

The Quiver

Michigan United Conservation Clubs Region 7 Monthly Newsletter September 2024 Vol. 38

Highlights of August Policy Board Meeting at Jay's & Webbers Wildlife Educational Center

VP Steve Dey announced vacancies in Parks and Recreation Chair club members in regions 4 & 6 and IM in region 5. Speaker: Tyler Mehig, MUCC Director of Marketing and Communication . A Moment to the Mission.

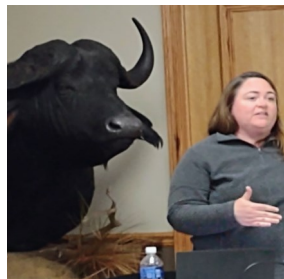
Committee Reports: **Wildlife Committee** sending back proposed allowable calibers straight walled cartridge to maker for clarification. **Fisheries:** Have an amendment to the spearfishing resolution that more clearly defines expanded waters. **Parks & Rec:** No Report **Shooting** resolution in the works and monitoring potential firearms laws. **Education** No Report

After review, discussions and amendments the resolutions presented and those sent back to the maker for re-work we added 4 new resolutions being sent on to the 2025 convention. (See Pg. 5) We had an update on legislation and Policy update from Justin Tomei, Policy and Governmental Affairs manager. Amy Trotter CEO gave Executive Board Report

As an added plus to our trip to the north, the meeting was held at [Jay's Webber Wildlife Education Center](#) just across the parking lot from Jay Sporting Goods. The meeting took place in a generous meeting room. And just outside the meeting room was this: **You have to see this in person. WoW!**



The Meeting Room



Upcoming OTG Projects

Saturday, September 7, 2024 - Fall Rendezvous in the Pigeon River Country State Forest, Otsego County - Register [HERE](#)

Friday, September 13, 2024 - Sharp-tailed Grouse Habitat Enhancement in the Hiawatha National Forest (Chippewa County)- Register [HERE](#)

Saturday, September 14, 2024 - Dam Improvement Project at the Blind Sucker Flooding (Luce County) - Register [HERE](#)

Saturday, September 21, 2024 - Accessible Hunting Blind Repair/ Clearing Shooting Lanes at Sleepy Hollow State Park (Clinton County) - Register [HERE](#)

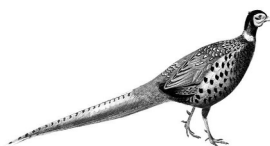
DNR Wild Talk Podcasts

<https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/managing-resources/wildlife/wildtalk-podcast>

Ranch Bonanza

Mark your calendars for October 18th as we launch the 2024 **Rooster Ranch Bonanza**, our brand-new event taking place at the Rooster Ranch in Ubly, MI. This European & Field hunt experience will be the highlight of your fall. We will be serving a gourmet country breakfast, warming up with some sporting clays, bagging some birds with a European hunt, enjoying lunch, giving away some amazing raffles, walking a field hunt, and then closing with some beverages back at the clubhouse to celebrate conservation and our outdoor heritage. This action-packed day will be sure to make some lasting memories, and you'll go home with some birds to enjoy no matter what! COST \$325.00

**Going to be a
cackling good time.**



To register use the QR code. Or contact :
Swindom@MUCC.org



OTG Volunteers Needed: Dam Improvement Project at the Blind Sucker Flooding

By [Americorps](#) August 28, 2024

On **Saturday, September 14, 2024, from 10 AM to 2 PM**, [Michigan United Conservation Clubs](#) (MUCC) will be hosting a dam improvement project in partnership with the [Michigan DNR](#) at the Blind Sucker Flooding in Luce County. This area is home to many species of fish and wildlife and offers recreational opportunities such as hiking, camping, canoeing, kayaking, and swimming. All ages are welcome to attend, so bring a friend or two if you'd like! For more details and to register, click [HERE](#).

