



WRPC NEWS

An NRA Affiliated Club located on River Road in Waterloo, NY
(315) 539-3361

WRPC News is a quarterly publication

Board of Directors:

President -
Don Valerio

Vice President -
Ron Pesta

Secretary -
Mark DeRuyter

Treasurer -
Curtis Watson

Finance -
Jim Daddona

NRA's Women Target -
Gillienne Marshall

Sporter Rifle -
vacant

Indoor Silhouette -
Vicky Porter

Outdoor Silhouette -
Tom Merkle

Bullseye & Youth Shoot -
Bob Stevens

Tactical/Fast Action -
Art & Anthony Pluretti

Club Defensive Handgun -
Dave Lockett, Al Roher,
Sandy Schulman

IDPA -
Scott Bourgeois

Fun Shoot -
Al Roher

At-Large -
Bill Dadson
Carol Snook
Kathy Irland
Ron Brink

Newsletter -
Ron Pesta

Raffle/Picnic 2011

This year's fundraiser has been another big success for the Club. The amount of money raised has set a new record and will be announced at the July meeting. The raffle is a success for one reason and it is no mystery. The members support it with their time, effort, skill and contributions. It is truly gratifying to see how the Club pulls together for this event. There isn't enough room in this newsletter to fully give credit to everyone who makes this possible.

The vast majority of our members sell and often buy tickets. This is the grass roots effort which is the engine that drives the process. Well over 90% of our members get involved. Try to name any other organization anywhere that can match that number. That fact in itself speaks volumes for our Club, and shows me that this Club has the strength and ability to accomplish any goal it sets for itself as long as everyone continues to work together.

The director of this year's raffle was, again, Mark DeRuyter. Mark always takes on the daunting task of creating the gun list, printing and distributing the tickets, and keeping track of each individual member's sales. Mark was assisted this year by Gill Marshall and Tom Hearn. They did an excellent job keeping tickets and money straight. Jim Daddona and Ron Brink once again ran commercial sales. They set up the venues and kept them staffed. Jerry Pagano donated the required gun dealer services which involved acquiring 20 firearms and then handling all the transfers to the winners.

We always offer a free picnic to our ticket buyers, and this year about 300 of them took us up on it. Sandy Schulman always makes the necessary arrangements for the SMS facility and orders the food. Tom Hearn ran the kitchen again this year and has the job down to a science. His helpers were Alan Roher, Sandy Schulman, Amy Schulman and Steve Leven (brother of member Chris Leven). Steve worked hard all day as a volunteer and isn't even a member of the Club. Another non-member is Josh Ward, son of Charlie Ward. Josh worked all day for the second straight year at the gate and helping Gill Marshall run 50/50. Gill had another record breaking

see raffle on pg 2

raffle from pg 1

year and made over \$500 of pure profit. Ron Brink sold raffle tickets at the gate and also cleared over \$500. Amy Schulman was the third non-member who was generous enough to work that day, and Sandy soldiered-on despite an acute back spasm. New member Adam Siblosky supplied 50 pounds of macaroni salad at cost from his local restaurant, Penny's Place.

The SMS site needed a lot of cleaning and Chris Leven, Vicki Porter, John Christensen, and Randy Reynolds got there at 9:00 am to start sweeping and washing. Cheryl D'amico worked the food table all day, Vicki and John worked the door with Charlie and Kris Ward. Charlie had the unenviable job of explaining to certain incredulous guests why they could only have three beer tickets. Speaking of that particular adult beverage, Ron and Cody Pesta again served the beer. Once again we had no alcohol related problems even though we were giving the stuff away. This consistent lack of trouble is a credit to the father and son team.

Deb Najar and Lloyd Northrup worked the room keeping supplies stocked and things cleaned up. Bill Dadson kept a watchful eye on the ticket drum during the drawings and kept the tickets well homogenized. Vicki Porter and Randy Reynolds kept official track of the winners.

You can't have a successful raffle without selling a lot of tickets. For the third straight year Sue and Ray Davenport sold the most - by a lot. Their total was over \$5,000. Because of what they have done for the Club the last three years, the members voted for a special prize at the last meeting. Jerry Pagano was able to obtain a Remington 870 twenty-gauge with bird and slug barrels and get it to the picnic in time for a presentation. We really can't thank Sue and Ray enough. Any time you are west of Geneva on Rt. 5&20 and need a good meal, stop in at Sweet Sue's.

