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***Get the latest Updates on the Areas you Hunt***



**At the MWHI General Membership Meeting**

**Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 7:00 pm  
Alton Wood River Sportsmen Club  
Godfrey IL**

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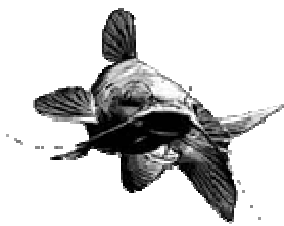
## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, October 5, 2009

**MWHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
at 2404 E. Broadway, Alton at 6:15 pm

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

**MWHI GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
at Alton-Wood River Sportsmen Club  
in Godfrey, IL at 7:00 pm



**See next Sentry  
for results of the**

**2009 Riverbend Catfish Tournament Trail  
CLASSIC**

**Visit us at our website**

**[mwhi.org](http://mwhi.org)**

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## **Bike Trails or Public Hunting**

### **Duane Hahnenkamp**

This time of year we all should be talking about the upcoming duck season. With all-high hopes and good times to look forward to, the next couple of months should have been nothing but fun. Instead, we are finding out that the future of our hunting areas could be in question.

I found out that a certain group of people want to build bike trails through our hunting areas and our refuges. A few of the people in this group are land owners from Calhoun County and the rest are outsiders wanting to take over. One is even an employee of the Trails and Green Ways Department of the IDNR. They want to use your areas because they say it would be easier for them to get started on government ground rather than on private property.

My personal view of bike trails is that they are very expensive to build and maintain considering the low number of people who actually use them. Most bikers I have seen rather just ride down the middle of the highway. When you look at the fact that the state is virtually broke, why are we even talking about more bike trails?

A couple of years ago I worked for weeks at a place located by new bike trails on old railroad tracks over by Marine, and never once saw one bike rider on them. Our hunting areas and parks have little money to run on now, so more bike trails would just mean even less funds to go around.

Now, I want you to imagine a bike trail that starts at Royal Landing, goes around Calhoun Point, through Swan Lake Refuge along the river and around Fuller Lake. Then, they would build along county roads over the hump down to Batchtown. The next leg could start at Batchtown and go on through the Refuge, on to Reds Landing all the way up to Rip Rap. There it would meet up with other bike trails in Pike County. Now I don't know about you, but to me it sounds like it could screw up a lot of hunting areas.

I was told that these people have already asked the IDNR if it would be possible to cut back on the hunting in some of these areas, so as not to interfere with the bike riders. What do you think will happen the first time a bike rider with kids complains about running into guys in camo and guns? This very same thing happened on Chateau Island by Granite City – and the hunting was stopped. It sounds to me that this could be a very easy way for some people to stop a lot of public hunting in our areas.

It is going to be up to you to keep your ears open and get ready to join in this fight. The next 6 to 12 month could be crucial in keeping your hunting areas. Guys, I want you to answer this one question for me: How many bike trails does it take to screw up your hunting area? The answer is "one." ###

### **Calhoun County Board going after trails grant**

Maggie Borman, TheTelegraph 8/8/2009

HARDIN — The Calhoun County Board approved applying for a \$20,000 planning grant for bicycle/hiking trails. Dale Hagen, a member of the county's Calhoun Community Foundation group (formerly the Calhoun Partners for Wellness), presented information about the planning grant to board members and guests.

The initiative stemmed from Western Illinois University's Institute for Rural Affairs' "Mapping the Future of Your County" program that county residents and organizations participated in a few years ago. The Institute for Rural Affairs seeks to improve the quality of life for rural residents by partnering with public and private agencies on local development and enhancement efforts.

Hagen said the original group narrowed the focus in Calhoun County to wellness, economics and marketing the area for tourism.

"We have bicyclists that already ride through the county, and our focus on biking/ hiking trails is on promoting health, economics, and safety of bicyclists and hikers in the county," Hagen said. "While a bike trail might not bring in a lot of money from bicyclists right away, it might down the road, as people come to Calhoun County and see its beauty, and that might lead to other things."