About the Project

This project involves improving the dam directly and restoring wildlife habitat in areas surrounding the dam. Volunteers will first work to mitigate erosion at the dam by filling in areas with gravel. In addition, volunteers will plant native plants in the surrounding area and remove invasive species using hand-pulling methods. Volunteers will meet at the **Blind Sucker #1 State Forest Campground** ([46.669284, -85.761805](#)). Any necessary equipment will be provided including work gloves, buckets, shovels, and garbage bags. Closed-toed shoes, long pants, and a long-sleeved shirt are recommended. This event will take place rain or shine unless there is severe weather so please dress accordingly.



A volunteer works to fill in mulch after planting a native oak tree.

Why is it Important?

Although improving a dam may not seem like a typical habitat restoration project, it still provides benefits to local fish and wildlife populations. Too much erosion of a dam can cause dam failure, which leads to flooding and environmental damage. Mitigating erosion early by adding gravel or other structures to a dam can help offset these risks well into the future.

Restoring wildlife habitat in surrounding areas near the dam also provides benefits to fish and wildlife. By removing invasive plant species, native plants are better able to grow and reproduce. Replanting native plants also allows for them to become established in new areas. These habitat restoration efforts create new opportunities for fish and wildlife to have adequate food and cover sources.

Learn More

Want to learn more about On the Ground and stay up to date on upcoming projects? Visit mucc.org/on-the-ground for more information. Our On the Ground program is a great way to meet fellow conservationists and get involved in conserving, protecting, and enhancing Michigan's natural resources. All registered volunteers receive **lunch** and a **free appreciation gift** for their efforts.

Photo compliments of Americorps

August 2024 NRC Recap

By Justin Tomei August 8, 2024

The commission voted on modernizing the federal duck stamp at this month's Natural Resources Commission (NRC) meeting in Detroit.

There was only one vote for action, which passed unanimously.

Wildlife Conservation Order #7 of 2024 amends the wildlife conservation order (WCO) to match new federal rules for duck stamps. The new rules make the stamp valid from the date of purchase (after July 1, 2024) through June 30, 2025. The regulatory language matches new federal rules.

Up for information was [Wildlife Conservation Order #8 of 2024](#), This order creates new guidelines for the Mentored Hunting Program that allows youth and adult individuals with cognitive or intellectual impairments, who cannot pass a hunters safety test, to hunt under the direct supervision of a mentor indefinitely.

This order comes on the heels of [Gov. Whitmer signing MUCC supported HB 5737 on July 24th](#).

Also up for information were several fisheries orders.

[Fisheries Order 200.25 Trout and Salmon regulations](#). This order clarifies a few boundaries, and amends steelhead size limits for a number of streams. This change is to make the steelhead regulations less complex but follow the spirit of the commissions 2023 change.

[Fisheries Order 210.25 Designated Trout Streams](#). This order also clarifies boundaries and designates the Rio Grande Creek as a type 1 trout stream.

[Fisheries Order 224.25 Regulations on the Take of Reptiles and Amphibians](#). Allows for the temporary relocation or removal of certain reptiles and amphibians on private property, moves three species from Group 1 to Group 2 (threatened and endangered), the order also removes blowguns as a legal method of take for reptiles and amphibians.

[Fisheries Order 254.24 Inland Lakes Trout and Salmon Regulations](#). [Removes](#) Type C designation on Lime Lake (Leelanau), due to poor stocking success.

There are five land transactions up for action this month. MUCC only reviews land transactions exceeding 80 acres, of which there were two. [Land Transaction Case #20220163](#) is a state purchase of 8,841 acres in the Pigeon River Country Forest Management Unit. [Land Transaction Case #20220065](#) is a swap of mineral rights to consolidate state owned surface and mineral rights.

The next meeting is Thursday, September 12, at Lansing Community College West.

To ensure our natural resources remain protected and managed thoughtfully and our outdoor heritage defended, join Michigan United Conservation Clubs today: <http://bit.ly/JoinMUCC>

Check this out



Michigan Department of Natural Resources [Wildtalk Podcast](#)

Summary of Resolutions headed to 2025 Convention So Far.