Mark DeRuyter sold over \$2000 to add to everything else he does for the raffle, and Chris Leven sold over \$1000. Other successful sellers were Jim Schmit - \$660; Ron Pesta - \$550; Andy N. and Andy C. Fegley - \$430;

George and Rob Lichak - \$400; Rick Roxburgh - \$380; Charlie Ward - \$360; Frank Capozzi - \$360; Bill Dadson - \$350; and Matt Ferrara, Randy Mayo, and Tom Hodge all over \$250.

We had 3 winners who took the cash, so as always, those rifles will be made available to members at the August meeting at the buyout price. The available rifles are: The Colt AR-15 for \$1000, the Marlin 30-30 at \$279 and the Marlin 22 magnum at \$133. Whoever is interested in a rifle throws their name in a bucket and the winner gets to buy the rifle. This is available to members only and only those members who participated in the raffle are eligible. The term "participated" is defined as having bought tickets, sold tickets, worked a booth, worked the picnic, or at least returned your unsold tickets.

As has happened at two other drawings, there was an odd coincidence. The winners of the top two guns had the same last name -- Pettit--. It would be remarkable if two individuals on the list had the same last name, but the fact that they won the top two guns is astonishing. The two Pettits are unrelated and unknown to each other. We mention this in case any of our members or ticket buyers have any question about this coincidence as it might relate to the honesty of the drawing.

Congratulations everyone, we have made it through another gun raffle and put a lot of money in the bank. It seems that as the years go by, the Club gets better and better at efficiently running this event. We have a formula which seems to be working, and we have trained people who know how to perform the necessary jobs. It is up to all of us, collectively, to understand that the key to our success is not only hard work, but, most importantly, cooperation.

Well Done!

Don Valerio &
The Board of Directors

July Meeting

The July 2011 meeting will be held on the second Monday (July 11th) of the month due to the Fourth of July holiday.

Safety Rules

Just to make it official, the written set of general safety rules were ratified by the members at the April meeting. It is the responsibility of every member to know and follow these rules. Every effort has been made to make the rules simple, clear and as short as possible. At the same meeting, all previous range rules were nullified. This means that if it is not written down and ratified, it is not a rule. New rule can and will be added as necessary. The safety rules have already been slightly updated with minor grammatical and wording changes. There will always be a copy of the most recent update in a binder located in the Clubhouse. This will be located by the green work book. It will always be there for reference in the event of a question or dispute about range rules.

10/22 Clinic

A long time has passed since our last clinic. We have scheduled another for Tuesday, August 16th at 6:30pm.

This clinic will teach you how to disassemble the bolt and trigger mechanisms for cleaning, replacement, or upgrading of components. As before, Bruce Butler will be the instructor and make sure everything gets put back together with no leftover parts.

This clinic is presented free of charge and will be held if there is enough member interest to warrant it.

Club Nuptials

Generally, this newsletter is not a forum for wedding or birthday announcements; but this issue will be an exception. It is our pleasure to announce that Bill Dadson and Charlie Ward have taken wives.

Charlie and Kris Ward made it official on May 21st. We haven't known Kris very long, but long enough to see that Charlie has happily met his match.

Bill and Anna May were married on June 12th. Bill looked splendid in his Navy Chief's uniform (not his original) and Anna May radiated in her embroidered ivory dress.

Mark DeRuyter missed the raffle and picnic for the first time ever since his son Dennis got married that day at Seneca Lake State Park.

The Club extends its warmest wishes to all.

It must be the smell gunsmoke in the air!

Join the NRA Today!
Help the sport and your Club!

**WRPC will receive a
financial reward for each new or
renewed NRA membership that
comes through our
official recruiter.**

**Contact Art Pluretti for
more information at:
free2glock@yahoo.com**

Junior Sporterifle Team

The Club is very proud of this years junior team which numbered 9 shooters : Sean Anderson, Drew Fegley, Nate Gadoury, Madison Lichak, Kyle Ludwig, Michael Pulver, Tom Stebbins, Andrew and Matthew Williams - McIntyre. To begin with, the mere size of the team was a marked improvement over recent years. We believe all of our members agree that a most important responsibility for a club such as ours is to support youth shooting. This year we were lucky to have a fine group of kids and we hope to add more in the future.

