



3/4 Curl Club

California Chapter

Foundation for North American Wild Sheep

Spring 2007



Written & Edited By:

Debi Ramsey Casey - Director

Charlene Winkler - Co- Director

DJ Hebrard - Graphic Designer



Issue 4

Ewe Two Publications



Dall Sheep



Stone Sheep

Did you know? By: Debi Ramsey Casey

Not only do Wild Sheep live in California, Wild Sheep live around the world. From the mountains of Europe to the Deserts of China and Mongolia, to the Continent of North America. In North America we have Dall Sheep. Dall Sheep migrated from Asia to North America about 100,000 years ago. There at one time was a land bridge that linked Asia and North America. Then came the Ice Age (did you see the film from Disney? hilarious, animated) Dall Sheep stayed in two ice free areas. One of the areas is now called Alaska, the other Yukon, Canada. Dall Sheep are the only White Sheep in the world. They nowadays make their home in Northwestern British Columbia, Northwest Territories, Canadian Yukon and of course Alaska.

There are 2 more types of Wild Sheep in the Northwest. Stone Sheep which live in Northern and central British Columbia Canada. Stone Sheep vary from light grey to very dark gray to black in body color. Stone Sheep have white faces, white inner legs and a white rump. Dall Sheep and Stone Sheep live in areas close to each other and mate. The offspring are multi colored of black and gray going down their back, legs and tail. This Wild Sheep is called a Fannin Sheep. All three Sheep, Dall Sheep, Stone Sheep and Fannin Sheep are called Thin horns. This is because the horns are thinner and smaller than their relatives the Bighorns. Thin horns have a flare to them as they curl out. Bighorns are heavier with more mass. Thin horn Sheep do not mate with Bighorns. Thin horn Sheep are only found in the far Northwest. All Wild Sheep have HAIR (not wool) that is hollow to trap body heat.

All Sheep have Horns. A horn is not shed each year like antlers on a deer. The very end of the horn on a sheep is its lamb tip. Each year they grow bigger with age. Ewes are the females. Rams are the males and the babies are called lambs. A lamb when born weights from 7-15 pounds. Ewes sometimes have twins. A Ram when grown can weight up to 300 pounds. That is pretty good size. All they eat is wild grass and herbs to get that big. Wild Sheep have 2 toed hooves. Grab a rock and hang on! Their toes suction around rocks for griping steep rocks in high places. Our next issue will cover Bighorn Sheep of North America. The California Bighorn, Rocky Mountain Bighorn and the Desert Bighorn. Thank you for being a member of CaFNAWS 3/4 Curl Club. With the support we get from members like yourselves, we contribute to ensure healthy populations of Desert Bighorn Sheep in California and all Wild Sheep for years to come.

In this issue are photos and information on the relocation of Wild Sheep funded by CaFNAWS and the 3/4 Curl Club in 2006. Go on-line for full story and more photos. www.cafnaws.org. Charlene and I have been very busy with what we will have to offer the youth for this years 2007 banquet. Banquet date is May 5, 2007, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, CA. Pretty terrific trips, hunts and of course, lunch with a celebrity guest are a few of the things we can sneak preview to you. Send us an e-mail. Let us know "what's up".

2006 for me was pretty busy. Guy our son played sports from one end of the calendar to the other. Now here we go again. Baseball and Turkey Season begins. Next month look out. We are in the field again. I had many call outs with my firefighter duties. We cover 25 square miles here in Mendocino. 7 miles of coastline included. Cliff Rescue, Water Rescue, medical, structure fire and wild land fires. I also teach CPR and do medical for our football and baseball teams. Charlene, the rascal spent her time in the field another way. I will leave that to her to tell you. We are really looking forward to seeing you in May at our 2007 banquet.

Take care, Be Safe,

Debi Ramsey Casey

Next Issue:

Bighorn Sheep can be found the whole length of the Rocky Mountain Range.

Desert Bighorn can be found from Utah to Mexico.



