



BRUCE PENINSULA SPORTSMEN'S ASSOC.

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MAY 2014 NEWS AND VIEWS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Meetings are the last Thursday of the Month at 7:30 p.m. The Clubhouse is off Old Oliphant Road on Northacres road and off County Road 13 in Wiarton. Next meeting, May 29th, 2014. Your participation is welcome and anticipated. Editors Jim Martell 519-534-2502 or e-mail bpsportsmen@gmail.com or Kat at rkmcc@gbtel.ca

2014 Fin Clipping



A long lineup of volunteers spent hours in afternoon and evening shifts, fin clipping. They processed 30-thousand rainbow trout fingerlings, preparing them for stocking in the near future.

Fin clipping helps identify if fish are natural or stocked. Hatchery manager Ray Marklevitz reports our thousands of fish are healthy and the water flow and temperature at the hatchery have been ideal this spring.

We are known as the club that boasts the longest running community volunteer fish stocking program in Ontario.

Our BPSA Mothers Day Weekend Spring Fishing Derby for members and guests runs May 9-11, 2014 with the awards ceremony and fish fry on Sunday May 11 from 2-4pm. Derby tickets are available at the Spirit Rock Outpost (formerly Outback Tackle). Spirit Rock will host the weigh scale for this derby.

2014 Youth Archery and Shooting Program Wrap-Up

All the archery kids recieved an arrow pen. Calvin Krieg (shown below) won soft bow case for most attendance over the 4 years that Karen & Phil ran the archery portion of the winter youth program. A big thank you to Ken Barrett, Janet Moore Weatherhead and Justin Weatherhead for helping out this year. Karen & Phil will be stepping down for a few years. If any member of the BPSA has an interest in running the Archery portion of the winter program please let the BPSA president know. Karen and Phil can assist the new person if they are able.



Special thanks to Bob Moon and Dave Tebbutt for coming out and talking to the kids about a rifle competition shoot they are allowed to join once they are 12 yrs of age.



Rob and Krista would like to thank all the people who helped out without their help the kids shoot would be impossible.

Alora Pilon Top Shooter, Justin Weatherhead 2nd highest shooter/ highest standing. Novetily shooter Ty Angus. Most improved Patrick Campbell. Safety trophy Tutianna Quesnel. The top four shooter this year were within 7 points which was very close. This year all the kids did very well in the range. The safety trophy was decided by the final test everyone was very close.



Special thanks to Lynn Rusk for her fabulous decorated carrot cake.

BPSA "News and Views" Monthly Bulletin April 2014

Monthly BPSA minutes April 2014 The regular monthly meeting was held on Thursday April 24, 2014 with 31 members present. Club President Jim Martell asked if the March 2014 meeting minutes had any errors or omissions as posted in the News and Views Bulletin. A motion to adopt the minutes, except for spelling errors, of the March meeting by Stu Paterson seconded by Karen Van Nest carried.

Guest Speaker – Chris Davies

Chris is the MNR Lake Assessment Supervisor. He initially started with the MNR in 1988 through 1997, was laid off during the big cutbacks, worked in Alberta through 2012, and then returned to the Ontario MNR in 2012.

Chris had a slide presentation that showed the 2013 commercial fish catch was in excess of 2 million kilograms. The MNR in 2013 sampled on board commercial fish catches on about 3% of the vessels. This then provides a comparison number to the reported commercial fish catch by species. He then had many slides showing historical comparison data of surveys that the MNR have conducted aboard the Huron Explorer. The data essentially shows that the bait fish population over the last 10 years has continued to drop, except for yellow perch. The data provides great information on all of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay with the exception of the areas adjacent to the Bruce Peninsula and Owen Sound.

Several members again expressed their disapproval of MNR enforcement of the SON Commercial Fishing Agreement. This week nets were set with no or limited markers the entire width of Colpoy's Bay in several locations. This essentially removes most of the sports fishing opportunity in the bay and presents a serious safety hazard for small craft fishing with down riggers.