Collectively and individually, the shooting abilities of these young people earned a fine list of awards. The team which is known within Sporterifle as Waterloo Blue, earned 2nd Jr. team honors in the Hudson Valley League, and was the Top Youth Team in the State Shoot-Offs. Individual awards were: Kyle Ludwig - Hudson Valley League, Waterloo Blue, Most Improved; Madison Lichak (two awards) - League High Female Junior and 1st Rifleman; Nate Gadoury - League 2nd Marksman. In the Holiday Tournament Drew Fegley took home trophies for both 2nd High Marksman and 2nd High Male Jr.

Some of the credit for the success of Waterloo Blue must go to Dick Eaton. From the beginning of the season Dick encouraged and assisted all the young shooters. He also generously provided equipment and logistical support and worked to assure that there were enough youth shooters on the roster for each match.

The Club will continue to support youth Sporterifle at WRPC by providing ammunition, rifles and coaching as well as what we hope is a positive atmosphere. A group of young people that is both interested and involved in shooting is a precious resource. These kids have provided two more League trophies for our wall. Their names will be displayed permanently along side the rest of the long list of such trophies won in the proud history of Sporterifle at WRPC. Congratulations to you all.

2010/11 Sporterifle Season

WRPC had a very successfull Sporterifle 2010-2011 season with team & individual awards total of 17. Our top Master class shooters were Eric Fegley & Art Pluretti.

Award winners are as follows:

- Niagara League -
 - 2nd Place Team Waterloo Red(WR)
- 2nd Sharpshooter -
 - Randy Reynolds(WR)
- Adirondack League -
 - 2nd Sharpshooter - Charlie Ward (WW)
- 1st Marksman -
 - Paul Dewa (WW)
- Ten X League -
 - 1st Expert - Art Pluretti (Brochport)
- Hudson Valley League -
 - 2nd Marksman -
 - Nathaniel Gadoury (Waterloo Blue)
- 1st Rifleman - Madison Lichak (WB)
- Most Improved -
 - Kyle Ludwig (WB)
- 2nd Place Team -
 - Waterloo Blue (Junior team)

NRA Season Awards:

- 1st Expert - Anthony Pluretti (WR)
- 1st Sharpshooter - Charlie Ward (WW)
- 4th Marksman - Thomas Hearn (WW)

Holiday Postal Shoot Awards:

- 2nd Marksman - Drew Fegley
- nd High Junior Male - Drew Fegley

NYS Shoot-off Awards:

- 2nd Sharpshooter - Robert Lichak
- High Female Junior - Madison Lichak
- 1st Junior Team - Waterloo Blue

Great job by all shooters!

Waterloo Rifle and Pistol Club

2010/2011 Match Schedule

www.waterloopc.com

Indoor Silhouette

Jan 16th, Feb 20th, Mar 20th, Apr 17th @ 9am

Sporter Rifle (Dick Eaton - eaton@frontiernet.net)

September - March; every Tuesday & Friday of the month @ 7pm

Outdoor Silhouette (Ron Pesta - rpesta@rochester.rr.com)

May 15th, Jun 19th, Jul 17th, Aug 21st, Sep 18th @ 9am

Club Defensive Handgun Al Rohrer - al.roher@co.ontario.ny.us)

(future dates to be determined)

Fun Shoot (Al Rohrer - al.roher@co.ontario.ny.us)

Jan 2nd, Feb 6th, Mar 6th, Apr 3rd @ 9am

IDPA (Scott Bourgeois - momndad@rochester.rr.com)

Feb 12th, Mar 12th, Apr 9th, May 14th, Jun 11th, Jul 9th, Aug 13th,
Sep 10th, Oct 8th, Nov 12th, Dec 10th
(2nd Saturday of the month) @ 10am

Bulls--eye Pistol (Bob Stevens - rgsarch@gmail.com)

October - March; every Thursday of the month @ 7pm

Tactical/Fast action (Art Pluretti - free2glock@yahoo.com)

May 1st, Jun 5th, Jul 3rd, Aug 7th, Sept 4th, Oct 2nd, Nov 6th @ 9am

ALL MATCHES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Come Out and Join Us!

Clip & Save

IDPA

The IDPA program here at WRPC is gaining momentum. We have almost doubled the number of participants and better than doubled the number of SO's and crew that it takes to make a match successful. Waterloo IDPA has also produced some very talented shooters who have competed at state, national and soon to be world levels.

