

March 2014

# The FLAYER

Volume 27 No.1

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Wood duck event

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## ARTICLES

**3 PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE  
BY WILLIAM MOLINI**

**4 SPECIAL SNOW  
GOOSE SEASONS  
BY RUSSELL WOOL-  
STENHULME**

**7 INSANITY  
BY JIM GIUDICI**

**8 WHAT'S IN A GOD DAY?  
BY DARREN HAMREY**

**10 WOOD DUCK EVENT  
BY CHRIS NICOLAI**

## NOTES

**11 THANKS FALLONDINNER  
SPONSORS!  
11 RENO DINNER COMING  
UP!**

Cover photo by Chris Nicolai

## The *FLYER*

The Flyer is the official newsletter publication of the Nevada Waterfowl Association and is published three times per year. Guest articles are welcome. Our classified section is available for advertising.

The articles and views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those shared by the NWA membership, its officers, or Board of Directors.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Nevada Waterfowl Association's mission is to protect, restore, and enhance Nevada's wetlands and the wildlife dependant upon them, especially waterfowl and shorebirds. Nevada Waterfowl Association works closely with organizations such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nevada Department of Wildlife, Lahontan Wetlands Coalition, The Nature Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, and other conservation organizations that share our goal of preserving Nevada's unique desert wetlands for future generations to enjoy. Nevada Waterfowl Association is a family oriented conservation organization that was created in October 1987 as a 501 ©(3) tax-exempt non-profit corporation by a group of individuals who were alarmed at the rate of loss of Nevada's unique desert wetlands. Nevada Waterfowl Association intends to become a statewide organization through the formation of local chapters throughout the state. Nevada Waterfowl Association is founded upon the principle that all monies raised by the Association in Nevada, will be spent to help Nevada's own wetlands and wetland-dependant wildlife. All donations are tax deductible.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Willie Molini

**C**ongratulations to the Fallon Chapter of NWA for hosting another successful fund raising dinner, November 2, 2013. One hundred seventy five dinner tickets were sold and therefore the dinner was well attended, well conducted, and all attendees had a good time. The dinner netted \$15,583 for NWA. Nice job, Fallon Dinner Committee!

Recently concerns were raised to the Board of Directors regarding water use in 2013, both at Carson Lake and Pasture and at Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge. As a result of these concerns, Norm Saake and I met with Tony Wasley, NDOW Director, and Allan Jenne, the department's Habitat Division Chief. We expressed our concerns about water deliveries to the two areas and offered our help regarding future water use at Carson Lake. I would characterize the meeting as very positive, with NDOW agreeing to consult with us more closely on future water use at Carson Lake. Additionally, and thanks to NWA board member, Jim Giudici, we renewed a 2006 agreement with NDOW for the use of NWA water rights. This agreement extension, which will be in effect for a period of 10 years, allows the department to use our water rights for management of Carson Lake.

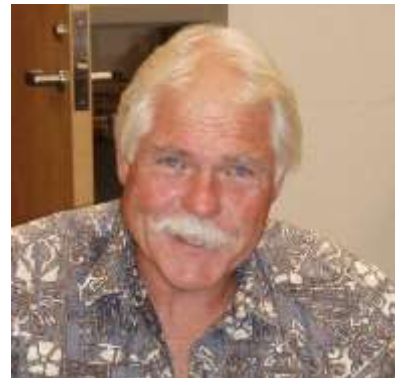
We also had Nancy Hoffman, Refuge Manager at Stillwater NWR in attendance at our January 9 board meeting. We expressed our concern for water management at Stillwater and had a good conversation with Nancy about our concerns. She advised that the Fish and Wildlife Service has assembled a team of wetland experts, including Norm Saake, of our board, to meet in late January to formulate recommenda-

tions for future management of the refuge. Hopefully, some positive things for these wetlands and the waterfowl resource will come about through this work.

On another note, apparently some agreement has been reached by key members of both the House and Senate regarding the 2014 Farm Bill. While much of the focus in the media concerns the provisions of the Food Stamp provisions of this bill, there are also provisions in the bill which are critically important to wildlife, and especially to nesting waterfowl. Two priority provisions for sportsmen and conservation interests include re-coupling conservation compliance to crop insurance, and a sod-buster provision which will apply to the prime duck producing areas of north and south Dakota, Montana and Minnesota. There is also a one billion dollar allocation for wetland and grassland conservation easements. This is very important for duck nesting as well as for pheasants and many other species of wildlife. Hopefully, the full congress will pass this bill soon with the above provisions intact.