A full version of the resolutions can be found at the bottom of [HERE](#)

***Resolution B** Submitted by: Erik Schnelle, Michigan State Council and National Deer Association Proposed: August 17th Conservation Policy Board Meeting **Title: Opposition to Market Hunting of Game Animals**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: MUCC supports the seven pillars of the North American Model of Conservation, and; **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** MUCC opposes any market hunting for management purposes

***Resolution C** Submitted by: Patrick Hogan, Life Member Proposed: August 17, 2024 Policy Board Meeting **Title: Support Conservation Over Preservation Whenever Possible**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: MUCC recognizes conservation as the wise use of natural resources today, while ensuring the resource can be wisely used into the future, and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** MUCC recognizes preservation as seeking to prevent nature from use; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** MUCC recognizes the importance of the human element within nature and everything that comes with it. MUCC will support Conservation over preservation whenever possible

***Resolution D** Submitted by: Jonathan Durtka, Individual Member, Patrick Hogan, Life Member Proposed: August 17, 2024 Policy Board Meeting **Title: Expand Underwater Spearfishing Opportunities**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: As long as it is supported by sound science provided by our MDNR fishery biologists that MUCC adopt the policy to create fair access to Michigan's aquatic resources and support the expansion of underwater spearfishing opportunities for game species to coincide with current species-specific regulations and include waters in the Great Lakes and Great Lakes connecting waters, as defined by Lake St. Clair, St. Clair River, St. Mary's River, Detroit River, and to exclude designated trout lakes, designated trout streams, and tribal treaty waters.

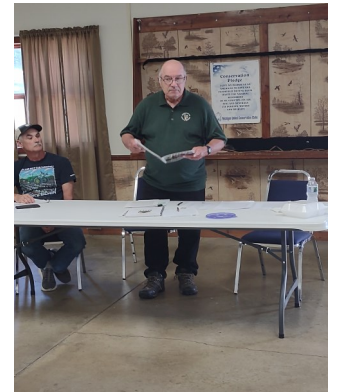
***Resolution E** Submitted by: Zach Snyder, Individual Member Proposed: August 17, 2024 CPB Meeting **Title: Bear tree stands at legal bait sites prior to Sept 1**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: MUCC work with the proper parties to give bear hunters the ability to place their tree stand on public land at actively tended legal bait sites, and **ONLY** at actively tended legal bait sites, beginning the day baiting becomes legal.

Region 7 Meeting at Hillsdale 8/11/24

Hillsdale was where it was happening on the 11th of August in Region 7 well attended meeting. As always the Hillsdale County Sportsman's club was a great host. A big thanks to President Phil Wines and his crew for their hospitality and attendance.

The photo was our guest speaker Richard Wilt from [Commemorative Bucks of Michigan](#). I think we were all surprised just how much history they have compiled on harvested game in Michigan they consist of; Bear, Deer Elk and Turkey.



Deer and Elk are divided into 2 categories; Typical and Non Typical categories and measured using the Boone & Crockett system which generally determines based on length and thickness. Therefore, in order for a deer or elk to be scored the skull plate needs to be preserved, and the rack has to dry for at least 60 days. Bears are measured based on their skull and also need to be dried for 60 days before being measured. Turkeys are scored based on length of the beard and the length of both spurs, and no drying period is required. Harvested turkeys are divided into Single Bearded and Multi-Beard categories. All entries are further broken down into separate weapon categories for Bow, Crossbow, Muzzleloader, Firearms and Handgun. For the annual competition, separate awards for Youth, Women and Seniors are also awarded. You can find out things like; Scoring, Find a Measurer, News & Events, Members and lots more by visiting their website hyperlinked above.

There was much more talked about and we all left with a greater understanding of one of our valued affiliates. Thank Richard for doing a great job and for taking the time out of his Sunday PM to enlighten us on Commemorative Bucks of Michigan.