Congratulations to a newly-minted crop of IDPA Safety Officers: Cathy Bourgeois, Tony Catalfamo, Don Cimino, Jeff Exner, Ken Hann, Jim Hendricks, David Lockett, George Martin, Rob Raiman and Chuck Wilde.

On June 3-4, 2011, several members of our IDPA program competed in the NYS IDPA Championships. Though the competition was heavy; our squad did exceptionally well. Congrats to the following:

CDP - Jeff Jackling (2nd), Bill Wilson (6th), Jim Hendricks (7th), Rich Cannioto (8th)

ESP - Lon Snook (5th), George Martin (8th), Roy Greer (9th), Carol Snook (10th)

SSP - Keith Bourgeois (1st), Darryl Lapp (4th), Bob Christopher (5th), Bob Raiman (6th), Joe Acquilano (7th), Jack Gladke (8th), Kitty Richards (9th), Ray Broher (11th), Pat Steiner (15th), Jeff Exner (16th)

ESR - DC Roger Coutant, Scott Bourgeois (1st).

All of these accomplishments have taken a lot of dedication, practice, and hard work. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has participated in IDPA and invite anyone who would like to take part in this rapidly growing sport to join us.

Our next matches are scheduled for the second Saturday of each month with hammer down at 10am and practice sessions every Tuesday evening beginning at 6:30pm. All of our matches are open to the public, so come on down and bring a shooting buddy or two. Hope to see ya on the range.

Women on Target

WRPC held another very successful WOT program this past May 7th. The ladies attending had a great time, learned a lot and shot even more! Our program coordinator Gilienne Marshall, along with many great volunteers, continues to present an interesting course focusing on firearms safety and marksmanship.

Those who may have been afraid of guns in general, rifles (even high power) or shotguns can not only handle them with confidence but are definitely fine shots in their own right.

You may know a female who could be interested in this course. If so, stay tuned (either newsletter or website) for our next class.

Hunter Safety

NYSDEC Sportsman Education Instructors have tentatively scheduled the next Hunter Safety class for Wednesday & Thursday, September 21 & 22 from 6 - 9 pm and Saturday, September 24th from 8am - 4pm.

These course dates will be confirmed in the near future. If interested, please check the NYSDEC or WRPC websites and the Finger Lakes Times (Sunday edition - sports section, outdoor calendar).

WRPC has three qualified instructors in Vern Weeks, Ron Pesta and Bill Dadson.

Club Logo Wear

Embroidered shirts, jackets and sweatshirts are available for purchase. Ballcaps are coming soon. Ron Pesta, Club member and owner of Eagle Graphics Custom Embroidery is taking orders. Show your support for the Club and place your order today. Remember, a portion of the cost for each item is donated back to the Club.

A minimum of 12 pieces are needed to place an order (cost effective). Contact your shooting buddies/partners and get an order together.

Polo Shirts (50/50 or 100% cotton) HOT ITEM!!!

Colors - white, black, ash, forest green, maize, maroon, navy red & royal blue

S - XL \$21.00 2XL & 3XL - \$23.00

Sweatshirts (90/10)

Colors - ash, black, forest green, navy & royal blue

S - XL \$22.50 2XL & 3XL - \$25.50

Hooded Sweatshirts (90/10)

Colors - ash, black, forest green, navy & royal blue

S - XL \$28.00 2XL & 3XL - \$30.00

1/4 zip Fleece Pullover (100% poly)

Colors - charcoal, black, forest green, navy, royal blue, orange, red, carolina blue

S - XL \$31.00 2XL - \$32.00 3XL - \$34.00 4XL - \$35.00

Full zip Fleece (100% poly)

Colors - charcoal, black, forest green, navy, red, grey

S - XL \$32.00 2XL - \$35.00 3XL - \$36.00 4XL - \$37.00

3-Season Jackets HOT ITEM!!!

Colors - black, forest green, navy, red, royal,

S - XL \$52.00 2XL - \$54.00 3XL - \$58.00 4XL - \$60.00

Place your order by:

- filling out the order sheet at the Clubhouse
- call/fax Ron at 315-781-1953 (Eagle Graphics)
- email rpesta@rochester.rr.com
- or visit his website at eaglegraphicsembroidery.com.

Be proud of your Club, wear the logo!

Attention All Sportsmen

Included in this newsletter is NYSDEC's 5-year Deer Management Plan, the Proposed Tag/Permit Structure for the entire state and four form letters to the principal parties involved.