Hagen familiarized the board and guests with the concept of bike trails, and of meetings their group has attended along with Calhoun County residents, the National Park Service, U.S. Federation of Wildlife, Illinois Department of Natural Resources, Calhoun County Highway Department Engineer Barry Webster and Alley Ringhausen, director of the Great Rivers Land Trust.

"Alley has agreed to write the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Greenways and Trails Planning Assistance program \$20,000 grant for us, and I am here to ask the County Board to allow us to apply for the grant," Hagen said.

Board members, Webster and State's Attorney Charles Burch discussed the issue, noting it was a good idea. They cited the fact that the county has about 30,000 acres of government land and county roads that might be ideal for bicycle trails.

The three-person County Board unanimously approved the group utilizing Ringhausen to apply for the grant.

## URGENT ALERT – YOUR HELP NEEDED

### FEARFUL ILLINOIS GUN GRABBERS PLANNING NOVEMBER ONSLAUGHT AGAINST YOUR GUN RIGHTS

Obama's recent slide in the polls has Illinois gun grabbers very worried. They are afraid that, when the smoke clears after the 2010 general elections, there will be a gun-friendly guy in the Governor's Mansion and that their lead in the Illinois General Assembly will be cut dramatically. The gun grabbers know that, if this happens, their campaign to obliterate your right to keep and bear arms will come to a screeching halt.

Information gained by the ISRA from inside the gun control movement reveals that the gun grabbers see the November 2009 Veto Session as their last chance to ram their draconian gun control measures through the Illinois General Assembly. Our information reveals that they are frantically constructing a package of gun control bills having provisions that include:

- Bans and confiscations of semiautomatic rifles and shotguns.
- Bans and confiscations of handguns that do not possess certain "safety" mechanisms.
- Regulations on gun shops that would effectively drive the shops out of business.
- Licensing and registration of all privately held guns, with license fees ranging from \$75 to \$150 per gun, per year.
- Expensive "arsenal licenses" for all persons owning more than 2 guns or possessing more than 50 rounds of ammunition.
- Home storage regulations that would make it illegal for you to display your guns or access them in a time of emergency.
- Mandatory \$1 million liability insurance policies for gun owners.
- And more . . .

The gun grabbers plan to import gun control activists from places such as San Francisco, Boston, and New York

#### **Sportsmen: Beware of Anti's "Astroturfing"**

U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance 9/3/09

Anti-hunters have begun using a new tactic to advance their agenda: "astroturfing." This term is used to describe incidents where an internet user claims to be someone or something they are not for the purpose of posting comments onto online forums, news stories, and blogs. The anti's often will do this on pro-sportsmen forums and news sites, acting as hunters, trying to create divisions within the community.

A recent example appears to have taken place in North Dakota as a commenter to a Bismarck Tribune story was found to be using a computer registered to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), the largest anti hunting group in the U.S.

The news story dealt with a petition in North Dakota to ban preserve hunting in the state. In the comments section, a person named "Will" appeared to pose as a hunter and stated, " Any real hunter wouldn't have an issue with this - hunting is supposed to be a sport, what sport or skill is it, to kill an animal that is raised for you to kill? Growing up I remember the thrill of the chase. The chase, mind you, that doesn't involve fences. Anyone who thinks this will snowball is an idiot - it's practices like this that give hunters a bad name."

City to "muscle" Illinois legislators into passing these attacks against your right to keep and bear arms.

The ISRA will do everything within its power to fight off these renewed infringements on your rights. But we need your help. To ensure that your rights are defended, the ISRA must raise \$200,000 by November 1, 2009. That is a lot of money, but it is what we need to raise in order to keep pro-gun lobbyists on the floor of the Capitol preserving and protecting your rights.

The bottom line is this, if we cannot raise the money we need to keep our lobbyists in the capitol, you will lose your gun rights. Plain and simple – November will either be your "D-Day," or it will be your "Waterloo." Without your generosity, we will fail in November 2009.

So please, take the time right now to make a generous donation to the ISRA Legislative Fund. You may donate online at the ISRA website or by calling the ISRA office at 815-635-3198.

