



January 2015

NBWF NEWSLETTER

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Resolutions Submitted

Eight is a good number

AGM Meeting

Attend and have your Club represented

Board of Director's Meeting

if you were unable to attend, read about some highlights

Forest Foundation of NB

Lottery time - awesome prizes

Firearm Safety Courses

*-Albert County Hunters Assoc
-Sackville Rod & Gun Club*

"Look Before You Shoot"

signs are available free of charge

The Buckskinners Muzzleloading Association

Winter Rendezvous time! Plan to attend !

CWF Conservation Awards

Time running out for submissions

Message from the Vice-President

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the first newsletter of 2015. Last year was busy and this one looks like it's going to be one of the same.

We have the AGM coming up and with the list of subjects being planned this should be an interesting one.

One of the major issues we have to deal with is being given short notice of the subjects to be dealt with at consultation meetings. In some cases we have only found out about regulatory bodies approving major Wildlife or Fisheries events when they are announced in the press.

As the NBWF represents the opinions of its affiliate groups, we intend to make it known that if we are not given time to consult with our members and have proper votes, then we do not consider such meetings proper consultations.

As the year begins I would like to thank you all for your support both in the last and this year.

Colin MacDougall

Resolutions being Presented at the AGM

Wildlife

- Minimum Large Game Calibre
- Sunday Hunting – Archery Season
- Elimination of Toxic Shot in Hunting
- Youth Hunting Licence
- Online Bear Registration
- Enhancing Wildlife Habitat

Fisheries

- Increase Salmon Population
- Length of Crown Reserve Fishing Period

90th AGM April 10-12th

Hosted by Sussex Fish and Game Club.

The application form for attendance is on our website or email sharon.nbwf@gmail.com for a copy.

Reminder each Club has 3 votes and up to 3 representatives can attend the meeting.

Non-resolution agenda items should be submitted by the end of February so they can be circulated for consideration before voting at the AGM.



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BOD MEETING – January 17, 2015

(Please note these are just highlights of the meeting and not the official "Minutes of the Meeting.")

Fisheries Committee: Report was given by Richard DeBow. He spoke on the DFO Dec 17 Consultation meeting. Lack of timely notification was a major issue; giving us insufficient time to consult with our membership. In response to James Foster's Times & Transcript article on the low salmon returns in the Miramichi River, our committee drafted a media response cautioning against a knee jerk response to these numbers and felt that the recommendation for a total hook and release fishery is not justified. The Committee drafted a proposed submission stating NBWF does not support listing Striped Bass under SARA and feels that current population numbers don't warrant it. Lack of news on Stripped Bass in the Miramichi Lake was raised and the Committee is to query DFO on this subject.

Fisheries Liaison meeting with DNR had been postponed till after the Christmas holiday period and subjects such as Salmon barriers and issues of crown reserve waters will be dealt at this time.

Minister Shea had announced a Salmon Task Force to deal with low returns of the Atlantic salmon and excluded the NBWF from this process while including the ASF and MSA as the two appointed NB representatives on this Task Force. A letter was presented to the Board, approved, and later sent to Minister Shea pointing out that the ASF is a regional organization and the MSA is a local organization specific to the Miramichi and that the NBWF who has traditionally, and should continue, to represent NB on such committees.

Zone VP: Jason Soucy and Gilles Sonier presented reports. Jason stated his disappointed by lack of lakes in his area being added to the list of lakes eligible for ice fishing. He felt that the biologist had not submitted these lakes to DNR for consideration. Gilles said that the blueberry growers seem to be following regulations agreed upon for their farms (buffer zones, etc).

AGM Committe: Jim stated that plans are well underway. The application form was sent around. Decisions are yet to be made regarding who will be guest speakers for the meeting.

Fracking Committee: Rod Currie gave a preliminary report from the Fracking Committee but as there is still one issue to be dealt with and many wishing to comment, the committee agreed to have its final report ready before the end of February so that Affiliates may take it to their clubs before final discussion and voting at the AGM.

Resolutions: Acting Resolutions chair, Jim Marriner, reported that the 2014 resolutions would be sent by email shortly after the meeting.

Wild Life Committee: Kevin Sabeau reported on potato farmers request to move moose season earlier by one week. It was voted that NBWF would not support this request. He also reported rumours that moose season could return to a 3 day season and, as we have a standing resolution for a longer moose season, he was to write to DNR opposing a return to the shorter season.

Other topics discussed at the meeting:

-- A Forest Foundation of New Brunswick presentation was given by Tony Henderson regarding their organization and requesting the NBWF Affiliates to submit wildlife habitat improvement projects for funding; stating that The FFNB's aim was to aid Clubs with such projects. Therefore, they are having another lottery. Prizes include: Moose Hunt, Miramichi Salmon Trip, Tikka Rifle, Stryker crossbow bow, and a G Loomis Pro Fly Rod including a Plueger Trion reel, line, case.