We ask that you read these over carefully and if you feel as strongly about deer management/hunting as most of us do, please make copies and disseminate the enclosures to family and friends, sign the letters and mail them (ask them to do the same) to those principals. We have found that emails do get trashed without the message getting to the addressee.

You may want to call or even better write to your assemblyman and state senator to make them aware of your concerns about these matters.

readMedia

- [Higher Education](#)
- [Public Sector](#)
- [News Syndication](#)
- [About Us](#)

[« Back to recent releases](#)

DEC Releases Draft Deer Management Plan

The Plan Will Guide Deer Management for the Next Five Years

The Plan Will Guide Deer Management for the Next Five Years

- by [New York State Department of Environmental Conservation](#)

ALBANY, NY (06/13/2011)(readMedia)-- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) today announced that a proposed five-year deer management plan is now available for public review and comment. The plan is available at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7211.html> and DEC will be accepting public comment on the draft through Thursday, July 28.

The draft plan describes six primary goals that encompass the current priorities for deer management and the values and issues expressed by the public:

- Manage deer populations at levels that are appropriate for human and ecological concerns;
- Promote and enhance deer hunting as an important recreational activity, tradition, and population management tool in New York;
- Reduce negative impacts caused by deer;
- Foster public understanding and communication about deer ecology, deer management, economic aspects and recreational opportunities;
- Manage deer to promote healthy and sustainable forests and enhance habitat conservation efforts to benefit deer and other species; and
- Ensure that the necessary resources are available to support sound management of white-tailed deer in New York.

In 2009, DEC held 20 public meetings across the state that were attended by more than 1,000 people to gain preliminary input regarding the most important issues that should be addressed in the plan. Input obtained during the public meetings and via various hunter surveys in recent years was used by

DEC biologists and managers to help develop the recommendations and management actions contained in the draft plan.

The plan includes a number of specific management proposals that have been under discussion with the public for several years.

Among the recommendations included in the plan:

- Include an index of deer impact on forests when setting deer population objectives;
- Establish deer management focus areas with liberalized antlerless harvest rules in areas with overabundant deer;
- Establish a special youth deer hunting weekend in early October for junior hunters to aid in the recruitment of new deer hunters;
- Open the bowhunting season in the Southern Zone on October 1, rather than the current opening in mid-October; and
- Continue the mandatory antler restriction program in wildlife management units (WMUs) 3C, 3H, 3J, and 3K, and expand antler restrictions to seven additional wildlife management units (WMUs 3A, 4G, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, and 4W) in southeastern New York.

DEC strives to provide a deer management program that balances diverse public interests and values with the biological needs and ecological relationships of deer, for the benefit of New York's white-tailed deer herd and the people of New York.

Comments may be submitted in writing through July 28 to DEC Deer Management Plan, NYSDEC, 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-4754 or by email to deerplan@gw.dec.state.ny.us using "Deer plan" in the subject line.

Want to create your own news and distribute it in minutes?

[Sign up now!](#)

News From



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Contact Information

Lori Severino, 518-402-8000

Share this News

- [Print](#)
- [Email](#)
- [Click here to embed this news release on your own website.](#)

NEW YORK BOWHUNTERS, Inc.

CRITICAL RED ALERT

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has released their 5-year "*Management Plan for Whitetail Deer in NYS 2011-2015*". This plan is a recipe for the dismantling of the archery-only hunting seasons as we know them today and it will have a dramatic effect on the quality of hunting during the firearm season as well. **ALL** sportspersons of this state need to spread the word via e-mail, twitter, face book, blogs, contacts with sporting groups, sports shops, legislators and any media at their disposal.

YOU NEED TO ACT ASAP - MAKE IT GO VIRAL

Proposed Tag/Permit Structure - FOR THE ENTIRE STATE

- * eliminate all antlerless & either sex tags, therefore no tags will be issued with bow or muzzleloading licenses,
- * antlerless deer can **ONLY** be taken with deer management permits (DMPs) **in selected areas**,
- * the **ONLY** deer carcass tag that you will receive will be **ONE** buck tag with your biggame hunting license. Once a buck is harvested its one and your done. In areas with no DMPs, or a DMP is not secured via the lottery, hunters can only harvest one antlered (buck) deer. Therefore, if a buck is taken during the early bow season the regular season and muzzleloading licenses that were purchased are useless,
- * expand the antler restriction (3 antler points on one side) program in the Catskill region.