Point of Personal Privilege

I do not normally do articles about myself. But I had to share this one

On August 18th Margaret and I ventured over to the other side of the state to a club that is very near and dear to me and my family. Tri- County Sportsman's League in Region 8. They were celebrating their 85th birthday and I felt we just had to be there. You see it was just a little bit over 8 years ago that because I was there as President of MUCC at a fundraiser I had my cardiac arrest. Had I not been there I am sure I would not be here today. Their efforts along with 3 nurses in the room at the time brought me back to life until the EMT crew showed up. About 20 minutes of CPR and AED. God Bless Them all. Region 8 Director Kris Matthews was there and reminded everyone of that day. The photos are from the party. Great Music and fantastic Food, any kind of Hot Dog you wanted however a lousy pool game. First time I lost in 40 years. Of course I haven't played in 40 yrs. :-)



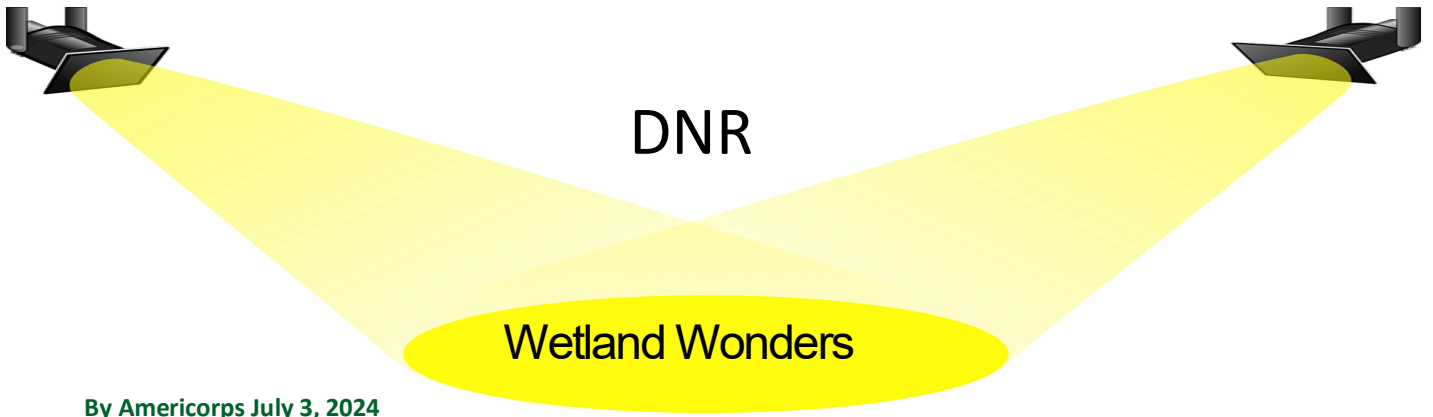
Help MUCC continue to defend your rights to hunt, fish and trap in Michigan today. Your generous contribution allows us to put on our yearly summer camp for kids, restore habitat across the state, and fight anti-hunting legislation in Lansing.



Conservation
2nd Amendment
Restoring Habitat

Anti-Hunting
Legislation





By Americorps July 3, 2024

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) oversees a series of Managed Waterfowl Hunting Areas (MWHAs) throughout the state dedicated to providing residents with access to the best waterfowl hunting around.

These areas, nicknamed “Wetland Wonders”, contain high-quality nesting and migration habitat for waterfowl and other wetland species.

The DNR manages these MWHAs using a 10-year strategic plan developed by a workgroup with the Wildlife Division.

This plan aims to address issues like declining hunter numbers and projected declines in budgets, while also defining priorities and providing management consistency between MWHAs.

The public funds these waterfowl areas through hunting licenses and area use fees.

Seven locations conduct daily drawings for free hunting zone permits throughout the open season. These locations are scattered throughout Michigan and include Fennville Farm Unit at Allegan SGA, Fish Point SWA, Harsens Island at St. Clair Flats SWA, and Point Mouillee SGA.

Fennville Farm Unit at Allegan State Game Area

The Fennville Farm Unit at Allegan State Game Area is a popular spot for Canada goose hunting. The unit itself is primarily field hunting but also contains shallow water wetlands that serve as roosting habitat. Other species found in this unit include upland sandpipers, golden eagles, white-tail deer, and turkeys. Besides hunting, birding and wildlife viewing are also popular activities at this site.

