



VOLUME 40 ISSUE 2

MARCH 2010

Rosi Franke, Editor

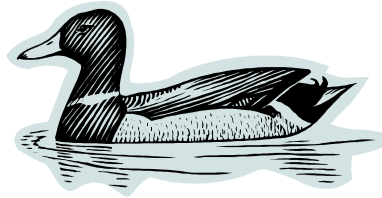
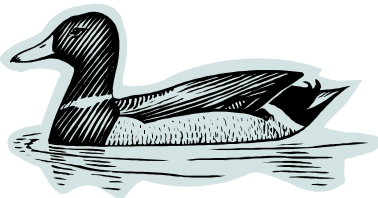
Tel: 618-396-2509

e-mail: rgfranke@frontiernet.net

Join us for the
***MWHI 10th ANNUAL
WETLAND
CONSERVATION
BANQUET***

**March 20, 2010
at the K.C. Hall, Godfrey, IL**

**For more information and
reservations contact John Gineris at
(618) 786-2596.**



Join us for the
***MWHI WOOD DUCK NEST
BOXES BUILDING DAY***

Saturday , March 28. 2010

**at Elk Heating & Sheet Metal
in Wood River, IL
at 9:00 a.m.**

**MWHI has been building and installing
wood duck nest boxes since 1970. The loss of
natural habitat has made it extremely
important to create these artificial nesting
structures for the propagation of this
beloved species.**

**For more information
call Eric Rhuede at 618-410-9853**

MWHI OFFICERS

President

Scott Bryant
217-983-2025 (home)
618-535-0151 (cell)

Vice-President

John Gineris
Banquet Chairman
618-786-2596

Treasurer

Larry Franklin
618-465-5686

Membership Secretary

Mike Devening
618-259-6181

Correspondence Secretary

Jeremy Maggart
618-535-4997

Recording Secretary

Blain Jones

MWHI DIRECTORS

Bob Jones
Area Projects Chairman
IFOR Board Representative
618-498-4724
618-578-9547 (cell)

Eric Rhuede
Wood Duck Nest Box Chairman
618-410-9853

Andy Carey
618-786-3771

Denny Ward
618-498-9855

Dave Geisler
618-576-9845

Justin Wolfe
Carlyle Lake Area Projects Chairman
Catfish Tournament Chairman
618-377-0397

Brian Arnold
618-786-4868

Craig Sondker
COE Chairman
Refuge Chairman
618-593-8421

Mike Arnold
618-786-2300

Kevin Brooks
618-535-1724

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, March 1, 2010

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

Saturday, March 20, 2010

MWHI 10th ANNUAL
WETLAND CONSERVATION BANQUET
at K.C. Banquet Hall, Godfrey, IL

Monday, April 5, 2010

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

Monday, May 3, 2010

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

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

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

Visit us at our website:
mwhi.org

The *Sentry* is published monthly except for December and January by Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc., 2404 E. Broadway, Alton, IL, 62002. The *Sentry* deadline is always the second Monday of each month.

Statements and opinions expressed in the *Sentry* are those of the individual and do not necessarily represent the views of Migratory Waterfowl Hunters, Inc. Officers, Directors, Advisors, Members or the Editor. The appearance of an ad in this newsletter does not necessarily constitute an endorsement of a product or service. We encourage our members to take note of those businesses advertising in our newsletter and shop with them when they are in the market for their product or services.

Late Season Goose Hunting

Duane Hahnenkamp

In January I told you about how messed up my duck season had been. Well, with the help of Mother Nature and two new goose hunting spots, my luck turned around. First my hunting partner came up with a local goose field east of Jerseyville. We didn't get started there until the second week of January and other hunters had already hunted the field a few times. We still harvested some geese and had a lot of chances to kill geese without driving all night to get there. My buddy Mike is in a club up at Canton Power Plant, but the hassle of the long drive is getting old. He found the local field now sees a chance of more hunting opportunity by staying here next year. It is kind of nice to sleep in at home on sub-freezing days and then go out to hunt in the afternoon when the temperature warms up. Plus, the 20 minute drive home is just icing on the cake.

