



In This Issue:

-Winter Fishing

-Safe Ice

-Conservation Congress

...and a whole lot more.

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!

Fish On! Winter Angling Opportunities

For those who love the outdoors, winter fishing is an ideal recreational sport. Fishing licences for 2011 are valid until March 31, 2012. The free Winter Sport fishing Weekend is February 18-19, 2012.

The Winter Fishing Season extends from January 1 - March 31, except for the following three lakes where the season runs from January 1 - February 29.

- Meadow Pond, Hants County
- Silver and Sunken Lakes, Kings County

Species & Bag Limits

Winter fisheries exists for the following species:

- Rainbow trout (bag limit of two fish),
- White perch (bag limit of 25 fish),
- Yellow perch (bag limit of 25 fish),
- Chain pickerel (bag limit of 25 fish)
- Speckled trout (bag limit of 10 fish - only two of which may be 10 in or 25.4 cm total length or longer).

RFA # 1 (Cape Breton, Inverness, Victoria & Richmond Counties)

Rainbow Trout

Eco-Trail Pond, Richmond County
Levers Lake & # 20 Dam, Cape Breton County

The tidal waters of the Bras D'Or Lakes
NOT INCLUDING:

- (1) waters of the Baddeck River upstream from the Highway 105 bridge;
- (2) waters Northeast (inside) of the East Bay Sandbar;

- (3) waters upstream from Crowdis Bridge in River Denys Basin;
- (4) waters upstream from Black River Bridge in Dundee; and
- (5) waters upstream from Mackenzie Brook bridge near South Side Basin of River Denys; which remain closed to all angling.

Speckled Trout

Island Lake, Victoria County
Bell Lake, Victoria County
Snake Cat Lake, Victoria County
Trout Lake, Victoria County
Big Lake, Victoria County
Seifferts Lake, Victoria County

RFA # 2 (Antigonish, Guysborough, & Pictou Counties)

Rainbow Trout

Goose Harbour Lake, Guysborough County
Cameron & Gillis Lakes, Antigonish County
Gairloch Lake, Pictou County

White & Yellow Perch

Cameron & Gillis Lakes, Antigonish County

Chain Pickerel

Black & West Branch Lakes, Pictou County

RFA # 3 (Halifax & Lunenburg Counties)

Rainbow Trout

Albro Lake, Halifax County
Maynard Lake, Halifax County
Penhorn Lake, Halifax County
Lewis Lake, Halifax County
Round Lake, Halifax County
Sucker Lake, Lunenburg County

Continued on page 2

License of a Lifetime Winners - 2011

"To purchase tickets for this draw, simply fill out the entry forms found in the Regulations Summary booklet or contact the Federation directly"

On the 15th of December the two winners of the Federation's License of a Lifetime Contest were drawn. The first name was drawn by **The Honourable Charlie Parker NDP**, Minister of Natural Resources and the second name was drawn by **The Honourable Sterling Belliveau**, Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture.

We would like to thank the Departments of Natural Resources and Fisheries and Aquaculture for their support of this draw and we wish the winners continued safe hunting and angling.

The winners are:

Timothy E. Densmore, Riversdale, Colchester Co. NS

Raymond Hodgson, Churchville, Pictou Co. NS

Thanks to all of those that bought tickets and better luck next year.

Winter Angling Opportunities continued...

White & Yellow Perch

Albro Lake, Halifax County

Chain Pickerel

Fish, Morris, Russell & Kinsac Lakes, Halifax County

RFA # 4 (Digby, Queens, Shelburne, & Yarmouth Counties)

Rainbow Trout

Everitts Lake, Digby County
Hidden Hills Lake, Queens County

White & Yellow Perch

Meteghan River, including all lakes and tributaries, Digby County
Lake George, Shelburne County

Chain Pickerel

Meteghan River, including all lakes and tributaries, Digby County
Annis River, including all lakes and tributaries, Yarmouth County
Kiack Brook (near Belleville South), including all lakes and tributaries, Yarmouth County
Louis Lake, Queens County
Walls Lake, Ponds in Port Latour, Bakers Flats on Cape Sable Island, Shelburne County, Lake George, Shelburne County

RFA # 5 (Annapolis, Hants, & Kings Counties)

Rainbow Trout

Meadow Pond, Hants County
Silver & Sunken Lakes, Kings County

Speckled Trout

St. Croix Pond, Hants County

White & Yellow Perch

Lake George, Kings County
Lake Paul, Kings County
Springfield Lake, Annapolis County
Woodward Sandford Lake, Hants County

Chain Pickerel

Lake George, Kings County
Lake Paul, Kings County
Lily Lake (Cogmagun Pond), Hants County

RFA # 6 (Cumberland & Colchester Counties)

Rainbow Trout

Angevine (Dewars) Lake, Cumberland County

White & Yellow Perch

Angevine (Dewars) Lake, Cumberland County
Shortts Lake, Colchester County

Chain Pickerel

Shortts Lake, Colchester County



**Nova Scotia Free
Winter Sport fishing
Weekend**

February 18-19, 2012

**Give Winter Sport
fishing a Try**

National Fish & Wildlife Conservation Congress

The **Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters** (O.F.A.H) and its partners are hosting Canada's first National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Congress that will be held at the Westin Ottawa, May 27-31, 2012.