New Members / Guests-

Correspondence –

BPSA received a letter from John Grant a representative for the Nature Conservancy of Canada. They are attempting to purchase 2200 acres of land in North Bruce Peninsula for \$2 million. They have already raised half of the money and are looking for additional support and funding from conservation clubs and individuals. There was some discussion as to potential use for hunting, fishing, ATV's, etc. Some members present expressed concern that a similar acquisition at the north end of Malloy Beach resulted in significantly restricted use of that property. It was suggested that John Grant attend one of our meetings to provide additional information as to potential use or restrictions planned for the property, what amount of financial support is asked for, and answer members questions. The recording secretary's personal

opinion is that BPSA funds, which are limited, should not be used to purchase land that is not under our control. If any individual BPSA members want to support the Conservancy, they should do so directly.

Treasury - Mel Urbshott – April

- Roy Hamilton Memorial Deer Feeding Fund \$ Data will be calculated this month
- Receipts \$ 1620
- Expenses \$ 2285
- Ways and Means balance \$ 440

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report by Mel Urbshott seconded by Phil Henderson carried.

Membership - Larrilee Leckie / Forbes Symon: 2014 membership

BPSA - Adults:	60	Family	47	Junior	4
Archery - Adults:		Family:		Junior :	
Handgun - Adults:		Family:		Junior:	

This includes 12 new members for 2014

Committee Reports and Discussions

Archery: Karen Van Nest- tel. 519.378.3339 Email kvn10@bell.net

- Karen thanked Justin and Janet Weatherhead and Ken Barrett for their support of archery activities.
- The archery group have an extra four foot round butt that has not been used for four years. Karen and Phil obtained approval to buy it \$250 and use the proceeds to purchase ethfoam faces for other butts. These faces are a lot more user friendly for junior youth shooting, the arrows shot from small bows stick into the targets rather than bouncing off.
- Janet Moore Weatherhead of Rotary has asked to have a kids archery day in the future. It's a great idea and Karen will follow up with Janet and ensure that Rotary have insurance coverage prior to holding the event.

Bulletin – Phil Henderson

Phil mailed out 50 bulletins in April

The bulletin was 8 pages last month. It was suggested that in order to control the cost of printing and mailing the bulletin we should try to limit the bulletin to six pages.

Web Site: Kat McCulloch n/r

- All members are encouraged to continue forwarding information and pictures of club activities to Kat.

Fish Committee-Hatchery: Ray Marklevitz / Gord Smith

- Bruce Mallard needs volunteers to feed the fish in the hatchery. If you can help, please call him at 519 534-1274.
- There are currently 30,000 fin clipped Rainbow in the hatchery.

- A special thank you to 57 volunteers with several from Barrow Bay who fin clipped on April 9th.
- The rainbows were then graded for size after being clipped
- Rainbows will be stocked at Oxenden, Colpoy's and Barrow Bay on Sunday April 27th. At least 25 volunteers are need on Sunday at 9am to pail the fish over the Oxenden Falls.
- 2014 Rainbow eggs 155,600 have been collected at Denny's Dam. There is a very small less than 1% initial die off. Volunteers are needed to pick dead eggs from the 16 incubator trays no latter than Saturday April 26th. The hatchery will be open to anyone without a key on Saturday after 9am.
- There are 30,000 Brown's in the hatchery
- Water flow is currently good.

Fish Management Zones-13 Lake Huron-14 Georgian Bay Stewardship Councils: Dennis Morrison

Dennis and other supporting BPSA members attended the following meetings this month

The FMZ 14 meeting was April 6th in Collingwood. Some of the topics discussed were:

- EBR 012 0291 regarding MNR fishing, stocking, habitat restoration, etc plans.(January 21- May21) It has some great plans but is very short on how to accomplish with limited funding. All members should go on line to express their thoughts especially on the plan to continue stocking Lake Trout for the next two years after they had promised to stop.
- There was no consensus on the use of multiple fishing lines in Georgian Bay, so nothing new was approved.
- Attendance has improved but is still a problem.
- Bruce Bateman has replaced Morenci

Larry Miller and Gail Shea hosted a meeting April 11th in Owen Sound with area sportsmen's clubs for a roundtable discussion on the effort to keep Asian Carp out of the Great Lakes. The federal government in 2012 committed \$17.5 million over 5 years to protect the lakes and is finalizing regulations that would ban the importation, transportation and possession of live aquatic invasive species.