Remember, only you can protect your gun rights. We're here to help you do it!###

## **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**



### ***Hunting and Gun Rights Opponent Formally Confirmed***

#### ***Senator Durbin Votes for Confirmation***

**U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance, 9/10/2009**

(Columbus) – Last night the sportsmen's community came within five votes of stopping the nomination of Cass Sunstein to serve as the head of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA), otherwise known as the "Regulatory Czar." Sunstein is an avowed anti hunter and does not believe the second amendment applies to individual gun ownership.

While a confirmation vote took place today, it was a formality after the Senate voted to over-ride a hold placed on the nomination by Georgia Senator Johnny Isakson. It would have taken 40 votes to prevent the confirmation. Opponents of Sunstein were only able to earn 35. Alarmingly 22 out of 53 senators who are members of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus voted in favor of Sunstein.

"Having 42 percent of the sportsmen's caucus vote for an anti-hunter when we were just five votes away was a real blow," said Bud Pidgeon, USSA president and CEO. "As we have, sportsmen should take note which of their 'friends' voted for them and which did not."

Democratic Senator Richard Durbin is one sportsmen's caucus member that voted for Sunstein.

"We're extremely disappointed in Senator Durbin, who despite sitting on the sportsmen's caucus has clearly spoken to Illinois sportsmen by casting his vote for an animal rights supporter and anti-hunter," stated Bob Becker, president of the Illinois Federation for Outdoor Resources. "It's unfortunate that Senator Durbin and Senator Burris have both chosen to overlook Illinois' rich sporting heritage."

The USSA and others, including the National Wild Turkey Federation, argued for weeks that Sunstein's views against recreational hunting, the second amendment and on giving animals standing in court should persuade the Senate to defeat the appointment.

The U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance is a national association of sportsmen and sportsmen's organizations that protects the rights of hunters, anglers and trappers in the courts, legislatures, at the ballot, in Congress and through public education programs. For more information about the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance and its work, call (614) 888-4868 or visit its website,

[www.ussportsmen.org](http://www.ussportsmen.org). ###

NRA Update on Gun Bills **1-800-392-8683**

Federal Senate Office **1-202-224-3121**

Federal House Offices **1-202-225-3121**

Illinois State Rifle Association **1-815-635-3198** [www.isra.org](http://www.isra.org)

Illinois Senate Information **1-217-782-4517**

Illinois House Information **1-217-782-8223**

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**Sen. Kyle McCarter** – 51<sup>st</sup> District

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**Sen. John O. Jones** – 54<sup>th</sup> District

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**Sen. William R. Haine** – 56<sup>th</sup> District

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**Rep. John Shimkus** - 19<sup>th</sup> District

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**Sen. Roland W. Burris**

Tel: 202-224-2152

## **Serious Threat Against Your Right!**

ISRA Don Bekeleski 9/12/09

There is a very serious threat to the 2nd Amendment in this country! The U.N. has been pushing this for years and there is very little news told about it. It is called CIFTA or Inter-American Convention against the Illicit manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and other related material.

Notice the last few words—other related materials.

Folks this is a very broad coverage. The word explosives could be ammo, but most certainty gun powder is included under “explosives”.

A letter I received from The Citizens Committee to Keep & Bear arms contained the following:

“Here are some of the proposals included in the section of the U.N. report entitled, *Measures to regulate firearms:*”

1. A requirement for hunters to store their firearms in so called Sporting Clubs.
2. Allowing only smooth-bore firearms or shotguns, for personal protection.
3. Allowing firearm collectors to possess only those firearms that have been altered so they can no longer be fired.
4. Requiring firearm owners to establish “a” need for possessing their guns.
5. Requiring hunters to obtain insurance before hunting.

Generally to discourage the private ownership of firearms!

This treaty is being pushed by Obama to be passed in the Senate of the United States. If this passes in the Senate and is signed by the President, which Obama will sign, as he never read a gun right restriction bill he didn't love, then our 2nd Amendment is out the window and the U.N. now controls the sale, flow and sets standards for all arms sold in the U.S.