My other big goose hunting opportunity came on a hunting trip to an area east of Effingham, IL. I used to guide with a young guy named Matt down in Union County, and he has opened a hunting service in his home town of Paris, IL. He told me a couple of years ago about all the geese that were starting to winter around his home town. We would be looking at empty skies down south and then he would go home and kill the heck out of geese every time. In 2008 he stayed home and started his own hunting service with another friend.

I got a call from friends who hunted with Matt about the second week of January 2009. They said they were killing the heck out of geese daily, so hurry up and get up there. The problem was that I had just started on a new job that very morning they called. So, as the story goes, I got to hear about all of the great hunts but was out of luck for that season. When the offer came again for this season, I promised them one way or another that I would make the trip. A few days after Christmas I got the call that the geese had hit there. That was about the same time the snow and cold weather hit at home. Matt was still killing geese a week later even though our area had been frozen up tight. So I packed up and headed east one morning, just in time to enjoy some of the best goose hunting in years.

Guys, even though I've hunted down south during its hay day, this was as good of goose hunting I've seen anywhere. We killed out both days (18 geese total) and saw tons of geese. The last day was foggy and we only had 2 geese by 10 o'clock. Everyone else had killed out, so we moved several miles closer to the main refuge where more geese were flying. At 10:30 we were walking out to the pit and geese were everywhere. In 30 minutes we had our 8 other geese and were packing up. The geese were flying over us, from 10 to 100 geese in a bunch, and all were less than 70 yards up. The hunting I had that day was as good as any I've ever had, and trust me I have been in on some great ones. If someone said that this was going to be the next goose capital of Illinois, I would believe it.

At that time, Matt's club had harvested over 400 geese and 300 of them in the last 2 weeks of hunting. When you consider that Matt had only hunted 2 to 4 pits per day, then you are talking about a lot of good hunting days – 36 geese and 7 bands in one day would make any group of hunters smile.

Matt is still getting started and hopes to expand by next season. He has field goose hunting, dry field duck hunting, a few water blinds and hopefully more water areas next year. The big story is that most blinds are miles apart with no one else hunting around you. He also does layout blind hunting when the geese use fields that he does not have pits in. He uses the best decoys out there, like Dakota decoys and Green Head full bodies. Matt picks up his decoys if he is not going to hunt a blind for several days. They took me out the first night there and showed me a strip mine a few miles away. Guys, these geese were covering the ice in one giant flock that was over 300 yards wide and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile long. If you told me that there were 50,000 or even 100,000 geese, I would have believed you. All I know was that it was the most geese I have ever seen in one spot and more were still coming in at dark.

Matt has pictures on his website if you don't believe me. Matt will have an ad in our Sentry this year. So, go on line if you want to see the picture or want to book a hunt. Another great aspect is that you can hunt with a guide or hunt on your own. So, guys, if you want to relive the good old days of Southern Illinois goose hunting or if you never had the chance to experience it, here is your chance. Get a hold of Matt for next year at gandersandgreenheads@hotmail.com or www.illinoiswaterfowl.com. He has the only guide service in that area.

###

Happy 40th Anniversary MWHI

Ed Hurley

To me, anniversaries are just another sign I'm getting older, but the fact that MWHI will be celebrating our 40th Anniversary this April makes me proud.

Not only has MWHI become the largest waterfowl club in our State, but also one of the largest representing the hunter in the U. S. We are also the best and most active. We have countless awards, articles and letters of praise to prove it.

I guess it's because I was there at the start, helping organize and servings as first president that I take such pride in our club, but there are a lot of other people who should share this pride.

All who have served as officers, Board members, advisors and committee members have reason to be proud because it is workers like these that make a club function well.

And, let's not forget the Charter members who have been members for the full forty years. Yes, all members should be proud. Look at the accomplishments of our club. We built over 3,000 wood duck nest boxes, contributed over \$1 million to DU, completed large and small projects in our areas, released waterfowl (both ducks and geese), donated equipment to IDNR, donated seed for planting for our areas and the list goes on and on.