The Lake Huron Hatcheries Managers Meeting was held April 12th in Owen Sound. This 6 hour meeting included a review by Dr. Veronique LePage of common diseases in cold water fish species, lunch provided by SSA, open discussion period on any community hatchery related topics/issues/and concerns, and finally ending in a tour of the SSA salmon hatchery.

The FMZ 13 council meeting was on April 13th. I'm sorry but the recording secretary must have had a senior's brain memory loss as I have no notes on the topics covered at this meeting.

Handgun Club: Al Hunter

- Regular shooting dates of Monday and Wednesday 7pm for .22 rim fire and Wednesday afternoons for center-fire.
- The two BPSA handgun teams place first and second in the Western Ontario Handgun League this season and they earned lots of individual honours as well. WELL DONE TEAMS!!!

Youth Winter Programs January-April:

Firearms-Rob and Krista Quesnel 519.935.24444 / Archery-Karen Van Nest and Phil Henderson 519.378.3339

- The Youth awards BBQ was held Sunday April, 13th at 1 pm
- Youth trap day May 12th at 10am at the North Grey Bruce range.
- Karen and Phil will be unable to run the 2015 youth archery programs due to commitments to the 2015 Pam Am training programs. BPSA will need a volunteer coordinator to maintain the program

Native Affairs:

O.F.A.H.: Stu Paterson

OFAH April 2014 includes wrap of zone H OFAH meeting in Georgian Bluffs at the Sydenham Sportsmen's Association clubhouse.

Representing BPSA – Jim McKane, Al Hunter, Stu Paterson



1. The new OFAH President Glen Rivard from Thunder Bay attended our latest Zone meeting. He suggests sending a positive message to Queens Park about the new limited spring bear hunt. He says if we apply for tags for both the spring and fall hunts, it will show solid support for a return of a full province-wide spring bear hunt.

Glen reports they may have lost 75% of deer this year in Northwest Ontario due to the tough winter.

Rivard reports your federation hopes to continue fighting for justice as an intervener in the Williams Treaty case. But the courts denied that status and the OFAH is appealing. The Williams treaty if upheld, sets an unhealthy precedent for future conservation of our fish and wildlife. Our Supreme Court has ruled twice that 1st nations gave up their right to fish and hunt without any kind of enforcement.

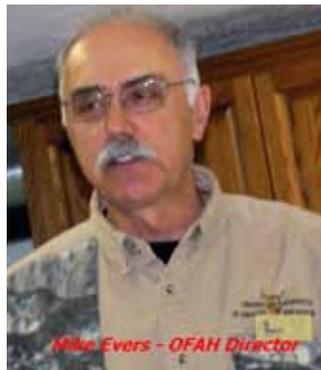


The judges will decide if the OFAH will be granted intervener status. The outcome of this case will have a major impact on the Algonquin land claim if the ruling is that treaties can be re-negotiated after being decided years ago by the Supreme Court.

There are 108 native land claims in the works in Ontario.

2. I reported on our hatchery activities. Promoted our two fin clipping sessions and outlined the number of rainbow and browns we have in the hatchery. I reported the actions taken by our hatchery manager to discourage anglers at the Colpoy's Dock from keeping spawning female rainbow trout.

3. Zone H first vice-chair Mike Evers (a former CO) reported more women are getting into hunting. 30% of the folks taking hunter education courses in Ontario last year were female. He noted more people now realize our wild game that we harvest is the most natural food we can eat.