It also sets up a national gun registration by having every gun owner purchase a Federal license to own a gun. It also requires that anyone who reloads will have to purchase a Manufacturers license, just like Remington, Winchester and anyone else that makes ammo. This information on you is to be shared around the globe with other nations that have signed this treaty—currently 29.

When John Bolton was our ambassador to the U.N. under President Bush, he told them no way will the United States sacrifice any part of our 2nd Amendment. President Bush also would not sign it, even if the senate passed it. We were safe then, but we are on shaky ground with this current administration. You won't hear anything on the liberal news stations

about this, because of course they want it passed. The polls are showing that 87% of Americans believe in the individual right of owning a gun. We really need that 87% to speak up loud and clear to our Senators that this is a gross intrusion on our Constitution and why should foreign nations govern our right.

I don't think I have ever written a more serious article. Take a few minutes out of your busy lives to email, write, or call your senators! Even if you don't own a gun, this is very important! Please pass the link to this article to all of your friends. There are many people who don't know about this treaty.

## **PETA “Whale” Campaign Gets “Beached”**

U. S. Sportsmen's Alliance 8/26/09

The country's most outrageous animal rights group's latest, tasteless attempt to steal a few headlines using whales certainly didn't disappoint even though it ended up “high and dry”.

PETA recently launched an ad campaign promoting vegetarianism in Jacksonville, Florida. Controversially, the ad was placed on a huge billboard showing an illustrated version of an obese woman stating: “Save the whales” and “Lose the blubber. Go vegetarian.”

Of course, there aren't any whales on the billboard, making it obvious who PETA was calling a “whale.” Numerous groups spoke out about the ad and accused them of being insensitive. The Obesity Action Center (OAC) even sent out a press release calling on PETA to remove the billboard and stated, “The OAC believes this campaign is completely inappropriate as no individual should be stigmatized based on their size or weight.”

As a result, PETA pulled down the billboard and replaced it with another, less controversial pro-vegetarian message.

**Support Your Club!  
Sign up a New Member**

## SB-2099 - Tax on your guns or internet rumor?

On ISRA receives several emails a week, asking about the validity of something like this:

Federal law requiring disclosure of all guns on your tax forms

Below is a back-door federal approach to national gun registration. It will be passed administratively and won't even require a vote by Congress.

Remember, the socialist takeover CANNOT succeed without disarming the public. This is step one; a national list of who has what guns.

Subject: senate bill SB-2099 / amendment to internal revenue act of 1986

Senate Bill SB-2099 will require us to put on our 2009 1040 federal tax form all guns that you have or own. It may require fingerprints and a tax of \$50 per gun.

This bill was introduced on Feb. 24. This bill will become public knowledge 30 days after it is voted into law. This is an amendment to the Internal Revenue Act of 1986. This means that the Finance Committee can pass this without the Senate voting on it at all..

The full text of the proposed amendment is on the U.S. Senate homepage, <http://www.senate.gov/> You can find the bill by doing a search by the bill number, SB-2099.

You know who to call; I strongly suggest you do. Please send a copy of this e-mail to every gun owner you know.

So what is this? And if it is a threat, why hasn't the ISRA or the NRA urged you to take action?

There really was a Senate Bill 2099, introduced by anti-gunner Sen. Jack Reed (D-RI) but it was **in the year 2000**. And it didn't go anywhere.

What this bill would have done would have expanded the National Firearms Act of 1934 to encompass all common firearms to tax and register their sale with the same kind of bureaucracy that goes along with the transfer of machine guns, short-barreled shotguns, and silencers. The \$50 tax and the fingerprinting were indeed part of the attempt, but nothing to do with your Form 1040.

But, to repeat, **it's old, it's dead, it's not going anywhere**, thanks to the vigilance of gun owners across the nation.