Some of the best things we have accomplished are things we have prevented, such as an airport near our main refuge, bad gun legislation, and so on.

The lists could go on and on and still I would miss some.

Regardless, each of us should be proud to be a member of MWHI. Happy Anniversary all members and be proud you belong to the best damn waterfowl club ever!

Editor's Note: I found this picture of our first president in our archives.



First MWHI President Ed Hurley (left) receives the 'Gavel Award' from incoming MWHI President Don Davenport (right) at the end of 1972. Ed received the award for his outstanding services as president of the club.



LEGISLATION UPDATE

John Popov

The ISRA recently filed an amicus brief (Friend of the Court) in the People vs Diggins case. The Illinois Supreme Court used some of the ISRA information in the ruling for Diggins. This involved the center console in a vehicle to store firearms. The Illinois Supreme Court ruled that the center console was a legal storage container that could be used for storing a firearm.

California has a new ammo law, HB 962. On February 1, 2011 a gun owner will have to provide his/her name, address, date of birth and right thumb print in order to buy ammo and the seller must maintain records of the sale for 5 years. All transactions must be in person. Also, it will triple the cost of ammo. (Remember, as California goes so goes the nation.)

The U. S. Supreme Court case U.S. vs Stevens is over weather a federal law intended to criminalize depiction of animal cruelty violates the First Amendment. This is about a 1999 Federal Statute used to prosecute a Virginia man on animal cruelty related charges. This came about because the law was so broadly written by Congress. It could be used to criminalize the sale and possession of protected material, like education materials, books, DVD's, photographs, art and other images depicting hunting. (No, I am not kidding!)

The President proposes signing the CIFTA treaty, which I wrote about in past Sentry issues. It by-passes Congress and allows an international gun ban. The Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has also been working with the UN for global control of international trade in firearms. The administration will try to fluff it off as an international trade treaty.

A foolish faith in authority is the worst enemy of truth.

-Albert Einstein

If it is to be, it is up to you and me!

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

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

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

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

Sen. Deana Demuzio – 49th District
Tel: 217-854-4441

Sen. Kyle McCarter – 51st District
Tel: (217) 428-4068

Sen. John O. Jones – 54th District
Tel: 618-242-9511 E-mail: jojones@mvn.net

Sen. William R. Haine – 56th District
Tel: 618-465-4764 E-mail: haine@senatedem.state.il.us

Sen. James F. Clayborne – 57th District
Tel: 618-875-1212 E-mail: clayborne@senatedem.il.us

Sen. David Luechtefeld – 58th District
Tel: 618-243-9014 E-mail: sendavel@midwest.com

Rep. Jim Watson – 97th District
Tel: 217-243-6221 E-mail: jimwatson@localnetco.com

Rep. Gary Hannig – 98th District
Tel: 217-839-2859 E-Mail: hannig@hdsmail.state.il.us

Rep. Ron Stephens – 102nd District
Tel: 618-667-8669 E-mail: stephens@apci.net

Rep. John D. Cavaletto – 107th District
Tel: 618-548-9080

Rep. Jay Hoffman – 112 District
Tel: 618-345-2176 E-mail: jayhoffman@charter.net

Rep. Thomas Holbrook – 113th District
Tel: 618-394-2211 tholbrook@housedems.state.il.us

Rep. Eddie Lee Jackson, Jr. – 114th District
Tel: 618-875-9950

Rep. Mike Bost – 115th District
Tel: 618-457-5787 mikebost@midwestmail.com

Rep. Dan Reitz – 116th District
Tel: 618-443-5757 E-mail: [dreitz@egyptian.net](mailto:dreiz@egyptian.net)

Rep. Jerry F. Costello - 12th District
Tel: 618-233-8026 E-mail: jfc.il12@mail.house.gov

Rep. John Shimkus - 19th District
Tel: **618-344-3065** E-mail: house.gov/shimkus

Sen. Richard J. Durbin
Tel: 312-353-4952 E-mail: dick@durbin.senate.gov

Sen. Roland W. Burris
Tel: 202-224-2152

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AREA 2009 WATERFOWL SEASON REPORT

Submitted by Kim Postlewait, IDNR

Excerpts:

2009 SEASON INFORMATION

The 2009 central zone waterfowl season was 60 days in length. Opening day was Saturday, October 31st and ended on Tuesday, December 29th, 2009. There was a special two day youth hunt on Saturday and Sunday, October 24th and 25th.