Today's healthy abundance of fish and wildlife populations did not happen by chance. They are the result of ideas and actions taken in the late 19th and early 20th centuries by leading conservationists, many of them hunters and anglers in their own right. At a time when there were no game laws, no seasons, no limits, no public agencies or conservation organizations, no funding mechanisms, university programs, enforcement officers or fish and wildlife science, it was anglers and hunters who helped to create the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

Fishing and hunting are core values for tens of millions of people in North America. In Canada these activities contribute over \$10 billion annually in socio-economic benefit, while in the U.S. the total is \$42 billion. Revenues derived from hunting and fishing licenses or tariffs on related products and services provide hundreds of millions annually in support of fish and wildlife management on both sides of the border.

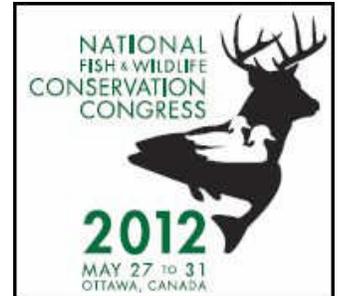
Seven provinces, one territory and over a dozen states have passed legislation recognizing hunting and fishing as heritage activities, and the Canadian government is poised to establish an annual National Heritage Hunting and Fishing Day, which will mirror a similar event in the U.S. that was established in 1972.

The National Fish & Wildlife Conservation Congress will showcase contemporary fish and wildlife restoration programs such as Eastern elk, Atlantic salmon, wild turkey and lake trout, and will present the latest research, assessment and management techniques for species such as Sandhill cranes and walleye.

Resolution of challenges that include wildlife and agriculture conflicts, fisheries and aquaculture, the threat of new diseases, the impact of alien invasive species and species at risk will also be a core focus of the Congress. The role of science versus public opinion in policy decisions that affect fish and wildlife, the need for governments on both sides of the border to address funding shortfalls and reinvestment in natural resources, the introduction of policy and legislative changes to address threats to fish and wildlife populations and core recognition of sustainable use as an essential principle of conservation will also be discussed.

This first ever Canadian Congress will bring together leading fish and wildlife scientists, government leaders, federal, provincial, state and local fish and wildlife agencies, conservation organizations and anglers and hunters to participate in plenary sessions, workshops, discussions and debates about the future of fish and wildlife resources in North America. If you manage or study fish and game populations, are involved in the outdoor community or your lifestyle depends on the sustainable use of fish and wildlife populations, you will want to join us in Ottawa, May 27 – 31, 2012.

Check out <http://www.nfwcc.com> for more information.



"Fishing and hunting are core values for tens of millions of people in North America"

OPERATION: WHITETAIL COUNT

go to www.nsach.ca to get started today



NOVA SCOTIA ASSOCIATION OF CROSSBOW HUNTERS



If you hunt with a crossbow in Nova Scotia and are not currently a member of the NSACH, please consider joining today. We need your support to protect the privilege so many of us enjoy. Check out www.nsach.ca for more information.

**Meet & Greet**

When: January 28, 2012

Where: Shubenacadie Training Center

Time: 10:00AM – 3:00PM

Topic: Coyotes / Predators



Come out and meet some of the best coyote trappers and hunters in Nova Scotia.

Learn some new tips and tricks to call in coyotes.

Skinning and fleshing demonstrations by Master Guide and life-long trapper Bill Meckins.

Mike Boudreau from DNR will be on hand to discuss how you, the hunter can take advantage of the pelt incentive.



Wild Game BBQ

Meet & Greet sponsored in part by Hnatiuks Hunting & Fishing Supplies, Lantz, NS

Space is limited to 25-30 participants so RSVP the NSACH at nsach@eastlink.ca with your name and telephone number so we can hold a seat for you.

Have something special for the BBQ? Let us know so we can save you some room on the grill.

Email: nsach@eastlink.ca

www.nsach.ca

Shubenacadie Provincial Wildlife Park

February 2, 2012
7:00 AM – 12:00PM

Groundhog Day / World Wetland Day

Free celebrations start at 7 AM at the wildlife park with face painting, craft making and a chance to visit some very interesting displays. Shubenacadie Sam makes his appearance at 8 AM sharp, noting his shadow or lack of one. Hot drinks for all until 9:30 AM, then off to the park for a visit with the resident animals, until noon, when the park closes for the winter months.

For more information please contact the park at 902-758-5316 or,
Email: legacycentre@gov.ns.ca

Will The Ice Hold Your Weight?

Early Ice is Thin Ice

It is a common misconception that ice freezes at the same rate. Ice is rarely uniform in thickness. It can be a foot thick in one place and only an inch thick just 10 feet away. It's important to test the ice in several places before beginning any activity.