### **Update:**

Later versions of email about SB-2099 add confusion by describing, in the same post, HR-45, submitted by Congressman Bobby Rush (IL1-D), the Blair Holt Firearm Licensing & Record of Sale Act of 2009. This bill is very far reaching, so much so that it has no support from any of Bobby Rush's peers. Repeat, **the bill has no support, no sponsors other than Rush**. Congressman Rush submits a similar bill every session, and it never goes anywhere. The ISRA and other Second Amendment supporters will remain vigilant, but the email messages making the rounds make passage of the bill seem eminent. The bill is stagnant, not moving.

The people who forward these and similar emails are alarmed, naturally, and well intentioned.

###

## **IDNR Digest of Waterfowl Hunting Regulations 2009-2010 New Regulations**

**Bag Limit – DUCKS** – Bag limits on ducks are as follows: The basic daily bag limit shall be 6 ducks of any species including all teal species, (except mergansers); however, no more than 4 shall be mallards (no more than 2 hen mallards) and not more than 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, **2 scaup**, and not more than 1 black duck and 1 pintail and **1 canvasback**. The daily bag limit for all mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be a hooded merganser. The possession limit for ducks and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

### **Annual Fees Are (including agent's fees):**

Resident Hunting License .....	\$7.50
Non-resident Hunting License 5-day/regular .....	\$28.75 / \$50.75
Resident Senior Hunting License .....	\$4.00
<b>Apprentice Hunting License (Resident or Non-resident) .....</b>	<b>\$7.50 *</b>
State Waterfowl Stamp .....	\$10.50
Federal Waterfowl Stamp .....	\$15.00 **
Sportsman's License (hunt-fish) .....	\$19.25

\* This is a one-time, non-renewable license. It allows persons ages 10-17 to go hunting with a parent or guardian who has a valid hunting license. Those 18 and older can hunt with any family member or friend who is a validly licensed hunter. A hunter safety course is not needed to purchase this hunting license.

\*\* Does not include agent's fee which may be 50¢ or 75¢.

# Refuge works to resolve fish-kill problem

Maggie Borman, TheTelegraph 9/7/2009

Pollution and smell from rotting fish following the recent draining of lakes in the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge is an error that won't be repeated, the refuge manager said.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service periodically drains the lakes in the refuge, leaving what appears to be thousands of dead and rotting fish, many of which are pumped out of the lake and into the nearby confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers. The Telegraph received multiple complaints last month about the recent draining of the 2,600-acre Swan Lake that is part of the 8,500 acres of the river floodplains in the Two Rivers Refuge, which is in Jersey and Calhoun counties.

"In past years when we drew down the water in Swan Lake we could prevent fish from getting pumped through the pumps into the river by placing large screens in front of the pumps to keep the fish from going through the pumps into the river," manager John Mabery said.

This year, he said, a combination of things created the public outcry.

First, Mabery said, they did not, as in past years, notify the public via a press release of the draw downs, informing the public of when they would be draining the lakes and what the possible consequences would be. They did not utilize screens in front of the pumps to keep fish from being drawn into and through the pumps and into the river. And this year there were more fish in Swan Lake than they had ever seen before.

"It is not our desire to jeopardize the water quality of the Illinois River or other waters here," Mabery said. "Mr. Foster's (Tom Foster, a Grafton businessman) main concern was the problem with the fish going through the pumps at Swan Lake, and I certainly share that concern with him. So to prevent that from happening again is our goal."

Mabery said they did not anticipate that Swan Lake had such a huge number of fish in it this year, and if they had their regular screens in place, they would not have been able to keep that many dead fish from going through the screens. The remedy, he said, is they will utilize heavy-duty screens in the future, to keep dead fish and fish parts from going through the pumps as the water levels on the lakes are drawn down.

Tom Foster, owner of the Grafton Canoe, Kayak and Boat Rental, and a captain on the Grafton Ferry, was one of the people who contacted the Telegraph last month, voicing concerns about the dead fish and fish parts polluting the river waters, and the need to allow the area wetlands to be returned to the way they were years ago - no levees, and open to the river.

Foster and other duck hunters and fishermen held a meeting recently to determine their next action. Foster said he was pleased to report to his group that he had been invited by Mabery to the refuge to talk to him and tour the facility earlier that day.