The annual Ontario Hunter Education Conference is set for June 6-7 in London.

4. There was a report that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in our region released tiny wasps from China to eat tree-killing beetles such as the emerald ash borer. The ash borer has hit all of southern Ontario. These wasps are the only natural enemies of the borer beetles. There are also reports a bug that threatens some 20,000 maple syrup trees in our Zone is hitting maple trees. And beech tree disease is hitting which is bad as deer and turkeys like beechnuts.

5. The non-profit Stop The Drop executive director Colin Dobell spoke at the zone meeting. His group went a long way in 2013 towards raising awareness of the issues affecting levels in Lakes Huron and Michigan. It raised \$400,000 to help keep the issue alive.



He suggests the most important thing you can do is to keep telling our MPPs and MPs that we are very concerned about water levels.

Jim McKane and I are suggesting BPSA organize a public meeting this June or July featuring Colin as the guest speaker. The meeting would be a joint effort with the Mallory Beach Ratepayers and the Island View Drive Ratepayers.

In his words Larry and Bill need to hear from you if you are concerned. Colin also reported that Georgian Bluffs, Owen Sound and South Bruce Peninsula are working with his group. Mayors are studying ways of dealing with water level extremes and working on plans to deal with these extremes. 21 thousand people have signed up showing they care about the levels situation. As of two weeks ago Lake Huron was 9 inches below the long term average, which is above what is, was last year.

6. Two OFAH Zone H directors are working on resolving the problem of access to the shale shores fishing zone at Craigeleith near Collingwood.

The Transportation Ministry stopped vehicles from driving onto the flat rocks after complaints from one resident. For more than 50 years anglers have been coming to fish along this shore, which is a haven for rainbow trout. The Georgian Triangle Anglers President suggests the dispute will soon be resolved.

OFAH FILE: 842

April 2014

MNR slashes moose hunting opportunities

Hunters want more accurate assessment of Ontario's moose populations

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) is shocked by the decision of the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) to drastically reduce moose hunting opportunities for licensed hunters, which in certain Wildlife Management Units (WMUs) will result in fewer moose tags being granted and no Guaranteed Group Size this year (see official MNR release).

For example, WMU 13 (Thunder Bay Area) will see an 87% reduction in adult moose tags available this year

compared to 2013 and WMU 28 (Kirkland Lake area) will have a 93% reduction.

The OFAH is concerned about declining moose populations throughout northern Ontario, the causes of which are unknown in many WMUs, but hunters are growing increasingly frustrated with the Ministry's lack of progress on its review of moose management in Ontario.

The OFAH is calling on the MNR to look at the full suite of factors acting on moose populations, including reproductive rates, predation, poaching, disease, habitat quality (in the wake of fire suppression efforts and declining forestry activity), overlap with deer populations, and harvest by Aboriginal hunters. The OFAH recommends the MNR increase Moose Aerial Inventories and assess the impact of the above factors.

"We don't believe the MNR exhausted all its management options prior to hitting moose hunters so hard," OFAH Senior Wildlife Biologist Mark Ryckman said.

While the MNR has made recent changes to its moose tag transfer policy, hunters feel there have been too many rounds of consultation without any major progress on the real issues affecting moose management. Many hunters are tired of being the only management option the MNR relies on to manage moose populations.

"Fewer moose hunting opportunities means fewer moose licences are sold and less money is contributed to the province's Special Purpose Account (SPA)," Ryckman added. The SPA is dedicated to the management of fish and wildlife resources and cannot afford any further declines.

With more than 100,000 members, subscribers and supporters, and 720 member clubs, the OFAH is the province's largest nonprofit, fish and wildlife conservation-based organization and the VOICE of anglers and hunters. For more information, visit www.ofah.org and follow us on Facebook and Twitter (@ofah).