Background Information

- * In 2002, in compensation for a license fee increase, bowhunters received two additional carcass tags,
- * In 2005, the DEC implemented regulations that took away up to 10 days and the last weekend of prime bowhunting time in November. This change allowed junior hunters to hunt on the 1st weekend of the regular season,
- * In 2009, another license fee was enacted, including the addition of a \$10 application fee for DMPs,
- * Bowhuters have to buy two licenses in order to bow hunt (biggame and archery),
- * Bowhunters are paying more license/permit fees in combination with ever decreasing hunting opportunities.

Southern Zone Season Structure:

- * open the archery-only season on October 1st,
- * create a 3 day youth firearm season on the Columbus Day holiday weekend followed immediately by,
- * a 4 day muzzleloading/bow season for **antlerless deer only** (including bowhunters),
- * bow-only season continues through the 3rd Friday in November,
- * open the regular season on the 3rd Saturday in November for 23 days (current season structure),
- * a 9 day combined bow/muzzleloading season after the regular season (current season structure).

If this DEC plan is implemented, bowhunters in 2012 will only have a 5 days archery-only hunting season. After the deer drives start and the guns start going off, the deer will go running, including the mature bucks that will head to their safe hiding spots until the woods calm down in late December.

The archery-only season you enjoy now will cease to exist.

Northern Zone Season Structure:

- * open the archery-only season on September 27th,
- * 3 day youth firearms hunt on Columbus Day holiday weekend,
- * bow-only season thru the next to last Friday in October (gain 4 days with no additional weekend opportunity),
- * 7 day muzzleloading/bow season (moved back one week),
- * regular season opens on the last Saturday in October thru the 2nd Sunday in December (moved back one week),
- * 7 day muzzleloading **with bow hunting included in season.**

(Continued on Next Page)

Additional proposals:

- * The DEC can modify the bow and muzzleloading seasons as it sees fit, resulting in unpredictable season structures.
- * Make additional portions of the bow season, in selected areas, antlerless only (no bucks).
- * Allow for the use of crossbows in ALL the hunting seasons (legislation required).
- * Open a youth-only firearms hunt during the 1st weekend of the Suffolk County January firearms season.

Regular Firearm Seasons - Other than moving back the northern zone season by one week, there are no changes to the season length or tag structure, including no requirements to take only antlerless deer in any portion of the seasons!

In addition to spreading this news far and wide (including your local legislators), please contact the following. Use the enclosed letters as a blueprint for composing your own personal comments. If you choose to use the attached form letters remember to include your address and signature at the bottom of the page.

NYS Dept. Environmental Conservation
c/o Deer Management Plan
625 Broadway Ave.
Albany, New York 12233-4754
email: deerplan@gw.dec.state.ny.us

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of the State of New York
NYS Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224
email via the web site at: www.governor.ny.gov

Chairman of the NYS Environmental Conservation Committees

Senator Mark Grisanti
Legislative Office Building
Room 902.
Albany, New York 12247
e-mail: grisanti@nysenate.gov

Assemblyman Robert Sweeney
Legislative Office Building
Room 625
Albany, New York 12248
e-mail: sweeney@assembly.state.ny.us

DO IT OR LOOSE IT!

SEE ATTACHED FOUR (4) FORM LETTERS!

NYS Dept. Environmental Conservation (DEC)
c/o Deer Management Plan
625 Broadway Ave.
Albany, New York 12233-4754

Dear Wildlife Biologists,

I would like to comment on the DEC 5 year management deer plan. As both a bow and firearms hunter, I am greatly concerned that this plan will devastate the archery-only seasons. Placing a youth firearm hunt as well as a muzzleloading season in the middle of the archery-only seasons is totally unacceptable. Expanding biggame youth hunting opportunities can be best accomplished by lowering the junior hunter age requirements, not by placing unnecessary and invasive firearm seasons into the middle of the archery-only seasons. When the deer drives begin and the guns go off, deer will be heading into their hiding places. This change in deer behavior results in a greatly diminished bow hunting experience as well as a decreased prospect of success in harvesting a deer. Bowhunters are attracted to the uniqueness of the archery-only seasons because of their special challenges and quiet, undisturbed, natural environment. As a result of this proposal, the archery-only season in the southern zone will cease to exist as we now know it. Another proposal in the DEC plan institutes a youth firearms weekend hunt on the 1st weekend of the firearms season in Suffolk County. If the DEC is insistent on having a youth firearm weekend hunt, it should also be held on the 1st weekend of a firearm season in both the southern and northern zones.