Fish Point State Wildlife Area

Fish Point State Wildlife Area sits on the Saginaw Bay of Lake Huron. This area contains 2,477 acres of marshy areas, flooded corn fields, and dry agriculture fields perfect for waterfowl. Nicknamed the “Chesapeake of the Midwest”, Fish Point is home to a very high abundance of waterfowl like Canada geese and many species of ducks. Several snowy owls also take up residence here during the winter. Canoeing and kayaking, fishing, and birding are a few of the popular activities in this area.

Harsens Island at St. Clair Flats State Wildlife Area

Harsens Island is located on the shores of the St. Clair Flats, which is part of the largest fresh-water delta in the United States. A car ferry ride is required to reach the 3,355 acres of strictly managed waterfowl habitat, which consists of marshy areas, open water, and flooded agriculture. Hunters most commonly harvest mallards on Harsens Island. Additionally, species harvested include black ducks, pintail, wood ducks, and Canada geese. Recreational activities like fishing, birding, and wildlife viewing are very popular in this area. **Continued on next pg.**

Continued from Pg. 8

Pointe Mouillee State Game Area

Pointe Mouillee State Game Area is one of the largest freshwater marsh restoration projects in the world. In addition to waterfowl hunting, its 4,040 acres of pristine habitat make it a very important birding site in the Midwest. Birders commonly find bald eagles, osprey, black-bellied plovers, and whimbrels in this area. Many people enjoy fishing, biking, and wildlife viewing at Pointe Mouillee. This state game area also hosts an annual waterfowl festival in September.

Learn More

Want to learn more about Michigan's premier waterfowl habitat? Visit the [Michigan DNR website](#) for more information on reports and waterfowl counts for each area. Their website also has a [strategic planning page](#) where you can review details and updates of the plan in-depth.

Just a side note

MUCC's [On the Ground program](#) held a clean-up event on **Saturday, August 10, 2024**, at **Pointe Mouillee State Game Area**,

SAVE THE DATE : March 7-9 2025

2025 Annual Convention

[Treetops Resort in Gaylord Mi.](#)

Update on Ron Fernwalt of Grand Valley Cap & Ballers: I have spoken to Ron a couple of times since his accident. He still has a way to go but he is getting around ok. He has been to the club and starting to get back into the grove there. He can't drive yet that being said he knows when he should go home. It was good to know he is on the mend.

If you would like me to show up at one of your membership meeting to give you an update of what's happening in MUCC's world, email me or call rhbhunt3@gmail.com or call 269-209-1770

Happenings Around the Region In September 2024 open to the public

Grand Valley Cap & Ballers : Sporting Clays (modern shotguns)]. Sept.21, Oct. 12.. Sept. Frontier Shoot Aug. See Web-site for much more.

Fennville Rod and Gun Club: Tue. Evening Trap and Skeet Open to Public 5-9pm & Sat. 12-5pm \$5 per round. Pan-cake breakfast continues on 2nd Sunday of the month followed by a Calcutta

Grass Lake Sportsman Club: go to Facebook and website for updates. Pistol Shoot Sept. 7th Oct 12 10AM \$5 center fire pistols only.

Hillsdale County Conservation Club: Monthly 30 3-D target shoots. All shoots run from 9am-1pm. Sept 17 Open to Public \$5 per person. Youth Archery every Sunday from 5pm-7pm

New Buffalo Rod and Gun Club: Aug. Wednesdays Trap Games shoot 6:30 pm and Sunday Trap practice 10am to 1pm. Thur. 6pm. NON-ME8MBERS are welcome to attend all upcoming events!