-- NBWF is looking at purchasing NBWF logo hats, T-shirts and/or crests. We are currently contacting suppliers for prices. Final decisions will be dealt with by the NBWF Executives. We will try to have some of these items avail at the AGM.

-- As mentioned in Fisheries, a discussion was held regarding DFO consultations meetings. We received notice of major agenda topics only days before the meeting which made it impossible to consult with our Affiliates. Then, we were asked to respond in a little over two weeks across the Holiday season. Due to this, it was voted that the VP send a letter of protest to DFO stating that this is not proper consultation and that this practice must be corrected in the future as we must have adequate time to consult with our membership.

-- Regarding the IBoF salmon stocking project by Fort Folly Band in Partnership with Fundy National Park, NBWF will be sending a letter protesting the fact that we were not consulted prior to the start of the project.

-- Discussion was held with regards to the experiment being undertaken by Parks Canada and the Fort Folly Reserve. Ron Whitehead gave us a summary of their presentation at the Petitcodiac Sportsman's Club. This said basically that they have taken smolt from the Pollett River and placed them in Cooke Aquaculture open sea pens to raise to adults and then plan to return them to the river.

The NBWF will have to review this project to see if we support it or not.

However as we only learned through the press of this 2.6 million dollar project which as far as we know was started without the consultation of stakeholder groups, the VP has been directed to write a letter to Parks Canada and DFO protesting this and requesting any environmental impact studies.



BUCKSKINNERS MUZZLELOADING ASSOCIATION INC.

Enjoy a fun WINTER RENDEZVOUS !!!!!!!

February 28 Weekend Registration - \$25.00

Schedule:

Friday night – arrive when you want, supper available or bring your own. The club house will be open with lots of wood.

Sat am

- breakfast dawn until 9:00 am
- shoots start at 9:30 until we are done
- BBQ late afternoon
- Crib tournament after supper
- Midnight snowshoe walk at 10:00 pm

Events will be the usual – blanket shoots, maybe a toonie elimination shoot, plus whatever you may want to suggest.

Please bring blanket prizes – something you would appreciate receiving yourself.

Are you coming???

Please let Richard know your plans as they need to organize food and events: rdebow@coxandpalmer.com

- I'm coming
- I'll be there Friday to sleep
- I'll be there for breakfast [before 9:00 am]
- I'll stay for supper
- I'll sleep there Saturday

The Buckskinnners are looking forward to seeing you there !

CWF would like to remind our Clubs that Conservation awards nominations deadline is Jan 30

details at: <http://cwf-fcf.org/en/about-cwf/funding-awards/awards/awards-categories.html>

THE ALBERT COUNTY HUNTERS ASSOCIATION is

holding two upcoming Firearms Safety Courses Feb. 6th-9th and May 1st-4th. Additional time/registration information contact: Dwayne Brown at 506-381-1724 or 854-4374

SACKVILLE ROD & GUN CLUB

is holding a Firearms Safety Course at the Tantramar Wetlands Centre on March 9, 10, 16, 17 with testing on the 19. Anyone interested in participating is asked to call Dieppe DNR office at 506-856-2344.

FOREST FOUNDATION OF NB

FFNB will be running a raffle again later this year. For ticket purchase and information on selling these, please contact Richard Debow:

rdebow@coxandpalmer.com

<http://www.forestfoundationofnb.org/fundraiser-2015.html>

10 Year Fish & Hunt for Free

lottery winner: Jamie Kenney from St. Stephen, NB Ticket # 93

Clubs winning the Larry Gulch Trip are:

- Sackville Rod & Gun Club
- Shediac Bay Watershed Assoc.
- Fredericton Fish & Game Assoc.

ALBERT COUNTY HUNTERS

ASSOC. received funding through the NB Wildlife Trust Fund for signs to hand out to clubs: "Look Before You Shoot" and "Don't Be Mean, Keep it Clean." It was stressed that nails shouldn't be used to attach them to trees. Also, they would appreciate photos of erected signs and their locations.

BOW has an upcoming camp on June 5-7th at Green Hill Lake Camp, Lower Hainesville, NB. Registration forms will be available early February. Limited spaces available.

Contact Nathalie at: hunterbabenm@gmail.com or visit the NBWF website.

Clubs are encouraged to submit articles such as upcoming club events for our newsletters. Please email your requests to our Administrative Assistant: sharon.nbwf@gmail.com

NBWF CONSERVATION LOTTERY

(Early Bird Draw Feb 14, 2015 (\$100 Fredericton Outfitters Gift Card)

Draw Date: April 12, 2015

Prize: Remington 11-87 12Ga. Semi-Auto or Sage 9' Fly Rod & Hardy Large Arbor Reel and line
\$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00

Thanks for your support and our next newsletter issue will be in April after the AGM.