Bag limit for the 2009 season was a six bird daily limit including all species. In Illinois the daily limit allowed only one black duck, one canvasback and one pintail. There was a daily limit of two redheads, three wood ducks, and two scaup. The daily limit for all mergansers was 5, only 2 of which may be a hooded merganser. The Mallard limit was four, no more than 2 hen mallards.

POPULATION STATUS

Overall habitat conditions for breeding waterfowl in 2009 were above average relative to 2008. The total pond estimate was 6.4 million ponds, 45 % over last year's estimate of 4.4 million ponds and 31% over the long-term average of 4.9 million ponds.

The projected mallard fall flight index was 10.3 million, 11% better than the 2008 estimate of 9.2 million birds.

AERIAL CENSUS

Peak population level on the Illinois River was 226,950 observed on December 7th. On the Mississippi River the peak of 530,250 was counted during the December 4th census.

MRA HABITAT CONDITIONS

The overall habitat conditions were poor for the entire area. There were some areas where the conditions were fair, flooded timber and fields. The habitat conditions were marginal for waterfowl but exceptional for the silver and bigmouth carp. Submersed aquatics were not found on any of the areas after the prolong winter and spring floods. The planted grain crops were successful and things were looking pretty good until the floods returned in October and wiped everything out. The following is an area by area description of conditions.

Michael Bottoms Seeded to Japanese Millet looked good. Flooded out.

Hurricane Island Drained by outside help little food production before flood.

Diamond Island Seeded to Japanese Millet looked good. Flooded out.

Godar Refuge Efforts to gravity drain were supplemented with pumping and millet was planted on the majority of the refuge area in early August. The crop though late looked to mature and provide substantial waterfowl feed but was flooded by 3.5 to 4 ft water before it could be utilized. Corn, Japanese millet and buckwheat were planted in the river field at pump site 2. Field conditions were late for planting but the crop was pretty good for late planting. (Flooded)

Helmbold Slough Remained flooded most of the summer, little food production

Glades Partially seeded to Japanese Millet good natural food production looked good. Flooded out.

Fuller Lake Partially seeded to Japanese Millet good natural food production looked good. Flooded out

Stump Lake Complex - Crull impoundment was planted with Japanese millet. However, the crop wasn't very good. The area was holding quite a few ducks before the water topped the area.

Dan Hudgins was seeded to Japanese Millet and looked good. Flooded out.

Upper and Lower Stump Lakes were partially drawn down to stimulate moist soil vegetation and aquatic plant growth. No aquatics were found before the flooding.

Flat and Fowler Lakes were gravity drained and supplemented with pumping. The areas were partially aerial seeded with natural moist soils supplementing. The lakes looked good before the flooding.

Calhoun Point - Most of the effort at was trying to get the water low enough for blind construction as the flooding remained too high to do a drawdown that would be long enough to be of benefit.

The goose pit fields were planted to soybeans but were not harvested until early January due to flooding.

Rip Rap Landing The entire area remained flooded late into late summer and the only alternative was to hold water but the area re-flooded.

Reds Landing - the walk in area stayed wet late into the summer so the water was held.

Batchtown The Titus Hollow dredge spoil area was planted with corn with some millet and corn planted outside the containment area. The crops were looking good before the flooding.

Natural food production was looking pretty good especially smartweed in the bay. Part of the area was re-flooded and over half of the smartweed was lost. The rest was undone by the flood in early November.