Please mark your calendars for the March 29 wood duck dinner and the May 17 Reno Chapter fundraising dinner. I hope to see you all at both events.

William A Molini, President, NWA



# SNOW GOOSE “SPRING SEASON”

by Russell Woolstenhulme—NDOW

**B**y now you have most likely noticed in the Nevada waterfowl regulations a white goose hunt that runs in late February and early March. Perhaps you even took advantage of this hunt last year on its inaugural season. So what is this season all about? How did it come about and why do we have it here in Nevada.

First off, to have this discussion we need to review the major snow goose populations across North America. There are five major populations of white geese, those are, moving from West to East; The Wrangel Island Population (WIP), the Western Arctic Population (WAP), the Western Central Flyway population (WCFP) which includes Snow and Ross' geese, the Midcontinent Population (MP) and finally the Greater Snow goose population. While current population trends and status of other populations may come up in this discussion, our focus today is on the WAP and to a small extent, because of political and biological factors the WIP.

## Population Status of the Western Arctic Population of Lesser Snow Geese

WAP populations are monitored

through periodic photographic inventories of the three main nesting colonies in the Northwest Territories of Canada, including Banks Island, Anderson River and Kendall Island. The number of WAP Lesser Snow geese have been steadily increasing since the late 1970's (when monitoring began). In 1987, the three nesting colonies combined had just over 205,000 Snow geese. The colonies increased to 486,000 geese by 1995 and to nearly 580,000 geese by 2002. The population of these colonies has increased approximately 4% annually from 1976 to 2010. The population objective for the WAP set forth by the Pacific Flyway management plan is 200,000 snow geese.

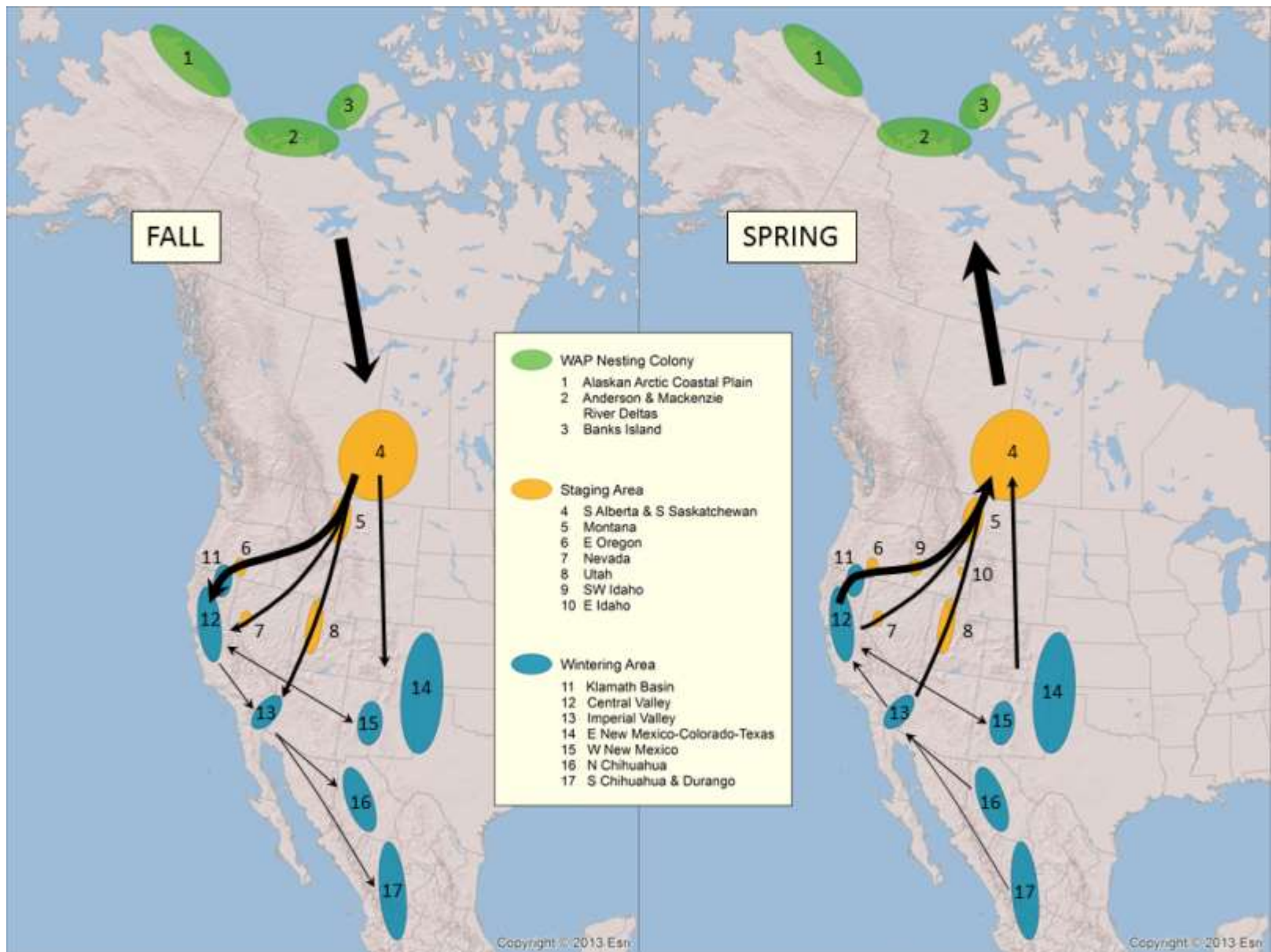
## Migration Trends of the Western Arctic Population of Lesser Snow Geese