Minimum Ice Thickness for New Clear Hard Ice:

Recommendations for ice thickness are based on clear, blue or green ice. White ice has air or snow in it and is unstable. Follow the guidelines below:

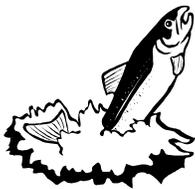
- 4" (10cm) or less **STAY OFF**
- 5" (12cm) **ice fishing, walking, cross country skiing**
- 6" (15cm) **ice skating, ice fishing**
- 8"-12" (20-30cm) **snowmobiles or ATV's**
- 12"-15" (30-38cm) **light trucks & SUV's**

Spring Ice is Rotten Ice

Once ice starts to rot, the thickness of ice cannot be used to determine if the ice is safe. The ice may look solid – but beware.

Because of the way ice melts, the ice will dramatically weaken even as it retains much of its original thickness.

- Rotting ice looks grey and splotchy.
- Ice can erode from the bottom up, with no obvious warning signs on top.
- Run off from upstream can weaken river ice.
- Ice near shore will melt more quickly.
- Saline water run-off from roads and melting snow dumps can create "hot spots" that weaken the ice
- Tree stumps, rocks, and docks absorb heat from the sun, causing ice around them to melt.



Ice Fishing Safety Tips

Always go with a buddy: Make it a group affair and team up with some friends. Let others know exactly where you're going and when you will return.

Dress for the weather and use layers: Make sure you combat the cold using a layering system. Layering makes it easier to remove or put clothes back on if you are getting too hot or too cold. Insulated boots and gloves will keep your feet and hands warm and prevent frostbite. If you get wet, change into dry clothes as soon as possible.



Measure the ice thickness in several places and stay off of river ice:

Conditions such as currents and water depths affect ice thickness. Ice sections very close together can have very different thickness.

Have the appropriate safety gear on hand:

A first aid kit; additional set of dry clothes and socks in case you get wet; high energy snacks and warm drinks; rope to use in case your friend falls through the ice; matches; home-made ice awls; a lifejacket for flotation in case you fall through the ice; hand and foot warmers.

Know when enough is enough: Keep exposed skin to a minimum to prevent frostbite. Watch out for signs of hypothermia (confusion, weak pulse, slower than normal speech or slurring words, pale skin) and, if suspected, remove the person from the cold environment, warm their body and seek medical assistance.

Ice Rescue

First, call 911.

Be careful; you can fall through the ice too. Anyone on or near the weak ice should slowly lie down.

Use a long reaching assist, i.e. rope, stick or ladder.

Tell the person to kick and slowly ease out of the water.

Have them crawl or roll away from the broken ice.

Make sure you are both far enough away from the hole before you stand up.

Help them into dry clothes and treat for hypothermia.

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 25th of each month to ensure your information is inserted.

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.nsfah.ca

Hold these dates!

National Fish & Wildlife Conservation Congress

The Westin Ottawa
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

May 27 to 31, 2012

www.nfwcc.com



Printed on recycled stock.



Youth Hunting Camps

March 12 & 13 – Middle Musquodoboit

March 15 & 16 – McGowan Lake



Department of Natural Resources staff and local experts will present the 2nd two-day overnight hunting and trapping camps this winter.

These hands-on camps will give participants the chance to learn new skills and gain experience in hunting, snaring, and participating in outdoor recreation safely.

The first camp will take place at the Chaswood Educational Woodlot, with a second camp taking place at McGowan Lake.

Class size is small to permit hands-on experience. Boys and Girls between the ages of 12 and 15 are encouraged to signup; there is a limit of 12 participants so register soon!

Contact the Natural Resources Education Centre at 902-384-3420 or nrec@gov.ns.ca to request a registration package.

Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers & Hunters Affiliate Club Listing

1. All Terrain Vehicle Association of Nova Scotia
2. Archery Association of Nova Scotia
3. Bowhunters Association of Nova Scotia
4. Bowhunters Instructors Association of Nova Scotia
5. Bras D'or Wildlife Association
6. Cape Breton Wildlife Association
7. Conservation Enforcement Officers Association of Nova Scotia
8. Delta Waterfowl Association
9. Digby East Fish & Game Association
10. Halifax Wildlife Association
11. Hants West Wildlife Association
12. Kings County Fish & Game Association
13. Lunenburg County Wildlife Association
14. Nova Scotia Association of Crossbow Hunters
15. Nova Scotia Guides Association
16. Nova Scotia Houndsmen Association
17. Port Morien Wildlife Association
18. Queens County Fish and Game Association
19. Shelburne County Fish & Game Association
20. South Shore Wildlife Association
21. The Big Game Society of Nova Scotia
22. Traditional Archers Association of Nova Scotia
23. Trappers Association of Nova Scotia
24. West Pictou Wildlife Association
25. Nova Scotia Bear Hunters Association