STATUS OF PROJECTS

Batchtown EMP: Phase 3 has been completed with the exception of the removal of one side of the coffer dam on the Obermeyer gate and the installation of a levee and watercontrol structure at Mortland Hollow. Funding was secured and contract let for the construction of the pump site in the seventies channel.

The Rip Rap Landing EMP has continued with the Definitive Project Report (DPR) having been completed. Project planning and cost analysis is underway.

The WRP project for the Rust Land acquisition management plan has been delayed by the flooding but seed has been delivered for the grassland planting and soil preparation had begun before the fall flood. The Illinois State Duck Stamp Fund is providing \$50,000.00 to fund changes to the water control system, purchase requests have been submitted for materials to complete the project.

Other Illinois State Duck Stamp projects have started. The materials were purchased but flooding prevented completions two of these projects. Project one will provide the materials to develop water control by connecting the dredge spoil areas at Calhoun Point. These impoundments will serve at waterfowl rest areas. Project two will provide the materials to install a gated structure in the main drainage ditch at Fuller lake agricultural field. This structure will capture run off and create seasonal sheet water in the agricultural field.

The watercontrol structure at the Glades was completed between floods and looks to have survived without too much damage after three floods. We have plans to replace the watercontrol structure on Fowler Lake. Most of the materials have been purchased.

Calhoun Point has pump problems. The right angle gear drive failed after only 400 total hours of operation. The estimated cost of repair is in excess of \$20,000 and we are looking for a solution.

HARVEST INFORMATION FOR THE COMBINED CHECK STATION AREAS

The opening day harvest was 138 birds which represented 1.8 % of the total season harvest (Batchtown was the only check station open)

MISSISSIPPI RIVER AREA COMBINED AREAS				
	2007	2008	2009	1966-2009AVE.
HOURS	87,224	91,859	42,291	86,264
DUCKS	16,424	18,467	7,589	14,002
HUNTERS	15,366	15,470	7,123	14,978
D/H RATIO	1.07	1.19	1.07	.94
Hrs/DUCK	5.31	4.97	5.57	6.17

The combined check station areas hosted 7,123 hunters, which was a 54% decrease from 2008 and 54 % decrease from the long term average. Hunters harvested 7,589 ducks, which was a 59 % decrease from last year and a 46 % decrease from the average. Hours hunted 42,291 were down 54 % from 2008 and 51% under the long term. The bird per man average of 1.07 was under the 1.19 of last season and above the .94 of the long term average. The bird harvested per hour hunted was 12% more than the previous season but remained below the average.

LIST OF SPECIES REPRESENTING OVER 5 % OF HARVEST						
	BATCH TOWN	CALHOUN POINT	GLADES 12 MILE	GODAR DIAMOND	STUMP LAKE	MRA
Mallard	40.49 %	53.29 %	75.49 %	80.28 %	64.74 %	55.67 %
Gadwall	5.57%	8.42%			5.78%	5.82 %
GWT	11.37 %		6.55%		7.6%	7.94 %
Shoveler					5.06%	
Ringneck	8.13 %			6.4 %	5.32 %	6.26 %
Scaup	15.97 %					7.10%
Woodduck		17.41%				

On the combined check station areas 4,257 mallards were harvested which represented 56 % of the total harvest. Green Winged Teal were second with 607 for 7.9 %, Bluebills with 543 ducks at 7 % was third (3 bird bag), Ringneck with 479 duck, which was 6.3% and Gadwall with 445 birds at 5.8% of the total harvest. These were the only species which made up more than 5% of the total harvest.

