



## NSFAH Journal



October 2012

### *In This Issue:*

- NSFAH Appointment
- Grams Moose
- Mic Mac Rod & Gun
- Trading Post



*To receive a copy of the NSFAH monthly E-Newsletter simply fill out the contact form at the Federation website, include your name and email address...it really is that simple!*

## NSFAH Appointed to Federal Advisory Panel

In May of this year, Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the names of the hunting, angling, conservation and related industry associations invited to participate on the government's new Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel (HAAP).

We are pleased to announce that the executive director of the Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters, Tony Rodgers will represent hunters and anglers on that panel.

The government recognizes that hunting, angling and trapping are central to the livelihood, recreation and tradition of many Canadians as well as to their local and regional tourism industries. The advice of the HAAP is critical to ensuring that wilderness activities remain a cornerstone of the Canadian identity and Canada's future prosperity.

The purpose of the HAAP is to provide Canada's Minister of Environment with on-going and long-term advice from Canadians who have a long tradition of wildlife conservation on such matters.

It is anticipated that a wide range of conservation opportunities and challenges will be of mutual interest to the members of the panel and the Minister of Environment.

The first meeting is scheduled for October 5th. Stay tuned!

*Wilf Woods  
President  
Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers  
& Hunters*

## Habitat Conservation Fund Applications - 2012

**The submission date for applications is December 15th.**

The Nova Scotia Habitat Conservation Fund was established under the Nova Scotia Wildlife Act to assist the funding of programs for the protection and enhancement of wildlife habitats. The \$3.15 Wildlife Habitat Stamp, purchased primarily by hunters and trappers, is the only funding mechanism for the fund. The Habitat Conservation Fund will partner in projects on a cost shared basis not to exceed 75% of total project cost.

The Fund is organized under four main objectives:

1. Enhancement
2. Acquisition
3. Research
4. Education

Since 2001, more than \$1.5 million has been invested in wildlife conservation through the sale of the stamp to hunters and trappers across the province.

[More information can be viewed here.](#)

## Hunting – A Life Long Passion



I got the call two months ago from my Uncle who asked if I had any vacation time coming up. I told him I did and ask what he was thinking. He then informed me that my 95 year old grandmother, affectionately known as *Gram* had decided that she wanted to give moose hunting another try this year and I was getting invited.

Gram has always been and still is an avid deer hunter but has never been able to take a moose. We were over to Newfoundland towards the end of the season 6 years ago but she was never presented with a good opportunity on an animal. Needless to say I wasn't long accepting the offer to take part in this year's hunt.



For this trip it was decided that we were going to the 'Sandy Lake Lodge' in Newfoundland which is about an hours' drive from Grand Falls.

My Mom and Uncle would fly over with Gram and my cousin would pick them up, Dad and I would meet them there with the

truck and go into the lodge together. It was going to be a real family event.

The owners and guides were great to us and happy to help in Gram's quest to shoot a moose. It was the first week of the season and we spotted many animals through the week, but it wasn't until Thursday morning that a real opportunity presented itself on a mature cow moose.



She took the shot as the moose was walking on a 45 degree angle about 100 yards away from her. Of course she only needed the one shot as she hit it in the lungs.

Thanks for the great week Gram!

Submitted by:  
Darren Churchill

PS: She shot this moose with a 308 semi-auto Remington 742. She usually uses a 308 lever but we thought that this would be easier if more than one shot was required.

## Nova Scotia Association of Crossbow Hunters

Throughout each year, the many NSACH volunteers promote the association through raffles, membership contests, trail camera photo contests, meet & greet and BBQ's.

This year we have had 2 draws to date. Our first draw was for the Excalibur Crossbow which was up for grabs via raffle ticket purchase at the RV Show.

Our second draw was for a spy-point trail camera. In order to get in on that draw you either had to re-new your membership or sign on as a new member.

The Excalibur Crossbow winner was Dave Sobey and the winner of the trail camera was Tim Curran.

Congratulations to our winners!

Stay tuned for more great contests!

## Mic Mac Rod and Gun Club



**MIC MAC ROD & GUN CLUB**

# HORNS FOR BUCKS CONTEST



*Deer must be legally bagged in Nova Scotia during the 2012 Season.*

Antlers must be clean and dry. Scoring will take place on December 15, 2012, at the West Northfield Fire Hall between 6-8 pm. Committee decisions will be final. All antlers will be eligible for an award. Ticket sales end October 25, 2012.

**ANTLER PRIZES**

1st – **\$200.00**    2nd – **\$100.00**    3rd – **\$50.00**

**Draw Prizes**  
 \$100.00 Superstore Gift Card  
 25 lb. Lobster  
 15 lb. Lobster



License # AGD-004186-12

Tickets are available from club members and will also be sold at Wal-Mart on  
 Oct 5 from 10 AM - 6 PM,  
 Oct 13 at Canadian Tire 10 AM - 6 PM  
 Oct 18 at Gow Brothers 10 AM – 6 PM.

For further information on availability of tickets please call  
 Bob Hillocks at 902 - 527-2415.