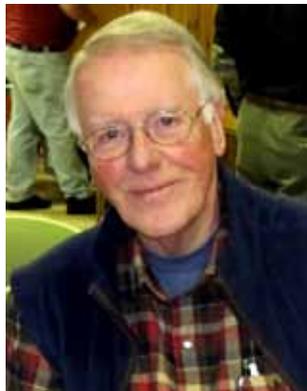
Contacts: Mark Ryckman
Senior Wildlife Biologist (705) 748-6324 ext. 239
Galen Eagle Manager of Communications
(705) 748-6324 ext. 270 or 705-760-5537 (cell)

Related Media

- Ontario slashes adult moose tags

7. The next OFAH zone H meeting is set for August 10 2014 at 10 am at the Barrie District Hunters and Anglers Club.

This report by BPSA executive member Stu Paterson representing OFAH members of BPSA.



Property –Ron Snelling - All is okay

Rankin Resource Group- Larry Isbester-

- The funding for the Rankin River survey appears to have been stalled once again. The next meeting is in two weeks at which time more data should be available.

Scheduling: Ron Snelling-

Events are on the board and in the bulletins.

Special Events: the special events for 2014 are:

- Family Day Holiday- Don Elliott – February 17, 2014 - 12 - 2 pm.
- Awards Presentation and Potluck Dinner-Don Elliott April 5, 2014 social – 5:00 PM, dinner 6:00 PM. There were about 35 participants. All winners were in attendance Judy Nafziger, Mike Lutman, Christine and Jon Janelle, and Hunter Masonneuve.
- Fish Derby – Jack Seatter May 9- 11, 2014 Entry tickets are \$10 and were available at the April 24 monthly meeting or from Bob Bell's The Spirit Rock Outpost & Lodge, or Cindy Waughs barber shop. Bob Bell's Spirit Rock Outpost & Lodge will also act as the weigh in station.
- Fish Fry – Ken Barrett May 11, 2014 2:00-4:00pm. Cost for the dinner is \$10 for adults and children under 12 are free. The fee is to defer the cost of purchasing pickle fillets for this event and for the Community Living fish day. BPSA members A-L are requested to bring a desert and M-Z a salad or what ever your other favourite dish is.
- Kids Fishing Day- Don Elliott-Saturday July 5, 2014 4-9pm. At Sky Lake entry at 342 Huron Road. Hotdogs, hamburgers, and ice cream will be provided. Attendees may bring any other food, snacks, and or beverages they want to.
- Beef and Pork BBQ- Murray Garniss and Dennis Morrison- Sunday July 13, 2014 from 4-6:30 pm. The cost for the dinner is \$15 and children under12 is \$7.
- Community Living-Fishing on the Pond – Sunday September 14, 2014 2-7pm.
- Potluck Diner – Saturday November 22 2014. Social time from 5pm with dinner at 6:00pm.

Wildlife:N/R

Awards: Don Elliott-

- Entry forms are in the hatchery or on line on the website. Please enter the completed forms for the fish you caught this year, and the weights of your spring and fall turkey prior to December 31 2014, and the scores of your moose and deer racks after the 30 day drying period.

Old Business:

- Al Hunter and Stu Paterson will be meeting with Tom Gray and Don Crain of TSBP to review Blue Water Park concerns, safety, rebuilding the west side dock, dredging the launch and channel, and accessibility to facilities.

New Business:

- The continued disregard of terms in the commercial fishing agreement has many members of BPSA concerned as to boating safety and sustainability of fish stocks in Colpoy's Bay. A committee including Richard, Ray, Dave, Ken, Dennis and hopefully our local MP was formed to draft a public relations document that can be sent to local media outlets expressing BPSA concerns of the inequitable sharing of fish stocks between commercial and sports fishermen, the lack of enforcement of the terms in the agreement, boating safety, and the potential impact on tourism and economy of the area.
- Someone else approached a BPSA member about handling BPSA apparel, and merchandise. Karen at Ram Trophy in Wiarton already has these items and or will get what you want at a reasonable price.

The next BPSA meeting will be Thursday, May 29 2014 at 7:30 pm.