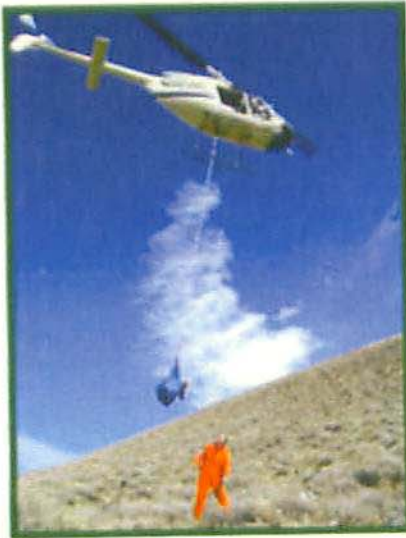
What did I do in 2006? Well it was a very busy year for me. First we had the annual California Banquet to prepare for. We took out 4 youth on their first turkey hunt and one woman in April. Then I went to New Mexico on an Oryx hunt in May. I got a nice Oryx even though the weather was very hot. I taught 5 hunter safety classes throughout the year. I got a nice 3X4 Blacktail here where I live in October. Then in November I went to Alberta, Canada for 2 ½ weeks first hunting mule deer and then whitetail. It got exceptionally cold there and set all kinds of records. I got 2 nice trophies there. It is going to be pretty hard to beat a year like that. When I'm not hunting or teaching, I have a real estate business in San Andreas, CA. I'm looking forward to reading your outdoor stories of whatever your experiences might be. Remember if you submit a story, your name goes in the pot a second time for a free turkey hunt with me! Don't forget the deadline of March 19th to get them in. We need you to keep your magazine coming.

Happy Hunting and Always be Safe,
Charlene Winkler



Brandon Winkler, member 47, visits his Grandparents in San Andreas during school vacation. He helped Grandpa Ralph cut firewood and cleanup after the snow storm. It was great to get to burn the small stuff and clean up. Makes for better habitat too.

**CA FNAWS & 3/4 Curl Club
Sponsor Relocation
with Banquet Funds
With Efforts of
California Dept. of Fish and Game**



2007 Banquet & Raffle Tickets

Single Dinner/Event ticket - \$80 >One (1) Dinner/Event Ticket, includes entry to the Seminars, Displays and Auctions >One (1) Drink Tickets >Be an "Early Bird" (purchase by March 15) and get one (1) chance at an Early Bird Only Progressive Raffle (3 prizes) including "Your Choice of the General Raffle Guns and Merchandise!"
Single Dinner/Event ticket - \$80

Youth Single Dinner/Event Ticket - \$45 each
(14 and under)

>One (1) Dinner/Event Ticket, includes entry to the Seminars, Displays and Auctions
Youth Single Dinner/Event Ticket- \$45 each (14 and under)

1/2 Table (5) Dinner/Event Tickets - \$375 >Reserved 1/2 Table >Five (5) Dinner/Event Tickets, includes entry to the Seminars, Displays and Auctions >Five (5) Drink tickets (good for wine, beer, soft drinks or liquor) >Be an "Early Bird" (purchase by March 15) and get five (5) chances at an Early Bird Only Progressive Raffle (3 prizes) including "Your Choice of the General Raffle Guns and Merchandise!"

1/2 Table (5) Dinner/Event Tickets - \$375

Full Table (10) Dinner/Event Tickets - \$725 >Reserved Table >Ten (10) Dinner/Event Ticket, includes entry to the Seminars, Displays and Auctions >Ten (10) additional Drink tickets (good for wine, beer, soft drinks or liquor). >Be an "Early Bird" (purchase by March 15) and get ten (10) chances at an Early Bird Only Progressive Raffle (3 prizes) including "Your Choice of the General Raffle Guns and Merchandise!"