HARVEST INFORMATION BY AREA

BATCHTOWN				
	2007	2008	2009	1966-2009AVE.
HOURS	16,640	19,925	17,417	26,529
DUCKS	3,646	4,105	3,087	4,383
HUNTERS	2,699	3,080	2,828	4,398
D/H RATIO	1.35	1.33	1.09	1.00
Hrs/DUCK	4.56	4.85	5.64	6.05

CALHOUN POINT				
	2007	2008	2009	1966-2009AVE.
HOURS	13,337	15,481	7,080	10,333
DUCKS	2,306	3,103	1,354	1,464
HUNTERS	2,692	2,829	1,305	1,952
D/H RATIO	.86	1.10	1.04	.75
Hrs/DUCK	5.78	4.99	5.23	7.12

GLADES 12-MILE				
	2007	2008	2009	1966-2009AVE.
HOURS	14,199	16,457	5,567	11,488
DUCKS	2,253	3,359	718	1,628
HUNTERS	2,374	2,706	944	2,075
D/H RATIO	.95	1.24	.76	.78
Hrs/DUCK	6.30	4.90	7.75	7.12

GODAR DIAMOND				
	2007	2008	2009	1966-2009AVE.
HOURS	21,086.5	19,470.5	5,329	17,834
DUCKS	3,826	3,809	890	3,345
HUNTERS	3,273	2,981	787	2,975
D/H RATIO	1.17	1.28	1.13	1.12
Hrs/DUCK	5.51	5.11	5.99	5.34

STUMP LAKE				
	2007	2008	2009	1966-2009 AVE.
HOURS	21,962	20,526	6,896	20,136
DUCKS	4,393	4,091	1,540	3,154
HUNTERS	4,328	3,874	1,259	3,603
D/H RATIO	1.02	1.06	1.22	.88
Hrs/DUCK	5.00	5.02	4.48	6.38

SEASON SUMMARY

The conditions in July raised our hopes of bringing off some good waterfowl food conditions and things were looking pretty good considering the early summer flooding.

Increasing production reports from the breeding grounds, and conditions on the areas looked as if we could have a respectable duck season if the weather would cooperate. Well, we know the rest of that story. We operated the check station at Batchtown for the entire sixty days though it did flood and hunting was from blind sites. The closing levee kept water in the area that would have normally been dry on the full drawdown. Batchtown had some of the only food production on the east side of the river in the impounded area in Titus Hollow, but it did not escape the late October flood.

The other four check stations were in operation for most of December and we recorded a harvest of 7648 ducks with a bird per man average of 1.05. This wasn't the worst season we have ever had, but it was close. The only years that were worse occurred during the early eighties when were experienced nearly identical conditions. That cycle lasted six years and this is at least our sixth year. Hopefully, this will be the end of the cycle and we will return to less frequent flooding conditions.

Considering a good portion of Illinois was a flooded corn field during November, the ducks were scattered and most of blinds were not accessible, a few people reported having a good season. For the rest of us I guess there is always next year.

#

IDNR Announces \$17 million in Grants for Parks and Open Space

Forty-nine projects will enhance park development and reserve open space through OSLAD program

IDNR 1/29/10

Chicago, IL – Illinois Department of Natural Resources Director Marc Miller announced today announced \$16.9 million in grants for 49 park development and land acquisition projects throughout Illinois. Director Miller made the announcement at the Illinois Association of Park Districts (IAPD) annual conference in Chicago.

“These grants will help create a better quality of life in many communities throughout Illinois, while also creating jobs in this tough economy,” said Governor Quinn. “By investing in parks and playgrounds, we are also investing in the lives of children and families who need more opportunity to play outdoors.”

Forty-nine projects are being funded statewide through the 2010 Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development (OSLAD) program facilitated through Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Of those, nine projects will result in the purchase of new land for future open space use and 40 will focus on outdoor recreation development.

Outdoor recreation projects include (some projects fit into multiple categories):

- 15 development projects for facilities that promote environmental and wetland studies,
- 9 projects that will provide initial recreation development of park sites for their respective communities,
- 20 development projects that will provide new playground equipment,
- 7 projects that will create water based recreation by constructing access to lakes, rivers or streams,
- 10 projects that will include water play features known as “spraygrounds”, and
- 6 projects that will provide in-line skating/roller hockey or skateboard areas.

“This money will help communities further the overall goal of leaving no child inside,” said IDNR Director Marc Miller. “These projects will offer a wide variety of activities for everyone to enjoy the outdoors.”