Rules: Deer antlers being submitted to the competition must be taken from deer legally harvested in Nova Scotia, by firearm or bow, during the 2012 hunting season by a Mic Mac contest ticket holder.

Prizes: Awards and prizes will be determined and presented on Dec 15, 2012 at the West Northfield Fire Hall.

Antler competition  
 1st place \$200, plus trophy,  
 2nd \$100 plus trophy,  
 3rd \$50 plus trophy

In addition, and new for this year. To encourage hunters to submit all of their racks regardless of size we will be awarding three additional prizes. These winners not determined on antler size alone.

All ticket holders, whether hunters or not, are eligible to win all other prizes. Such as \$100 SUPER STORE gift certificate, \$300 BBQ from Kent Building supplies, two lots of lobsters one 25 lb and 15 lbs.

The Mic Mac Rod and Gun Club, located on highway #10 in Wentzells Lake, just outside Bridgewater, NS, was founded in 1952 with its origins in fishing, hunting and the shooting sports.

60 years later, the club holds social events, card playing, tournaments and has made many donations to other organizations like the Cancer Society, Salvation Army, 4H, Boy Scouts, and South Shore Regional Hospital. The club is totally self supportive through member's dues and our two annual funding raising events. One being the Good Friday ham raffle and the other our Deer antler contest.

The deer antler contest has up until now been held at the Wentzells Lake Club House but its popularity has grown and this year we have moved our awards right to the West Northfield Fire Hall.

For more information on the Mic Mac Rod and Gun Club, contact Bob Hillocks at 527-2415.

## How Whitetail Deer See Us, The Hunter

When a deer sees you in the woods, will you be busted or not?

Hunters pay extra attention to a deer's nose and his ability to hear us; but how many hunters fail the test when it comes to understanding how or why deer see us in the woods? My guess is many!

Extensive research has been done to try and understand how a whitetail deer sees things.

The following list of experts are mainly responsible for what we now know about a whitetail deer's vision: Brian P. Murphy, Karl Miller, & R. Larry Marchinton, University of Georgia; Jess Deegan II, Gerald H. Jacobs, University of California; and Jay Neitz, Medical College of Wisconsin.

Basically, when it's light out, deer see "everything" in shades of yellow just like what we would see if we wore yellow shooters glasses all the time. In lighted conditions (low light or bright sunny days), humans are capable of seeing the full spectrum of colors in the rainbow, while whitetails can only see two colors: yellow and blue.

Deer are red/green color blind; they lack a UV filter and can see in the ultra violet known as the UV range. Most laundry detergents contain UV brighteners. Those are the chemical compounds that cause colors to become brighter, vibrant and radiant causing a "UV Glow". When a deer sees UV glow, he sees it as a glowing blue, i.e., if your camo colors contain UV hot (glowing) brown colors, a deer sees them as glowing blues.

The research also verified that deer are not as sensitive to longer wavelengths than humans. This means that if a blaze orange vest had no brightener dyes and was purely blaze orange, the deer would not see it as good as we do.

Imagine going into the woods before sunrise. You've taken all the steps to descent so the deer might not be able to smell you, especially if the winds in your favor. You walk in super quietly so the deer shouldn't hear you but all of your clothes were washed in regular detergents. So, as you enter the woods, you are literally glowing to a deer's eyes—even if you're in full camo clothing!



In extreme low light conditions, deer see about the same as we do in shades of white, black and gray.

What does this all mean to the hunter? It means that if a hunter doesn't take the necessary steps to eliminate "UV Glow," a deer is going to bust you each and every time you enter the woods.

You can beat a deer's nose by keeping the wind in your face. You can beat a deer's ears by hunting from a stand. But, when it comes to a deer's eyes, you can't beat them. You can however take steps to increase your odds when a deer sees you. When you wash your hunting clothes, **MAKE SURE** you use a hunter specific detergent that contains UV eliminators! Without it, you're going to **GLOW!**

I'm not an expert on a deer's eyes but by passing along what I've learned on the subject, I hope this helps increase your odds on your next hunts.

Good Luck and Happy Safe Hunting!

Submitted by  
Bruce Raymond



*In low light conditions deer see about the same as we do in shades of white, black and grey.*

## Tree Stand Safety

One of the best advantages a hunter can get when hunting whitetail deer is doing so from an elevated position. In most hunting scenarios, to achieve this elevated height, it is easiest to do so with a tree stand. Modern tree stands are very safe when used the proper way. Follow all manufactures guidelines on care and upkeep of your tree stand. Failure to do so can result in serious injury or death. To help prevent injury from tree stand accidents, follow these safety guidelines

### Get familiar with your equipment

Read and follow all factory recommended procedures concerning your tree stand. Practice using your stand on a tree close to the ground to help you to become more comfortable with the mechanics and functions of the stand. I always keep all related safety equipment in a bag attached to the stand. You do not want to make it to your hunting spot before you realize you have left key safety parts behind. It is in times like these that hunters decide to skip key safety steps. The decision to hunt unsafe might just be your last.