**FALL MIGRATION-** Most Snow geese within the WAP breed on Banks Island, Northwest Territories, Canada. Roughly 90% of all WAP Snow geese nest and are hatched on Banks Island. The remaining WAP birds breed in colonies on the Alaskan Arctic Coastal Plain and the Anderson and Mackenzie River Deltas.

In the fall of each year, WAP geese begin to congregate on the Arctic Coastal Plain and Mackenzie River Delta. Non-breeding Snow geese start to migrate first, around mid-August, followed in early September by adults and young. These flocks of geese begin to stack up on a primary staging area in southeastern Alberta and southwestern Saskatchewan, peaking in mid- to late October. The WAP geese continue south from Canada along several different routes.

One route passes through Freezout Lake, Montana peaking in number around the first week of November and departing by month's end. From Freezout Lake the geese head southwest to Summer Lake, Oregon and the Klamath Basin on the Oregon-California border. These geese move on to winter in the Central Valley (especially the Sacramento Valley) of California. A small portion of the geese on their way from Montana to the Central Valley pass through the Lahontan Valley of Nevada. Some of the geese in the Central Valley will ultimately continue on to the Imperial Valley of California and meet with birds which departed





**General migration pathways of Western Arctic Population lesser snow geese between breeding, staging, and wintering areas (adapted from Armstrong, W.T., K.M. Meeres, R.H. Kerbes, W.S. Boyd, J.G. Silveira, J.P. Taylor, and B. Turner. 1999. Routes and timing of migration of Lesser Snow Geese from the Western Canadian Arctic and Wrangel Island, Russia, 1987-1992. Pages 75-88 in Kerbes, R.H., K.M. Meeres, and J.E. Hines, editors. Distribution, survival, and numbers of lesser snow geese of the Western Canadian Arctic and Wrangel Island, Russia. Canadian Wildlife Service Occasional Paper 98. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.)**

Montana and passed through the Bear River Marshes of Utah.

Another route used by migrating WAP geese follows the Canadian prairies east of the Rocky Mountains to wintering grounds in southeastern Colorado, the Panhandle of Texas, the Rio Grande and Pecos River valleys of New Mexico, and the Central Highlands of Mexico. A small number of geese wintering in the western part of the Central Flyway arrive there via the Klamath Basin and the Central Valley.

**WINTERING** – White geese wintering in the Pacific Flyway have averaged between 700,000 and 800,000 over the last decade. The wintering white goose number includes geese from all sources including WAP and WIP lesser snow geese, MP lesser snow geese and Ross' geese. Nearly all

white geese wintering within the Pacific Flyway winter in the California. While small numbers of geese may winter in other areas of the Pacific Flyway, there are no other major concentrations.

**SPRING MIGRATION** – WAP Lesser Snow geese spring migration begins in February as geese leave the Central Valley of California. They return on the same routes and staging areas as the fall migration. The Klamath Basin and southern Oregon and across southern Idaho by mid-March, Western Montana, Southeastern Alberta and Southwestern Saskatchewan by early to mid-April, and arriving at nesting colonies early May.