Winners of Draw Prizes

Rod & Reel	Mel Urbshott
Pickle Beets	Eric Plein
Fish	Gord Smith, Brian Taylor
Boat cleaner	Stu Paterson, Brian Taylor
Fish Crisp	John McGill
Packages	Dave Morton, Dave Leckie, Eric Plein, Dennis Morrison
Lures	Carl Schroeder, Brian Taylor, Eric Plein

A special thank you to Tim Horton's Wiarton for supplying Tim Bits for the meeting

Kevin Schroeder was the winner of the BPSA fishing derby early bird draw.

A motion by Dave Morton to adjourn carried, ending the April 2014 meeting at 11:00 pm.

BPSA 2014 Womens Shooting Program Comes to an End



We had 14 ladies on our last shoot of the season. We shot regular targets, but at the end the ladies had to shoot fist sized balloons. It turned out to be a challenge that surprised them. We then shot more regular targets and again shot balloons, but this time they were the size of a golf balls. Fun was had by all. There were small prizes for everyone and all of these ladies are very confident with rifles and handguns, and are very good at putting lead in the right place. Special thanks to Carl Nuttall who helped again this year. Kelly Lang

Presidents Comments for May 2014 Bulletin

Last meeting was lively discussing various topics. We were fortunate to have Chris Davies MNR Assessment Manager delivers a talk on MNR's lake activities and sampling of fish stocks. A new MNR initiative is our to ask for members of the public to comment on the future of the fish stocks. Mike Hahn of the LHFC wrote "

From: Mike Hahn
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 5:05 PM
To: Kathy Hahn
Subject: Environmental Bill of Rights - EBR

Good Afternoon,

The Ontario Government has made public consultation a part of any project that is deemed to "Environmental". The work that the LHFC and most of her sister Club's fall into that category with our Fish Stocking Program. Below is link that in a nutshell tells of the MNR's plans to stock Natural fish into Lake Huron and Georgian Bay. In short, this means that Salmon, as well as Brown and Rainbow Trout will be eliminated from the stocking plan – as they are introduced and Naturalized species.

This is a mockery of common sense and if every member of our Club posted comments (found on the right hand side of the website link below) as to how both Angling Opportunity and Economic Benefits would be lost if the Clubs were no longer allowed to stock these species – something we have been doing for over 30 years – we may have a chance to overcome this completely unjust (and in my opinion idiotic) stocking plan.

The future of fishing these wonderful species is at risk here folks. It will only take a few minutes to comment, and it may in fact save a wonderful fishery. Click the link below. And please remember – we only have strength in numbers.....

<http://www.ebr.gov.on.ca/ERS-WEB-External/displaynoticecontent.do?noticeId=MTIwODEx&statusId=MTgwODU4&language=en>

In essence we need to tell the MNR in the comments section that our efforts to stock rainbow and brown trout in our hatchery is a viable worthwhile effort.

If we choose to ignore the request for comments the MNR may be lead into a position where community hatcheries no longer need to stock fish. I am no expert on the health of our lakes. I have listened to many comments from MNR experts, fishermen and club members. The belief is that the angling public wants to have a sustainable sport fishery. The question remains how is this done. One way for sure is to make certain the lake is healthy to support the creatures living in it. Also Community clubs and hatcheries believe by supporting sport fish stocking the angling public will have fish to catch. Sounds too simple.

Please members take the time and offer your comments to the MNR on the future of the fish stocks. The comments need only be simple straightforward comments.

This comments section is on the website page above. Use it as your voice. Policy will be influenced by your comments. So people do your part. Write in your comments.

Have a good month. Remember the fish derby and fish fry on Mother's Day. Thanks Ken and Jenny for volunteering to run this event. Thanks to the volunteers who make our club run smoothly. Thanks to committee chairs and directors who submit reports ahead of time to allow for recording secretary to include these in our monthly minutes. Some time our meetings go a little longer than some members would like.

Jim Martell, President