Full Table (10) Dinner/Event Tickets - \$725

\$100 Raffle Ticket Package -

\$120 worth of General Raffle tickets
\$100 Raffle Ticket Package

\$200 Raffle Ticket Package -

\$280 worth of General Raffle tickets
\$200 Raffle Ticket Package

\$300 Raffle Ticket Package -

\$440 worth of General Raffle tickets,
(1) \$300 Bonus Raffle tickets
\$300 Raffle Ticket Package

\$400 Raffle Ticket Package -

\$600 worth of General Raffle tickets,
(2) \$300 Bonus Raffle tickets,
(1) \$400 Bonus Raffle tickets
\$400 Raffle Ticket Package

\$500 Raffle Ticket Package -

\$800 worth of General Raffle tickets,
(3) \$300 Bonus Raffle tickets, two
(2) \$400 Bonus Raffle tickets and one
(1) \$500 Bonus Raffle ticket.

Grand Slam Sponsorship - \$600

>Underwriting of 1 Rifle, Shotgun,
Bronze Sculpture or Artwork.
>(1) \$300.00 Raffle Ticket Package,
>(1) Ticket for Special Sponsor Rifle Raffle

World Slam Sponsorship - \$1200

>Underwriting of 2 Rifles, Shotguns, Bronze Sculptures or Artwork.

>1 Half Table Registration (5 tickets) including all items listed for Half Table reservation above

>(1) \$400.00 Raffle Ticket Package

>(2) Tickets for Special Sponsor Rifle Raffle
World Slam Sponsorship - \$1200

Triple Slam Sponsorship - \$1900

>Underwriting of 3 Rifles, Shotguns, Bronze Sculptures or Artwork.

>1 Full Table Registration (10 tickets) including all items listed for Table reservation above

>(1) \$500.00 Raffle ticket Package

>(3) Tickets for our Special Sponsor Rifle Raffle.

To order tickets contact:

Debi Ramsey Casey 3/4 Curl Club
PO Box 213
Mendocino, CA 95460
(707) 937-2041
debikc@mcn.org

OR

Charlene Winkler 3/4 Curl Club
PO Box 307
San Andreas, CA 95249
(209) 754-4755
charlene_winkler@sbcglobal.net

Youth Items at the Banquet

**Oakland A's Eric Chavez signed Game Bat and Ball.
Oakland A's Barry Zito signed Game Ball
Oakland A's Signed Team Ball**

YOUTH Dall Sheep Hunt with Ultima Thule Outfitters, *Youth and Non Hunter*. Age 17 and under. Includes Ground transportation from Anchorage. Flight into Lodge for 2 people. Trophy Fees for Dall Ram.

Ultima Thule is the only 5 Star Rated Outfitter in the state of Alaska. It is a beautiful place in the wild and scenic mountains of Alaska. It will be and absolutely wonderful hunt for an Alaskan Dall Sheep in the St. Elias Range of the Wrangle Mountains. Families are welcome to join in fishing, flying and skiing while your son or daughter experiences their first Wild Sheep Hunt.

This hunt will be one of the many items that will be in the Live Auction at CAFNAWS annual fundraiser/banquet, May 5, 2007, at the Radisson Hotel in Sacramento, CA.

A few more items that will be available banquet night are;

CAFNAWS 3/4 Curl Belt Buckle and Lifetime Membership No. 4

A Wild Turkey Hunt with Charlene and Ralph Winkler. Fall of 2007 in Calaveras Co. for one youth and one adult. Accommodations and Meals included. Must have a valid hunting license.

Beautiful Turquoise Jewelry handmade by Cynthia and David Knox. Hand dug turquoise handmade into every wear jewelry.