A small number of birds make their return trip to Freezout Lake via Nevada. The bulk

of the geese coming through Lahontan Valley pass through in late February and Early March. Long-term anecdotal observances place the peak of migration most years during the first week of March.

Of course, migration routes, both fall and spring, are general routes taken by the bulk of migrating geese, but because of their great mobility and extemporaneous nature, birds can and do end up migrating through any number of areas not discussed above.

So How Does All of this Impact Nevada's Season?

The mysterious words that are whispered around season setting meetings throughout the state are "federal framework". The framework, despite all the mystery and vagueness is nothing more than the

guidelines established by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Working within the MBTA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provides the Flyways with biological data (typically in the form of models and harvest data) that dictate if a season will be liberal, moderate or restrictive. These “packages” as they are called, establish the guidelines that set the outside limits or “framework” that is allowable for all waterfowl seasons lengths and bag limits. Nevada’s current year framework for light geese (Snow and Ross’) is a season with no more than 107 total hunt days between the dates of the Saturday nearest September 24<sup>th</sup> and March 10. The basic daily bag limit is 20 light geese.

In an effort to take advantage of an extremely large and growing population, the Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) moved from a season mirroring the duck season, to a split season that includes a late February early March season. This late season was selected to take advantage of the peak of the spring migration through Nevada to maximize snow goose harvest in the state.

#### Is this a Conservation Hunt?

Nevada’s late snow goose season is just that, a late season, operated inside of the framework. A conservation hunt is a special season, allowable only on geese that have federally been listed as “over-abundant”. These special conservation seasons occur on over-abundant species, after the framework dates of a hunting season. Meaning they occur after the March 10 final hunt date.

Currently, conservation hunts occur on the WCFP, MP and Greater Snow Goose populations as each of these populations have been deemed over abundant. Within the other three Flyways, conservation hunts can and do occur.

#### Can Nevada get a Conservation Hunt?

By definition an overabundant population is “one for which the rate of population growth has resulted in, or will result in, a population whose abundance directly threatens the conservation of migratory birds (themselves or others) or their habitats, or is injurious to or threatens agricultural, environmental or other similar interests”. A “Declaration of Overabundance” permits issuing “Conservation Orders” for sport harvest, and allows harvest strategies outside MBTA limitations (longer seasons, relaxes or eliminates other methods and means), after standard management has failed to meet objectives. In the case of MP, MCFP and Greater snow geese for example, Can-



ada, the United States and Mexico (Trilateral Committee) agreed there is a significant conservation issue, and that the populations were overabundant to the detriment of the arctic and sub-arctic ecosystems.

While the WAP is well above the objective levels set forth by the Pacific Flyway, there a number of other factors that play into the big picture. The MBTA also includes Japan and Russia as partners. As discussed earlier, within the Pacific Flyway there are two Snow goose populations. The WAP and the WIP. The WIP not only has migrating birds coming into the Flyway, but birds also migrate into Japan and Russia. These countries want protection for the WIP as their portions of the migration are down from past numbers. An action to make a conservation hunt on the WAP population in the Pacific Flyway, would have an impact on the WIP population in those areas where wintering overlaps.

That is not to say that the WAP

could not be designated as overabundant, but politics involved in any process, especially international politics, does not help the chances. That being said, Environment Canada (Canadian equivalent to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) has started the process in their country to designate the WAP as overabundant. The only question now is how will the U.S. move forward to address the issue?

#### How Nevada Benefits Today

The bright side of all of the conservation orders on other white goose populations is that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have recently suspended regulations as they relate to light goose hunts. The new regulations allow for the use of electronic calls and the use of unplugged shotguns when hunting white geese, if, and only if, all other waterfowl seasons are closed. So Nevada hunters benefit from those suspended laws during our late white goose season (not during the general season however).

# INSANITY

by Jim Guidici



**A**s I write this, the 2013-14 waterfowl season is winding down to its end. By the time you read this, the regular season will be long gone. The late Youth Hunt and the spring white goose seasons will also probably be finished. At this time of year, I like to take some time to look back and reflect on what worked or not, and what I will try to do next season to make up for this past season's mistakes.