Bowhunters are in full support of opening the southern zone archery-only season on October 1st to run through the Friday before Thanksgiving without the inclusion of any type of firearm season before or during the archery-only seasons. The archery-only season begins on October 1st in Suffolk County and before or on October 1st in the vast majority of neighboring states. The same should be true for New York State.

Bowhunters are opposed to the proposed elimination of the archery license, either sex tag. Bowhunters pay a double fee with the required purchase of biggame and archery licenses.

- * In 2002, bowhunters acquired an either sex tag as compensation for a license fee increase.
- * In 2005, bowhunters lost up to 10 days of hunting opportunity including, the loss of a very valuable weekend of hunting in order that junior firearm hunters could hunt on the opening weekend of the regular season.
- * In 2009, hunters absorbed another license fee increase in addition to an application fee for antlerless deer management permits (DMPs).

As a multi-season hunter, my ability to hunt in other seasons is greatly diminished if this proposal is enacted. DMPs are not available in many WMUs and many hunters will not receive a DMP via the lottery system in others. In these situations, if a buck is harvested during the archery season, its one deer and done. The regular season and muzzleloading licenses are then useless. What incentive is there for hunters to purchase additional licenses and hunt in other seasons? Can persons in possession of a lifetime hunting license now receive a refund? In addition to the regular season buck tag, at least allow hunters the opportunity to participate in additional hunting seasons with the issuance of an archery license either sex tag.

Thank you for listening to my concerns,

The Honorable Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
The Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The sporting community of New York State (NYS) needs your help. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is **once again** proposing to implement a biggame regulations that would devastate the archery-only seasons and have a dramatic effect on the quality of hunting during the firearm seasons.

Bowhunters are attracted to the uniqueness of the archery-only seasons because of their special challenges and quiet, undisturbed, natural environment. Placing a youth firearm hunt as well as a muzzleloading season during the archery-only seasons is totally unacceptable. Vermont Governor Peter Shumlin got it right when he reported that a proposal by his wildlife biologists to open a firearms season in October was not going to happen. Governor Shumlin commented *"that to allow hunting deer with firearms in October would be an extraordinary bad idea" and "that whitetail deer are smart and much harder to hunt in November if they've already been introduced to firearms just a month before"*. Expanding biggame youth hunting opportunities can be best accomplished by lowering the junior hunter age requirements, not by placing an unnecessary and invasive firearms season in the archery-only seasons. When the deer drives begin and the guns go off, deer will be heading to their hiding places. This change in deer behavior results in a greatly diminished bow hunting experience as well as a decreased prospect of success in harvesting a deer.

Bowhunters are in full support of opening the southern zone archery-only season on October 1st to run through the Friday before Thanksgiving without the inclusion of any type of firearm season before or during the archery-only seasons. The archery-only season begins on October 1st in Suffolk County and it opens on or before October 1st in the vast majority of neighboring states. The same should be true for New York State.

Bowhunters are also opposed to the proposed elimination of the archery license, either sex tag. Bowhunters pay a double fee with the required purchase of biggame and archery licenses and continue to pay more with ever decreasing hunting opportunities.

* In 2002, bowhunters acquired an either sex tag as compensation for a license fee increase.

* In 2005, bowhunters lost up to 10 days of hunting opportunity, including the loss of a very valuable weekend of hunting so that youth hunters could hunt on the opening weekend of the regular season.

* In 2009, hunters absorbed another license fee increase in addition to an application fee for antlerless deer management permits (DMPs).

DMPs are not available in many areas and many hunters will not receive a DMP via the lottery system in others. Under the DEC proposal, if a buck is harvested during the archery season in these areas, its one deer and done. The regular season and muzzleloading licenses are then useless. What incentive is there for hunters to purchase additional licenses and hunt in other seasons? Can persons in possession of a lifetime hunting license now receive a refund? In addition to the regular season buck tag, the DEC should at least allow hunters the opportunity to participate in additional hunting seasons with the issuance of an archery license either sex tag.

Thank you for listening to my concerns, as we are hopeful you can intervene on our behalf.

Sincerely yours,

Assemblyman Robert Sweeney
Legislative Office Building, Room 625
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Assemblyman Sweeney,

The sporting community of New York State (NYS) needs your help. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is **once again** proposing to implement a biggame regulations that would devastate the archery-only seasons and have a dramatic effect on the quality of hunting during the firearm seasons.