Hand Blown Glass Jewelry

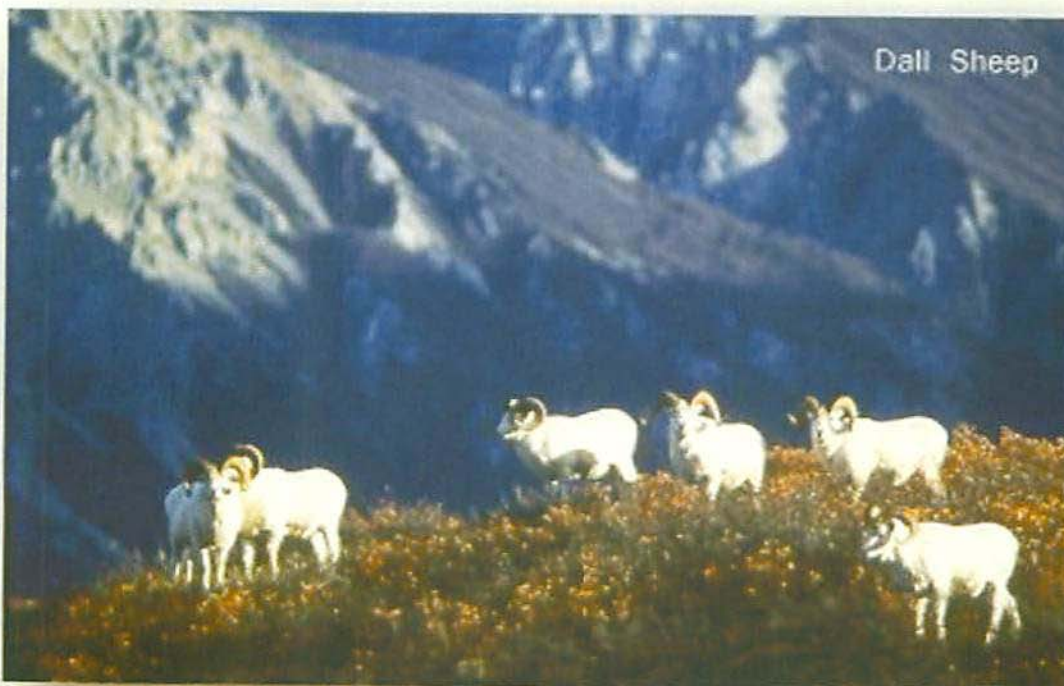
Ocean Fishing Trips out of Fort Bragg

Skunk Train Rides through the Magnificent Redwood Trees on the Mendocino Coast

Beach Front Hotel Get a ways with tours through the Mendocino Coast Botanical Gardens.

*******Plus Lunch with a Celebrity from the USA Olympic Shooting Team for members of the 3/4 Curl Club and raffle. Must be present to win!**

SEE YA THERE!!!



We invite you to our world, far removed from the relentless push of modern culture, 100 miles from the end of the road. Our neighbors are the abundant wildlife of the Chitina River Valley. Surrounded by 13.8 million acres of the Wrangell / St. Elias National Park we commute by small plane. It is our office with no cell phone, no fax, no beeper; the wolves howl at night, there is no sound of traffic. Come share our way of life. You too can experience the freedom and majesty of Ultima Thule.

We will show you animals in their undisturbed natural world. We are located deep in their world, far from any other humans. Most of these creatures have never seen man before, they are truly wild beasts. Some guests have seen wolves, lynx, wolverines, coyotes, Moose, Bears, Buffalo, and mountain goats. will you be that lucky?

California Chapter
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep



3/4 Curl Club
Hunting Report Form



For Hunters and Non-Hunters

Share your latest outdoor adventures with other Club Member

Name _____ 1 Yr Renewal \$10. _____

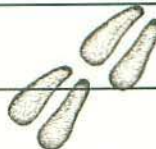
Address _____

City, State and Zip Code _____

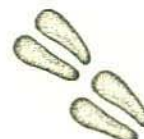
Species Hunted _____ Date of Hunt _____

Outfitter _____

Guide _____



Brief Description of Hunt or Adventure:
Use the back if needed.



Submit Forms To:



Debi Casey, 3/4 Curl Club
P O Box 213, Mendocino, Ca 95460
OR Fax to 707-937-2041
Email: debikc@mcn.org
PH 707-937-4097



Charlene Winkler, 3/4 Curl Club
P O Box 307, San Andreas, CA 95249
OR Fax to 209 -754-1234
Email: charlene_winkler@sbcglobal.net
PH 209-754-4755

SHOOTING SAFTY RULES

Air guns are real gun, not toys. You or others can be killed or seriously injured if these rules are not followed.

Always keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction.

There are several safe "carries" depending on the situation.
Never allow the muzzle to point in the direction of a person.