The opening in Northern Nevada never happened for me. I had done a pretty good job of scouting those areas in Stillwater that had water. But a bunch of Tea Party members in Congress decided they would rather shut down the government than reach any compromise with those who do not agree with them. I don't know, but the first thing I learned in kindergarten was that nobody gets everything they want and that each of us has to be able to compromise and get along with others. In any event, Stillwater was shut down to the public when duck season opened. I never did get out there during the season. From what I heard, I did not miss much because of the water situation. At this time there is very little snow pack. I am concerned about what the marshes will look like next fall. We cannot do anything about Mother Nature, but we can make sure that whatever amount of water we have is used to provide the best possi-

ble habitat. The new refuge manager at Stillwater is aware there have been mistakes made in the past and is working on getting a new water management plan in place to avoid past mistakes. So hopefully I can enjoy opening day next season. That will be up to Mother Nature and the new water management plan at Stillwater. Not much for me to do differently for next season on that front.

I actually had a good day over in California in a strong wind just before Christmas. There were a decent number of ducks flying and my partner and I managed to get our limit of bull sprig after about two hours. Then the snow geese started flying. They seemed to shy away from the spinner decoys, so we pulled in all of the spinners and started pounding the geese. I noticed that even without the spinners, we had just as many ducks continue to come into the regular decoys. They were almost all sprig but we did manage a couple of gadwall and spoonies. Watching that "sprig show" without any spinner decoys made me realize that ducks will work when they want to work, and there is nothing hunters can do to make them work when they do not want to work.

I admit that like most duck hunters, I am always trying something new to improve my chances of getting birds over my decoys. One of my hunting partners insisted

that if we put out some new kite-type decoys that he bought, the birds would pour in and beg us to shoot them. That did not work, and if anything, I think those decoys flared the birds. No need to add any of those types of decoys to my spread for next season.

I also keep doing many of the same things over and over again hoping that "today will be the day". But the good shoot days are becoming fewer and fewer. They say that insanity is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result each time. That sounds a lot like my duck season.

I was thinking of getting some new gadwall and widgeon decoys for next season to make my decoy spread look more natural and improve my chances of getting birds to work. But after watching all those ducks work my decoys that day, I now do not think I need anything more. I just need to be where the birds want to be, and when they want to be there. So next season I will continue to do what I did this season and hope for better results. Like I said, that is the definition of insanity. Duck hunters have to be insane to keep doing what we do.

By the way, did I mention that the next opening day is only nine months away? That is a lot better than having to wait a full year to do something I am crazy to do.

# WHAT'S IN A GOOD DAY?

by Darren Hamry

I suppose everyone has a different idea about what a “good day” in the duck blind should be. Personally, one’s approach to the blind should be just that; how they perceive what makes a good day. For most of us, shooting limits of greenheads over corn is quite simply, just a dream. For others, it may be a complete reality. So, comparing one’s “good day” to the next is a relative interpretation of the meaning.

I’ve sat back many times and wondered, “At what point do I feel satisfied enough to dub it a good day?” Over time, as I’ve gotten better at my craft, that definition has changed. However, I have narrowed it down to four ducks. Yes, just four ducks! I went with four ducks because of the following factors: 1 – Four ducks is enough food for two people (because I don’t want to eat alone), 2 – Four ducks fit evenly on my game carrier, without that awkward swinging motion you get with less than four, 3 – Four rounds up to seven, 4 – More than likely, if I shot four, I probably had my chance at three others but missed, and 5 – The limit was four when I was in high school so if I try hard enough, I can talk myself into believing I shot a limit!

Of course there are many different variables that can factor into your “good day” equation. Maybe you shot something of some rarity: a band, a hy-



brid, or simply a species you had never taken before. Maybe you saw something you’d never seen before; a beautiful sunset with just the right colors, birds migrating in mass numbers, or your buddy taking a fall on the ice. Maybe for you, a good day means getting away from the ole lady for a

few hours (which probably means she is having a good day too!), or just hearing and seeing the sights and sounds of the marsh.

For me, shooting decoying birds vs. pass shooting heightens the satisfaction level of the hunt. It is tough to deny the beauty of ducks back-peddling in the decoys. Just seeing that happen once in a hunt can turn the tide of the hunt, as you find yourself trying to replay that moment over and over again in your mind. With that said, sit back and try to replay this hunt in your mind...