"I was very pleased to have been invited, and was very impressed by Mr. Mabery," Foster said. "There are some good things going on there and some parts of the project to date are obvious failures. But I told the people at our meeting that if we close our ears to Mr. Mabery, there will be a lot we don't learn."

Foster said people at the meeting were pleased to hear that the refuge is working on the fish problem, but disappointed that there was no promise to take down the levees and return the wetlands back the way they were.

"The bottom line is you can't recreate nature," Foster said. "We are not against duck hunters or against a waterfowl refuge; what we are against is taking these beautiful wetlands and turning them into such a manmade, controlled project, and pumping these lakes is obviously not working."

Foster said he was impressed with Mabery, and intends to keep in touch with him. Mabery told him the goal at the refuge is to provide a habitat for waterfowl, get indigenous vegetation growth back and provide a haven for sport fish.

"We have a lot in common with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, want to see the return of sportfish, and indigenous vegetation and a successful bird sanctuary that is a safe haven for waterfowl," Foster said. "Where we differ is we also want to see the lakes returned to au natural."

Mabery said he and Foster did not discuss taking down the lake levees and opening them back to the river, but instead focused on the draining of the lakes which kills the fish - 98 percent of which are Asian carp or gar.

"I am always happy to give a tour of Two Rivers and to answer any questions or concerns as I did when I invited Mr. Foster to come out for a tour," Mabery said. "I had a feeling some of the things he had heard about us were misinterpretations of what we do here on the refuge regarding habitat management and it is better to get together and share that information. And I also learned some things from Mr. Foster as well."

Foster said he and other concerned citizens intend to continue gathering other like-minded individuals interested in seeing the Two Rivers Refuges lakes reopened to the river.

"As for the pollution problem, I have confidence in Mr. Mabery that they will resolve that problem before the next draw down next year, and I intend to take a wait and see approach to that issue," Foster said.

###

**Visit us at our website:  
mwhi.org**

## Refuge primed for fall bird migration and enjoyment

Maggie Borman, TheTelegraph 9/7/2009

The age-old annual southward bird migration by millions of birds has already begun, and the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge is geared for their arrival.

In the northern reaches of the continent, birds have finished rearing their young and are beginning to flock together and start their "amazing trek to warmer climates," said refuge manager John Mabery.

The refuge, headquartered near Brussels, in Calhoun County, is prepared to offer these avian visitors a place to feed and rest along their journey; and equally prepared to offer the public a front-row seat to enjoy a natural wildlife wonder.

Thousands of shorebirds, including a variety of sandpiper and plover species, are passing through the refuge, Mabery said. Early waterfowl migrants like blue-winged teal and northern shovelers are arriving, soon to be followed by northern pintail, mallards, and an assortment of other duck species.

A few thousand white pelicans are currently using refuge waters, as are hundreds of egrets, herons and Canada geese.

Most of the 8,500 acres of river floodplains managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Two Rivers Refuge lie near the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers in Calhoun and Jersey counties. According to Mabery, habitat conditions on the refuge are very good this year, despite local flooding that extended well into July.

"Much of Two Rivers Refuge is manageable wetlands where we can manipulate water levels in order to provide high-quality habitat for migratory birds," Mabery said in a release. "That's our primary objective on this refuge, to provide the best habitat we can for migratory birds, while helping sustain a healthy river ecosystem. And we encourage people to visit the refuge and enjoy the sites and sounds of nature."

According to Mabery, refuge areas like Prairie Pond, near Batchtown, and the Calhoun Division have excellent shallow water and mud flats areas, including plenty of native vegetation. The 2,600-acre Swan Lake is not only the largest management unit on the refuge, it is also the largest backwater lake on the lower Illinois River. Swan Lake is 10 percent of all Illinois River backwater habitats.

"Swan Lake is our jewel," Mabery said. "We spend a lot of time and effort there because it provides the most bang for the buck in terms of high-quality habitat for a variety of bird species and other wildlife."