Never climb or jump with a gun.

You can't control the direction of the muzzle if you stumble or fall.
You should safely lay the gun down or hand it to your companion while you climb or jump over anything.

Treat every gun as if it were LOADED.

You can never be positive that you were the last person to handle the gun. Never take anyone word on whether or not a gun is loaded.
Always check a gun to see if it is loaded when removed from storage or received from another person.

Avoid Ricochet

Never shoot at a flat hard surface or at the surface of water. Ammunition can ricochet off water just like a skipped rock.

Keep the muzzle clear

Never let anything obstruct the muzzle of a gun. Don't allow the muzzle to come in contact with the ground.

ONLY load or cock a gun when you are shooting

A loaded gun has no place in your HOME or other public place.

Guns not in use should always be Unloaded

Keep the guns unloaded while not in use; it is critical to the safety of you and others. When you are finished shooting put the trigger safety in the "on" position and unload the gun. Store guns so that they are inaccessible to untrained shooters and store ammunition separately from the gun.

Check your target and beyond your target

Be sure all people are well clear of the target area before you shoot. Check behind your target to be certain you have a safe backstop and that no person or property could be endangered.

Anyone shooting or near a shooter should wear shooting glasses

Also, all other persons should remain behind the shooter.

Respect other people's property

Whether you are shooting or hunting, if you're a guest on another persons land, you should leave it exactly as you found it.

Memories of the Past



Memories of the Past





On November 21, a rancher in Reese River Valley, Nevada, spotted two elk. On the following day, the animals were gone and the rancher assumed they had separated.

A week later, the rancher was out looking for some of his cows and saw the elk again. This time, he called the Nevada Wildlife Department and a game warden and a wildlife biologist went to the ranch.

On Nov. 29 they arrived at where the rancher had last seen them and found them pretty quickly. They were both lying on the ground and one of them was in a very uncomfortable looking position with his head directly above the others head and his nose pointing straight up to the sky. They both wondered how they had survived such an ordeal.

The Rancher, warden and biologist all hoped they would not move and that didn't happen. They hoped that when they did they wouldn't go far, and they did. Even though these elk were sparring to get in this predicament, they used teamwork to run nearly a mile to evade the newcomers. They said it looked like they had been doing it all their lives, like experts.

After two unsuccessful attempts, the game warden was able to get a tranquilizer dart into one of the elk. With one down, the other could not run, but was also partially tranquilized in order to separate the two.

Two of them helped hold the elk down while the third used a hand saw to remove part of an antler off one of them. As soon as they were apart, the bull that hadn't gotten a full dose jumped to his feet and went about 30 yards and laid down for about 10 minutes before he finally walked up the hill and over the ridge. The other elk was treated with Antibiotics and eventually walked off as well after the tranquilizer wore off.

If these two bulls had not been discovered, they more than likely would have both died a slow death. Thanks to the two dedicated professionals and the rancher they will be around for another season to breed and possibly hunt.



Klamath Ca. Elk. A beautiful drive up highway 101 between Trinidad and Crescent City Ca. and you are almost sure to either see Bull Elk or herds of Cow Elk feeding or just loving living in this protected area. Early summer you can see them in the velvet just relaxing in the sun. Remember not to get too close when you are taking pictures. These are wild animals and they can charge you.



#101 3/4 Curl Club member Colton Hooper Member #101, Entertainer Jeff Foxworthy and 3/4 Curl Club Director Debi-Ramsey Casey at the National FNAWS 2007 convention in Salt Lake City Utah.



1st Place Winner-Guy Ramsey Casey(2nd from left) #06 member of the 3/4 Curl Club Guy placed 1st in the Laser Shoot Competition at FNAWS 2007 National Convention in Salt Lake City Utah in January of this year. Players were competing to win their choice of a .45 or .50 cal Knight Muzzle Loader. Highest score was over a 3-day competition. Adults as well as youth were trying their shooting skills to win. Guy chose the 50 cal Stainless Barrel with Black Synthetic Stock Thank you very much PERFORMANCE AUDIO for sponsoring this great event.

