also encouraging all hunters to fill out a survey to help them organize feedback. The survey could be filled out online at-<http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/57795.html#input>.

J. Dickens

NRA REPORT 5-11-16

1. NYS Senate Bill 6843 introduced by state Senator James Sanders of NYC would limit buyers and sellers to one sale or purchase of a rifle or shotgun every 90 days. Tom King President of the NYS Rifle and Pistol Association said that this is another bill by hardcore NYC liberals to hassle gun owners and dealers.
2. Hillary Clinton promises to attack gun owners her "Very First Day" in office as she explained to supporters her intent to make an assault on gun rights and NRA one of her top priorities. And thanks to Clinton's recent candor, gun owners don't have to guess at the types of restrictions Clinton has in mind for them. Clinton has supported a ban on popular semi-automatic firearms and endorsed an Australian-style confiscation scheme for carrying out her vision. Clinton has expressed her vehement opposition to the Right-to-Carry. Most disturbing, under Clinton's false interpretation of the Constitution, the Second Amendment does not protect an individual right to keep and bear arms and allows gun bans.

34. Dickens

- FEDERATION OF SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS OF SULIVAN COUNY, INC., minutes of May 11 2016. The meeting began at 7:30 with a salute to the flag. There were 28 members present. In the April minutes the wrong phone number for the Morgan Foundation was listed. The correct phone number is (845) 252-5015. We have lost several Federation members: Woodrow Wilson Doty, Sr. from Excelsior Sportsmen's Club was inducted into the NYS Amateur Trapshooting Assoc. Hall of Fame in 1988. He lived here in Kauneonga Lake. Steve Wood was a member of the Iroquois Hunting Club and passed away from an accident at Brey's Chicken Farm. Gary Tizio was a member of the Rodfield Gun Club. They were all great sportsmen and we will miss them. Carl Lindsley had no official report but discussed the lack of turkey sightings. Hunting not very good this year. Motion to dispense with reading last month's minutes. All in favor. Seconded, CARRIED. Motion to pay all bills. All in favor. Seconded, CARRIED. Tri-State Rod & Gun Club, 266 North Orange Street, Port Jervis, NY is having their first annual ladies day shoot Saturday June 11. Shooting starts at noon

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: There will be a Coyote Contest meeting Wednesday May 18 at 7:00 pm at the Kauneonga Lake Fire House. All are welcome. We need ideas. There will be a Sportsmen of the Year meeting at 6:30 pm. June 8th prior to our regular meeting at the Fire House. Kay Danchak had a setback. She developed a fever and couldn't continue with her treatment. She is ok now and will resume treatment shortly. Her message to us is: "START SELLING RAFFLE TICKETS".

VICE PRES.: Anyone not at meeting will receive their raffle tickets in the mail and will be mailed Friday.

SECRETARY: No report.

TREASURER: After paying all bills we have a balance of \$27,654.29. Motion to accept report. Seconded, CARRIED

COUNCIL DELEGATE: No report.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

FISH: No report. SMALL GAME: No report. BIG GAME: (See attached). CONS. ED.: (No report). DEP: (No report). HABITAT: New forms now available. SPORTSMEN'S ED.: No new courses available. DEP: No report. GRAHAMSVILLE FAIR: No report. NRA: (See attached). Discussion on Buck Management.

YOUTH DAY: Call Jack if you can help. This involves a tremendous amount of work and if enough folks don't volunteer to help it will be canceled until next year.

SWEEPTAKES: Tickets were picked up by those at May meeting, others mailed. Need more call Jack

ANNUAL BANQUET: Oct. 1st at Rockland House, Roscoe.

SCHOLARSHIP COMM: 5/19, 6:30 p.m. Democratic Paper Conference Room. 5 applications received.

SPORTSMAN OF YEAR: Meeting 6:30, June 8, Kauneonga Lk. Fire House.

COYOTE HUNT: Meeting Wednesday, May 18, 7 p.m. All welcome. Need ideas!

CHESTNUT TRES: 110 trees received. All planted. A little larger than last year.

NRA: See Harvey Dickens for discount.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion to pay \$50 for a box of misc. items to send overseas to our troops. Check to go to Harry Walker. Seconded. CARRIED.

Motion to adjourn 8:40 p.m. . Seconded, CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

SULLIVAN COUNTY MANAGER

Edna Calkin, Secretary
Sullivan County Sportsmen's Fed.

MAY 16 2016

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