Bowhunters are attracted to the uniqueness of the archery-only seasons because of their special challenges and quiet, undisturbed, natural environment. Placing a youth firearm hunt as well as a muzzleloading season during the archery-only seasons is totally unacceptable. Expanding biggame youth hunting opportunities can be best accomplished by lowering the junior hunter age requirements, not by placing an unnecessary and invasive firearms season in the archery-only seasons. When the deer drives begin and the guns go, off deer will be heading to their hiding places. This change in deer behavior results in a greatly diminished bow hunting experience as well as a decreased prospect of success in harvesting a deer.

We are asking your office to sponsor legislation that would open the southern zone archery-only season on October 1st and have it end on the Friday before Thanksgiving without the inclusion of any type of firearm or crossbow season or hunt before or during the archery-only season.

Bowhunters are also opposed to the proposed elimination of the archery license, either sex tag. Bowhunters pay a double fee with the required purchase of a biggame and archery license and continue to pay more with ever decreasing hunting opportunities.

* In 2002, bowhunters acquired an either sex tag as compensation for a license fee increase.

* In 2005, bowhunters lost up to 10 days of hunting opportunity including the loss of a very valuable weekend of hunting in order that junior firearm hunters could hunt on the opening weekend of the regular season.

* In 2009, hunters absorbed another license fee increase in addition to an application fee for antlerless deer management permits (DMPs).

DMPs are not available in many areas and many hunters will not receive a DMP via the lottery system in others. Under the DEC proposal, if a buck is harvested during the archery season in these areas, its one deer and done. The regular season and muzzleloading licenses are then useless. What incentive is there for hunters to purchase additional licenses and hunt in other seasons? Can persons in possession of a lifetime hunting license now receive a refund? In addition to the regular season buck tag, the DEC should at least allow hunters the opportunity to participate in additional hunting seasons with the issuance of an archery license either sex tag.

Thank you for listening to my concerns, as we are hopeful you can intervene on our behalf.

Sincerely yours,

Senator Mark Grisanti
Legislative Office Building, Room 902
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Grisanti,

The sporting community of New York State (NYS) needs your help. The NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is once again proposing to implement a biggame regulations that would devastate the archery-only seasons and have a dramatic effect on the quality of hunting during the firearm seasons.

Bowhunters are attracted to the uniqueness of the archery-only seasons because of their special challenges and quiet, undisturbed, natural environment. Placing a youth firearm hunt as well as a muzzleloading season during the archery-only seasons is totally unacceptable. Expanding biggame youth hunting opportunities can be best accomplished by lowering the junior hunter age requirements, not by placing an unnecessary and invasive firearms season in the archery-only seasons. When the deer drives begin and the guns go off, deer will be heading to their hiding places. This change in deer behavior results in a greatly diminished bow hunting experience as well as a decreased prospect of success in harvesting a deer.

We are asking your office to sponsor legislation that would open the southern zone archery-only season on October 1st and have it end on the Friday before Thanksgiving without the inclusion of any type of firearm or crossbow season or hunt before or during the archery-only season.

Bowhunters are also opposed to the proposed elimination of the archery license, either sex tag. Bowhunters pay a double fee with the required purchase of a biggame and archery license and continue to pay more with ever decreasing hunting opportunities.

* In 2002, bowhunters acquired an either sex tag as compensation for a license fee increase.

* In 2005, bowhunters lost up to 10 days of hunting opportunity including the loss of a very valuable weekend of hunting in order that junior firearm hunters could hunt on the opening weekend of the regular season.

* In 2009, hunters absorbed another license fee increase in addition to an application fee for antlerless deer management permits (DMPs).

DMPs are not available in many areas and many hunters will not receive a DMP via the lottery system in others. Under the DEC proposal, if a buck is harvested during the archery season in these areas, its one deer and done. The regular season and muzzleloading licenses are then useless. What incentive is there for hunters to purchase additional licenses and hunt in other seasons? Can persons in possession of a lifetime hunting license now receive a refund? In addition to the regular season buck tag, the DEC should at least allow hunters the opportunity to participate in additional hunting seasons with the issuance of an archery license either sex tag.

Thank you for listening to my concerns, as we are hopeful you can intervene on our behalf.

Sincerely yours,