Great Shooting Guy! Maybe we will have one of our own on the USA SHOOTING Team in the near future.



And the Enviro's would have you believe it is all quick and painless.....An adult moose weighs between 800 and 1700 lbs. They can run up to 25 MPH and are 5 to 7 feet tall at the shoulders. These wolves are killing machines and they don't care what it is they kill. It is not just for food, sometimes they kill for the fun of it.



It has been a tradition, every year around May, that my dad, Adam, and I go looking for deer sheds in Nevada. I can't give up our secret spot, but we always find a ton of sheds there. Every year I always see a lot of bucks and say "gee I wish I could shoot one of those." I have been wanting to go hunting with my dad forever (seriously, my first word was buck), and I finally have my first D-6 tag. Here are a few shots of my dad and I when I was a little younger out in the Nevada desert hunting for sheds. I have always been kind of a tom-boy. While other girls were playing with dolls I was playing with sheds and hanging out with my dad. Hopefully, I will write to you again soon to show and tell about my first buck. I encourage more girls to hunt because it's a lot of fun and anything boys can do girls can do better - right!!!

Avery Walker, Age 12 Member #95

Avery took her hunting safety class with Charlene Winkler. She was very enthusiastic and a lot of fun. Keep practicing and having fun. Go Avery!!



It's amazing how the food chain works when predators start running out of deer, elk and sheep.



Brandon Zahniser Age 12 yrs Member #98

My name is Brandon Zahniser and this year was my first year of deer hunting. About 2 years ago I took my hunter safety course and passed. It made me feel so good. Then this year, the day I turned 12, I went and bought my license. I went up to Bill Adams the gunsmith with my Grandpa and sighted in my gun. I shoot a 243 Winchester Rifle. A few weeks before the season started I could barely hold the rifle. Then for a couple weeks I started lifting weights then I could actually hold the gun.

Opening morning, me, my dad and my grandpa went up to my great papas ranch. All we saw were two deer butts. Then October 22nd we went up to the ranch again and saw 3 spikes and 4 does and then we were leaving and I told my grandpa, "hey, why don't we go down Old Gulch". So we drive down and we look to our left and in an opening field we see a nice 3 X 3. We go up to the owner, Mike's house and ask him if he had got his buck yet. He said, no not yet and we told him that a buck was down there. He said, "really" and my grandpa said my grandson hasn't got one yet and he said "go get him"!!!

So we drove a little ways and I got out of the car. I put my scope on him but I couldn't see so I had to adjust myself. Then my grandpa said "now take a deep breath, take your time, then pull the trig.... "Boom" then I shot and I saw the buck jump up in the air. My grandpa said get in the car and we drove a little ways and got out and started walking down the hill. My grandpa said "here he is". Me and my dad ran over to the deer. I said to myself, I killed a 3 pointer!

***Since our last issue, our new members are Brandon Zahniser, #98, San Andreas, Nick Nielsen, #99, Mendocino, Jake Nielsen, #100, Mendocino, Colton Hooper, #101, Isidor, Ariz., Joseph Elliott, #102, Campo Seco, Ca, Nick Elliott, #103, Campo Seco, Ca.**