We arrived there just before shooting hours with little time to get set up. Tom and I set the decoys and Justin readied the spot we would sit among the reeds. We were in a hurried state, for there were hundreds of ducks that filled the air as we made our way to our hunting location. It was a spot we had hunted many times before but we had never seen the numbers of birds prior, as we did on this hunt.

This was a swan hunt. We knew the swans would more than likely fly in the evening, so we set the swan decoys off to the side and focused on ducks throughout the day. We spent the first hour staring at a clear sky with no bird in sight. We couldn’t believe it! After all those birds we had seen in this hole, nothing was go-





before the final push. As the sun began to make its way to the mountains, we heard the music of swans in the distance. Remember, this was a swan hunt that just happened to have had a lot of bonus ducks along with it!

Pretty soon the sky was filled with giant white birds, none of them looking at our decoys. Then, all of a sudden, there was a flock of five coming our way. They looked over our decoys but did not commit, but made the mistake of making their flight path right over our blind. My 12-gauge rang out as the lead swan tumbled into the brush behind us (the 3<sup>rd</sup> icing on the cake).

We walked out of there with a pile of teal, mallards, pintails, a canvasback, a band, and a swan. It was a good day by anyone's standards, and well beyond what I consider to be a good day.

I think it's important to understand your expectations when you go to the blind. Duck hunting should never leave you disappointed, but it should always leave you thirsty for more. Determining what you consider a good day is entirely up to you, whether it's the amount of birds you shoot, the species you shoot, or whatever variable the hunt provides. This day had enough different variables to satisfy my good day-o-meter for the entire season, and that's why it wasn't a good day, it was a "Great Day!" Have a good day!!!

ing to come back? So we sat, and we sat, then all of a sudden I looked out beyond the reeds that lay on the other side of the pond and there it was, the most magnificent thing I had ever seen! You guessed it.....a duck! But not just any duck.....that's right, a hen spoonie! (Obviously this is sarcasm so feel free to laugh) She saw our decoys, took one turn, and put the landing gears down! As we watched her swim among the decoys, we hoped that it was just the beginning of the swarm of ducks that lie ahead.

Two minutes later, things changed in a big way. Four green-wingers showed up out of nowhere and buzzed the decoys. We set in on them, peeping our little brains out in hopes they would commit to the decoys. They did! "Boom, Boom, Boom", three drakes lay dead among the decoys. Once we retrieved those three, the onslaught of teal filled the sky. They bombed into the decoys from all directions, high and low. And I'm not talking little bunches of four here; I'm talking big flocks! Hundreds! We didn't know what to do. There were so many ducks swooping in and out of the decoys that we were frozen. When we finally thawed out and decided to shoot, it was at a small flock of six, in which we only dropped one! Never fear, the teal didn't stop for a good 30 minutes, so we managed to pile up quite a few by the time they figured us out.

After a short lull in the action, along came the big ducks. Our first contestant was a lone drake pintail who flew right over the blind, "Boom!" The next, a pair of mallards, bills down, feet down, and wings back, "Boom!" Then another pintail, and a canvasback (the 1<sup>st</sup> icing on the cake), all the same...

right in the blocks! It's not everyday that ducks work the decoys like they did this day. It was amazing! Every duck seemed to be in slow motion just floating over the decoys as if they were in the Matrix.

The next duck came from behind. I hit him with a sick hen call, "quaaaaack, quaack, quack." He locked up and came right in, "Boom!" When we picked him up, he had jewelry (the 2<sup>nd</sup> icing on the cake). After the "band" played, there was a short intermission



# WOOD DUCK EVENT— March 29 Fallon Convention Center

by Chris Nicolai

We are holding the 5<sup>th</sup> annual wood duck event on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Fallon convention center, and it's FREE! We have 4 things we want to accomplish with the event: 1) use the traditional presentation to continue to provide information about this community project, 2) get adults and children outside to experience what bird research is all about, 3) attempt to improve band reporting rates, and 4) raise some money to continue the project.

As in the past, we will provide spaghetti, beer, and prizes. We did make some changes, including the date and time, adding field trips, and having a special raffle in which you can only enter by showing wood duck bands. We used to hold this event in late summer to follow the Pacific Flyway and the US Fish and Wildlife Service regulations committee meetings as the wood duck project was involved in manipulating harvest regulations. We always held the event in the past between when the USFWS determined the waterfowl season frameworks and the meeting of the Nevada Wildlife Commission so that we could provide in the NV regulations setting process, input from those interested in hunting wood ducks. But, because we have completed the two seasons of restrictive regulations as part of the harvest experiment, the old late summer dates are not needed. Instead, we moved the dates to a better time of the year to extend the event to conduct field trips.