Once merely an isolated river slough, Mabery said Swan Lake became permanently impounded when the river level was raised by construction of Locks and Dam 26 in Alton, in 1939. For many years, he said, the deeper and cleaner waters of the lake provided excellent conditions for abundant wildlife and fish, hunters and fishermen as well. Typical of many Illinois River backwaters, Mabery said siltation and poor water quality took its toll on the lake and habitat conditions became severely degraded.

The deeper water and aquatic vegetation all but disappeared, he said, followed by a drastic decline in fish and wildlife use of the lake. Currently the average water depth in the lake is 3 feet.

"The record flood of 1993 was the final nail in the coffin for aquatic vegetation in Swan Lake," Mabery said. "If aquatic vegetation can be restored to the lake, then other good things will follow."

Through the use of dikes and pumps Swan Lake can now be managed to emulate historic conditions, like periodically lowering water levels to expose mudflats that produce native vegetation desirable to a variety of wildlife, Mabery said.

For information about the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge, call Mabery at (618) 883-2524.

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### Public Hunting Areas Report:

**The Illinois Public Hunting Areas Report is now available on the IDNR web site at this link:**

**<http://www.dnr.state.il.us/lands/landmgt/programs/Hunting/lphar/index.html>**

**The report provides Illinois public land hunting effort and harvest data for the 2008-09 hunting season. The report includes data on trends in wildlife harvest, public land use, and sites available for hunting opportunities throughout Illinois. The IDNR currently offers 187 public land sites for hunting.**

## **News from Carlyle Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area**

By Bob Hammel, Site Superintendent

Hard to believe, but we had very similar rainfall to last year's very wet spring and summer. This resulted in very few crops being planted in the sub-impoundments. We once again have native growth of wild millet, but no corn or milo. Randy Heuberger, President of the Carlyle Lake Waterfowlers, was able to plant 12 acres of Jap millet with his airboat the first of August and an additional 12 acres was planted along TransCanada Pipeline Right of Way toward the middle of the month.

One of the bright spots for the site this summer has been the construction of the TransCanada-Keyestone Pipeline through the sub-impoundments. This 2100 mile petroleum pipeline is being constructed from Alberta, Canada to Wood River, Illinois. With an additional pipeline going on to the Patoka Tank Farm, it has been a major undertaking to get the pipeline through this area because of the wet conditions. But, as a result of this project, the area has had 80 acres of land purchased for migration, \$23,000 worth of culverts and water control structures purchased and thousands of dollars worth of rock added to the roadways and parking lots. In addition, the pipeline construction company has agreed to purchase the fuel needed to pump the area this fall. In the long run, the area will definitely benefit from this project.

Some upcoming dates to remember:

October 25 – Drive Through Tour of the sub-impoundments, 1:00 pm. Parking Lot #1

October 31 – Waterfowl Rest Area closed 14 days before regular duck season

October 31 – November 1 – Youth Waterfowl Hunt

November 7 – Sub-impoundments close 7 days before regular duck season

November 14 – January 12 – Southern zone duck season

## **The Illinois Wild Sportsmen's Club**

Submitted by Molly Farmer, Illinois Wild Sportsmen's Club

Recently, the Illinois Sportsmen's Club held informational meetings to allow Hunters of Deer, Waterfowl, and Upland Birds as well as those who enjoy fishing and camping, to learn all about the **Illinois Wild Sportsmen's Club** and the many benefits to members.

**IWSC** is an affiliate member of the AWA and the NRA. We believe in good conservation practices while serving the needs of responsible Hunters and Fishermen.

**IWSC** serves ALL of Illinois, and members have access to over 200,000 acres of 100% Private land/waters. Members of **IWSC** have the opportunity to reconnect with their children, grandchildren, spouses, and friends by using our unique land reservation system, and will feel good knowing their hunting or fishing time is safe, fun, and rewarding.

**IWSC** can offer you and your family local land to hunt/fish/camp, or land that requires a drive, and SO much more! (Out-of-State hunting available as well).

To find out more, go to **[www.illinoiswild.com](http://www.illinoiswild.com)**