### Always use your safety equipment

Use a safety harness when hunting from elevated tree stands. Again read and follow all recommended procedures. Never use a rope to replace your safety belt portion that is attached to the tree. I recommend a full body harness. In the event of a fall while wearing a full body harness your body will be facing straight up. If you are properly attached to the tree you would only fall 8 to 10 inches. This will allow you to easily pull yourself back up onto your stand.

### Never carry equipment with you while climbing

Use a haul line to raise or lower your gear. Make sure guns and crossbows are unloaded before raising or lowering them from the ground. Make sure your haul line is sturdy enough to withstand the weight

of a gun, crossbow, and any other gear you plan to pull up to your stand.

### Check permanent tree stands every year before hunting

Do not use homemade tree stands. These stands are not only difficult to move when deer change their trails, but these stands often deteriorate quickly and often are unsafe even when newly installed. Remember that weakened wooden steps and stands can kill and cripple hunters. Even pressure treated wood gets slippery overtime. Read and understand recommended procedures when installing commercial stands. Straps or chains sometimes are recommended to be changed in as little as 12 months of use. When installing never put all your weight on a single branch. Keep at least one hand and one foot on a secure place when reaching for the next hold. Climb higher than the stand and step down onto it. Climbing up onto it can dislodge it and cause accidents. Each time you hunt from a permanent stand make a visual check to confirm everything is in its place.

### Know the Rules

On crown land in most provinces it is illegal to place nails or other hardware into trees, or to build permanent structures, such as tree stands, platforms and blinds. On private land always get the landowners permission before you cut limbs, remove trees or alter their landscape in any way.

### Check portable tree stands before hunting

Inspect portable stands for loose nuts and bolts before each use. Make sure to choose only healthy, living trees when using climbing devices. Rough-barked trees are always best. It gives the teeth and straps on your stand something to grab onto. Do not use a tree that is rotten or has dead limbs. Don't go too high. The likelihood of a serious injury escalates if you fall from high up. Usually, 15 to 20 feet is high enough to give the hunter an advantage above the whitetails line of sight.



...continued next page

## **Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters**

C/O Tony Rodgers  
Post Office Box 654  
Halifax, NS  
B3J 2T3

PHONE:  
902-477-8898

FAX:  
902-444-3883

E-MAIL:  
tonyrodgers@eastlink.ca

The NSFAH Journal is published monthly, except during hunting season. If you or your club has an article to submit, send along before the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to ensure your information is inserted.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.nsfah.ca](http://www.nsfah.ca)

....continued from page 5

### **Use updated equipment**

You might save a few bucks on an older used tree stand but you are putting your health at risk. Tree stand equipment manufactured today is solid, safe and secure.

The \$50 you save on a harness or stand will not help you much when it comes to calculating your hospital or burial expenses.

### **Plan ahead**

Tell a dependable person where you're hunting and when you plan to return. Map your whereabouts and

leave a note at camp, at home or in your vehicle so that you can be found in case of emergency. If you are like me you already carry enough equipment into the woods. But I also think it would be wise to have a whistle, first aid kit, good flashlight and cell phone just in case of an emergency situation.

A successful hunt always coincides with a safe hunt. Safety should be your number one priority when going on a hunting trip. Always remember safety first.

Mark Freeman

## **The Trading Post**

### [Trading Post Terms of Use.](#)

#### **For Sale:**

*I am clearing out a large amount of hunting and fishing equipment to settle an estate. Everything from antique Bamboo rods and nets, to modern day scopes, knives, calls, dog bells, books, flies and anything in between. Please call Gary at 462-8900. Thanks .*

#### **For Sale:**

*Precision Shooting Equipment Lazer II hunting bow. Draw weight 50 - 60 pounds (Set at 55 pounds). Draw length 30" - 32" (Set at 31"). Camo carrying case, two Eagle 2117E arrows, 4 stainless Razorbak 5 arrowheads, and other accessories. \$100.00. Contact : ashfield@ns.sympatico.ca for more information.*

## **Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters Affiliate Club Listing**

**All Terrain Vehicle Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Archery Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Bowhunters Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Bowhunters Instructors Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Bras D'or Wildlife Association**

**Cape Breton Wildlife Association**  
**Conservation Enforcement Officers Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Delta Waterfowl Association**  
**Digby East Fish & Game Association**  
**Halifax Wildlife Association**

**Hants West Wildlife Association**  
**Kings County Fish & Game Association**  
**Canadian Association of Smallmouth Anglers**  
**Lansdowne Outdoor Recreation Development Association**

**Lunenburg County Wildlife Association**  
**Nova Scotia Association of Crossbow Hunters**  
**Nova Scotia Guides Association**  
**Nova Scotia Houndsmen Association**  
**Nova Scotia Bear Hunters Association**

**Mic Mac Rod & Gun Club**  
**Port Morien Wildlife Association**  
**Queens County Fish and Game Association**  
**Bluenose Longbeards Association, NWTF**  
**Shelburne County Fish & Game Association**

**South Shore Wildlife Association**  
**The Big Game Society of Nova Scotia**  
**Traditional Archers Association of Nova Scotia**  
**Trappers Association of Nova Scotia**  
**West Pictou Wildlife Association**