We will begin the day at 5:30 am with a field trip to rocketnet wood ducks. We are limiting the number of participants to 75 and will break the group into 3 efforts to maximize the potential to be successful in capturing wood ducks. Participants will be able to assist in removing birds from the



nets, banding birds, and definitely helping to release the birds. This is very kid friendly.

The second field trip will start at 8:45 and will be checking nesting boxes to look for active nests. Participants will get to see nests of several different species, help label and measure eggs, and band nesting females. Again, this is very kid friendly.

The doors at the convention center will open at 11am. There will be activities for kids including painting duck cutouts and assembling nesting boxes. Also, peo-

ple with wood duck bands can come and receive their raffle tickets after answering a few simple questions like date and general location where shot.

This special band raffle is new and I am unaware of such a raffle being held before anywhere. We are conducting this raffle as an attempt to estimate what proportion of bands have not been reported in the past. I think our past years of dealing with the harvest experiment have shown how transparent we have been with the goals of the project. We promise, we are only trying to obtain information about



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### FEATURE EVENT OF THE EVENING --SPECIAL AUCTION ITEM-- 2014 NEVADA HERITAGE ANTELOPE TAG

No Host Cocktails @ 5:30 p.m. Dinner @ 7 p.m.      Custom Buffet featuring : BBQ Ribs, Chicken Garni & Prime Ribs  
Games -- Raffle -- Silent Auction -- Auction

Advanced Raffle Tickets packets includes extra tickets ( \$100, \$300 & \$500 Packets) are available from Dave Rice, NWA Business Manager—(775) 853-8331 Until noon, Wednesday, May 14, 2014

BANQUET TICKETS --\$80 ADULTS    \$40 (Up to 16)YOUTH  
Tables seating 10 are available for \$800.

Banquet Tickets & Tables are available from Dave Rice, NWA Business Manager or from any Committee Member

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bernard Lund    John Snow    Bernard Venneman    Tom Wilson    Dan Grayson    Willie Molini  
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## NWA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I want to join NWA and help in the effort to save Nevada's endangered desert  
Wetlands and the wildlife that is dependant on them.

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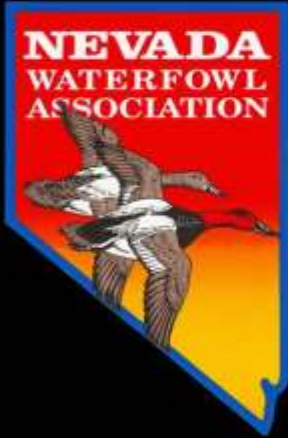
Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Card Type \_\_\_\_\_ (Visa or MasterCard only) Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please mail to: Nevada Waterfowl Association  
5081 West Albuquerque Road  
Reno, Nevada 89511

# 5<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL WOOD DUCK EVENT

## Saturday, March 29, 2014

### Fallon Convention Center



Detailed information for activities and prizes being updated weekly  
[WWW.NEVADAWATERFOWL.ORG](http://WWW.NEVADAWATERFOWL.ORG)

**We hope you will come to learn about this  
community based project!**

BIRDS IN YOUR HANDS	BAND REPORTING	FUNDRAISER
<b>FIELD TRIPS</b> Rocketnetting – Starts at 5am, limited to first 75 registrants. Nest Box Checking – Starts at 8:45am, limited to first 150 registrants Both trips are very family friendly	<b>SPECIAL RAFFLE</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enter with Fallon wood duck bands or webtags at 11am; drawing at 1pm</li> <li>• Bring unreported bands</li> <li>• Bands can be from any year</li> <li>• One ticket per bird</li> <li>• \$1000 cash in prizes</li> </ul>	<b>FREE LUNCH - noon</b> Doors open at 11am Project presentation Raffles Live Auctions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alaska bird trip</li> <li>• Alaska bird hunt</li> </ul> Silent Auctions Many more items! Limited to 280 Meal donation appreciated

**Events and meal are free, but you must register to obtain entry ticket by March 26, 2013. Contact [chris.a.nicolai@gmail.com](mailto:chris.a.nicolai@gmail.com)**  
**Tickets at door are \$20**