This \$16.9 million combined with the grantees’ minimum 50 percent share will result in more than \$33.8 million of local acquisition and development projects to enhance the quality of life in Illinois. The amount awarded each year for the OSLAD program is based on the condition of the housing market, because the grants are funded through a percentage of the real estate transfer tax.

The complete list of projects can be seen at <http://dnr.state.il.us/pubaffairs/2010/January/FY10OSLAD-list.pdf>

**DALEY FORCES LAUNCH
RENEWED ATTACK ON YOUR GUN
RIGHTS**

**LATEST EFFORT WOULD SHUT DOWN ALL
GUN SHOPS
ISRA, 2/8/2010**

Late last week, Daley sympathizers in the Illinois House passed HB180 out of the Rules Committee and on to the floor of the House. A vote on HB 180 is expected as early as this coming Tuesday.

Should you be worried about HB 180? ABSOLUTELY!

HB 180 would include the following:

1. Require all Illinois gun shops to secure a license to operate issued by the Illinois State Police. Under this bill, the State Police “may” issue a license to a gun shop and would establish all rules and regulations required to keep the license. You know what that means – either nobody would be granted a license, or those who did get licenses would be so burdened by regulations that they could not make a profit. BOTTOM LINE: HB 180 would shut down all gun shops in Illinois.

2. HB 180 requires that all your gun purchases be registered with the state police. BOTTOM LINE: HB 180 is a licensing/registration scheme designed to keep track of how many guns you own so they may be easily confiscated at a later date.

3. HB 180 allows any police officer in the state go to any gun shop in the state to conduct so-called record reviews. BOTTOM LINE: The Chicago CAGE Unit could, and would, inspect gun shops across the state doing these record reviews. Shop owners, no matter where they are located, would be forced to cooperate with the CAGE unit or lose their licenses. The true purpose of these visits is to cost gun shops time and money and ultimately cause them to go out of business. WHAT YOU CAN DO TO SAVE YOUR GUNS: Starting Monday morning, call your State Representative and politely tell him/her that you oppose HB 180 and that you would like to see him/her vote against the bill when it comes to the House Floor. If you do not know who your state representative is, go to the following web site and follow the directions for looking up your legislators: [Illinois State Board of Elections](#). If you know who your State Representative is, you can look up the phone numbers of their Springfield and district offices [here](#).

Thanks in advance for your help in this matter. The future of lawful gun ownership in Illinois depends on you!

###

**Looking for yearly members:
North-East Arkansas Duck Club.
Flooded rice field hunting.
Over 20 pits and blinds.
Contact Bob Rohr at 618-535-4748**

**Wanted:
42-inch goose field shells.
Contact Duane at 618-535-7053.**

PETA Hopes To End Use of Animals in Movies

U. S. Sportsmen’s Alliance 1/28/10

Moviegoers have shelled out nearly \$2 billion worldwide to watch Avatar, the next leap in computer generated image (CGI) technology. For PETA, that technology represents a major turning point in movie history- no longer using animals in films.

That is why PETA decided to give its annual “Proggy” award to the film’s director James Cameron. These awards from the animal rights group are meant to honor what it considers animal friendly achievements in commerce and culture.

According to [PETA’s blog](#), it honored Avatar because of the movie’s “overarching message of decency, understanding, and compassion.” PETA also goes on to say that the CGI used in the movie “heralds a new era in filmmaking (one that we hope marks the coming end of the use of live animals in entertainment).”

“I am sure PETA will be disappointed, but making movies with animals, provided they are treated well, is a time honored tradition,” said Greg R. Lawson, U.S. Sportsmen’s Alliance director of communications. “No matter what technology is available, real animals in movies shouldn’t end due to the whims of a group dedicated to ending all use of animals by humans.” ###

Come hunt where the migration ends!

Ganders and Greenheads Waterfowl Service

Paris, IL

**Our hunting is done mostly out of heated pits
in both flooded and dry fields.
Membership and daily hunting trips available**

**Matt Biemick 618-559-5814
gandersandgreenheads@hotmail.com
www.illinoiswaterfowl.com**

Come hunt where the migration ends!