Poison Ivy/ Poison Oak

Poison ivy is a harmful vine or shrub in the cashew family. It grows plentifully in parts of the United States and southern Canada. Poison ivy usually grows as a vine twining on tree trunks or straggling over the ground. But the plant often forms upright bushes if it has no support to climb upon. Species related to poison ivy include poison oak, which grows in the Pacific Northwest and nearby regions of Canada, and poison sumac, which grows in the Eastern United States. Poison oak and poison sumac both are shrubs. The tissues of all these plants contain a poisonous oil somewhat like carbolic acid. This oil is extremely irritating to the skin. It may be brushed onto the clothing or skin of people coming in contact with the plants. Many people have been poisoned merely by taking off their shoes after walking through poison ivy. People can get poisoned from other people, but only if the oil remains on their skin. The eruptions themselves are not a source of infection. Appearance - the leaves of poison ivy are red in early spring. Later in spring, they change to shiny green. They turn yellow, red or orange in autumn. Each leaf is made up of three leaflets more or less notched at the edges. Two of the leaflets form a pair on opposite sides of the leafstalk, while the third stands by itself at the tip of the leafstalk. Small greenish flowers grow in bunches attached to the main stem close to where each leaf joins it. Later in the season, clusters of poisonous, berry-like drupes form. They are whitish, with a waxy look. Control and treatment: Efforts have been made to destroy these plants by uprooting them or by spraying them with chemicals. But poison ivy and poison oak are so common that such methods have not been very effective in eliminating them. Contact with the plants should be avoided. After the oil has touched the skin, it usually takes some time for it to penetrate and do its damage. Before this happens, it is wise to wash the skin thoroughly several times with plenty of soap and water. Care should be taken not to touch any part of the body, for even tiny amounts of the oil will cause irritation. If poisoning develops, the blisters and red, itching skin may be treated with dressings of calamine lotion, Epsom salts, or bicarbonate of soda. Scientists have developed a vaccine that can be injected or swallowed. But this is effective only if taken before exposure. We have also found that soaps such as Fel-naptha soap and Tecnu are effective in treating the infected areas. As well as Goldbond and Calgel These are over the counter medications.

Coming Events

- March 17-18 Fort Bragg Whale Festival, Fort Bragg, CA**
18 Hunter Safety Class in San Andreas, CA ph 209-754-4755
19 Drawing for a FREE turkey hunt in Calaveras County with Charlene And Ralph Winkler. Must be a member of 3/4 Curl Club and between 9 and 18 yrs old with a valid hunting license.
24-25 Santa Barbara Whale Festival, Santa Barbara County.
31 Wild Turkey Season Opens Statewide
31 CWA Weekend Waterfowl Camp, Mystic Lake Duck Club, Riverside
31 Junior Wild Turkey Hunt, Kern Co. www.calwaterfowl.org
April 1 Junior Wild Turkey Hunt, Kern Co
7 Earth Day at the Sacramento Zoo
13-15 Cal. Desert Nature Festival, Riverside Co.
14 Wild on Wetlands, Merced Co. Los Banos, CA
21 CWA Modesto Youth Event www.calwaterfowl.org
21-22 Heron Days, Clearlake State Park, Lake Co.
21-22 Bowhunter Course, Yolo County AL_Rafferty@yahoo.com
28 Maya Youth Archery Clinic, Placer Co 916-653-7748
May 3-6 Bowhunter Course, Yuba County, wylliefamily@sbcglobal.net
5 CAFNAWS / 3/4 Annual Banquet at the Radisson Hotel, Sacramento.
5 Wings of Spring, Sacramento Zoo
6 Spring Wild Turkey Season CLOSES
12 Gray Lodge Junior Fishing Derby, Butte Co
18-19 Bowhunter Course, Sacramento, CA moorerobt@msn.com
18-20 CWA Weekend Waterfowl Camp, Rancho Esquon, Butte Co.
June 1-3 Fundamentals of Canoeing, Sacramento, CA
9 Carnival of Shooting Games, Youth and Adults, Birds Landing
10 CWA Youth Shoot, Clays for Kids Day, Birds Landing
10-15 Kids Outdoor Sports Camp, BEGINNING, Red Bank, Tehama, Co
15-16 Bowhunter Course, Placer Co moorerobt@msn.com
15-17 Fundamentals of Canoeing, Sacramento, CA
17-22 Kids Outdoors Sports Camp, BEGINNING, Red Bank, Tehama
19-23 CWA/Turk Station Beginning Camp, Fresno, Co 559-935-1902
24-28 Quail Unlimited Covey Camp at Stillbow Ranch, Merced,
24-28 Kids Outdoor Sports Camp, Intense Shooting, Red Bank
26-30 CWA/Turk Station ADVANCED Camp, Fresno Co
29-1 Fundamentals of Canoeing, Sacramento Co.
30-1 Bowhunter Course, Butte Co
TBA FREE FISHING DAY, STATEWIDE

Facts to know about Wild Turkeys

By Charlene Winkler

Wild turkeys are the largest game bird of North America, standing almost 3 ft. tall. They are large, ground dwelling birds with long legs to run fast, long necks to see you better and a large fan-shaped tail to show off with.

They are one of the most widely distributed game birds species in North America. They are also found in parts of northern Mexico and have been introduced to Germany and New Zealand.

A Wild turkey has striking small iridescent body feathers, which produce a shimmering rainbow of colors. The wing feathers are barred, the 'flight' feathers having the most distinct black and white bars. The tail feathers are tipped with chestnut brown among eastern birds, while western birds have tail feathers tipped with white. Adult males often have a 'beard' or long black tuft that feels like horsehair hanging from their chest. Females while smaller, can also have a small beard but is rare. They tend to lack the sharpness in coloring of adult males to better camouflage while sitting on their nests. The Toms or male birds have a red wattle (a fleshy lobe that hangs down from the chin or throat), a caruncle (a wart-like projection) of skin attached to the upper part of the forehead). During mating season, these parts pulsate a red, white and blue to attract the hen or female. Females have a grayish head and feathered neck. Their silver grey legs have spurs which can grow as long as 1 ½ inches. Although hens also have spurs, they are not as long. The toms use theirs for fighting other toms during mating season. Males attempt to attract females by "gobbling" and "strutting" with their tail fanned out, their wings lowered and dragging on the ground, their back feathers erect and their head thrown back. Their gobbles can be heard for approximately a mile.

Wild Turkeys breed in early spring. They raise one brood per season. The nest is a shallow depression in the ground in usually dense brush or vines. The female scratches out the nest and lays usually 8 to 15 eggs. She incubates the eggs for 25 to 31 days. The chicks when born are able to walk and feed themselves within 24 hours of hatching. The hen sits on the chicks at night for the first 2 weeks. The chicks are also called poults. Turkeys can breed as early as 10 months old. The average life expectancy is estimated at 1.3 to 1.6 years. The oldest known lived to be 13 years. They are non-migratory. By day they feed in fields and woodlands eating acorns, nuts, seeds and insects and at night they roost in trees to be safe from predators. They are very wary and have keen eyesight and hearing. They can run and fly fast. There are over 5 million turkeys now in North America. They are hunted in many states.

When hunting these fun birds remember their keen eyesight and hearing. It's like war games where you better see them first, because if they see you they will take off running or flying. Remember to be patient and let the bird come to you. It is best to be out in the field when it is still dark so you can hear them gobble before they fly down. They are not graceful when flying and are pretty noisy so you can hear them if you can't see them. Try to wear camo if you can and do not wear red as to be mistaken for a tom and be shot by a hunter. Practice with your calls before you get to the field. Remember to aim for the head, not the body. They have approx 4,000 to 5,000 feathers and the bebes bounce off. Remember to aim, take a deep breath and squeeze the trigger. Be careful when you approach your bird as they do a lot of kicking after they are shot and their spurs are razor sharp. Good Luck with your hunt!



A FREE TURKEY HUNT

YOUTH Members ONLY

Calaveras County with
Charlene and Ralph Winkler

Drawing March 19, 2007 at noon!

Opening Weekend March 31, 2007

One Hunter and One Non- Hunter

**Must be 9 to 18 years old with a valid
Hunting license and member**

*Send us your outdoor story or sign up a new member
and get a second chance to win*

The More You Send The MORE Chances to WIN

California FNAWS 3/4 Curl Club Membership

Junior Member Name _____ Birthdate _____

Guardian Name _____

Address _____

State _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP \$10.00

Mail to Charlene Winkler, P O Box 307, San Andreas, CA 95249



3/4 Curl Club
PO Box 213
Mendocino, CA 95460



Michael Borel
272 Castle Crest Rd
Alamo, CA 94507



* Remember WE need your stories to keep this magazine going.
PLEASE help us out before March 19th and get an extra chance on the FREE turkey hunt.