Dowagiac Conservation Club: Fish Fry Sept. 20th 4:30-7pm All You Can Eat, Trap Shooting Sept 20th 6pm-10pm. 3-D Archery 8am-12pm Sept. 8th and 29th . Sept 7th CPL Class 8AM-5PM for info. Call 269-487-6161

Bend of the River Conservation Club: Sept 9 Basic Pistol Training \$5. 8am-5pm Contact Larry Hupp 269-240-3123. Hunter Education Sept. 18th 6pm-8pm (training in clubhouse)

Paw Paw Conservation Club Trap Shooting every Monday year round 4:30– 10:00pm \$4 for 25 birds. Free round for anyone who shoots a perfect round (25) For info call (269) 657-8949 after 4:30 on Monday's Phone # 269-657-8949 / Archery Shoot Sundays in Sept. 8-1pm . 3-D Archery Course. One of the finest.

Edwardsburg Conservation Club : Year round Trap shooting event Games on Saturdays 10-1PM. . 3D Archery 8am-2pm \$12 member \$15 Non Members Sept. 8th. & 28th / 50 Bird Trap Shoot Sept. 22nd. 1am-4pm Sept 22nd monthly Muzzleloader shoots 10am-4pm. Hunters Ed. Sept 14th and 15th 8-4PM. CPL Class Sept. 29th 8-4PM

Hamilton Rod and Gun Sept, 13th & 24th Calcutta Protection 5:30 Draw for Calcutta is 7:00 food available.

Jackson County Outdoor Club: Trap shooting Wednesday nights at 5PM through October.

Bellevue Conservation Club: Open Trap, Skeet and 5-Stand shooting every Sunday 2-6pm and Wednesday 6-10pm. We have 3 Trap/Skeet combo fields with lights. Trap games and Calcutta starting at 5pm on the first Friday of each month from April to October. 8484 Greenfield Highway, Bellevue, Michigan 49021.

St. Jo Conservation Club. CPL Class Sept. 14th 9AM–6PM. Sept. Tue. All month 5:30 youth trap practice 6 pm, Sundays Trap and Skeet 9-12pm 3-D Archery is open. Tue. Eve. Shoots 5:30 \$5 members \$10 non-members. Members self serve still open 7 day per week. Sundays 9-12 Trap and Skeet

All Species Conservation Club Summer Bluegill tournament Series. 2nd Tue of the month through Sept. Call Greg Peck for details 269-998-9407 Next meeting Sept 9th at Travelers on Portage Rd Portage 6PM

Van Buren Sportsman's Club Open to the public every Wednesday from 5-8pm for Burger night/ Taco Salad dinner, and every Friday 5-8pm for Fish, Chicken and Shrimp dinners. Yummy !!

If you would like your clubs activities posted here just jot me a note of what's happening rhbhunt@pearserealty.com or give me a call at 269-209-1770

Find your elected State Representatives

[HERE](#)

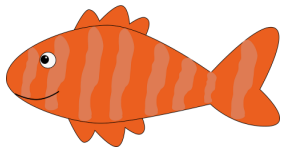
Next Region 7 Meeting

December 1st Tentatively at:

Hamilton Rod and Gun Club.

I will send updates as I get them.

Lunch at 11:30 meeting at 12:15-3:30



What's Cooking ?

Salmon En Crute' (4 Portions)

"Dixie Dave's" Recipe on [Mike Avery Outdoor Show](#)

Listen to Mike's show
on Sunday's at 5am-
8am on WBCF FM 95.3
Battle Creek

- 8- 10 boneless, skinless salmon fillets
- 2 Sheets of puff pastry, cut in half
- 2-3 Ounces of crab meat and /or de-vined shrimp
- Dill Weed (optional) Splash of white wine, Splash of lemon juice
- 2 pats of butter, Dash of white pepper
- 1 Garlic Clove, diced fine.
- 1/2 Medium onion, sliced fine.
- 2 Eggs beaten well

Method:

Lay out one sheet of puff pastry, place fish with skinned side down on dough, arrange shredded crab/shrimp, dill, garlic, onion, pepper, butter, lemon juice, and white wine on top of salmon. With pastry brush, paint edges of dough with egg wash. Place second. Place second pastry sheet over top, gently press out air and seal edges so juice will not leak out. Carve to look like a fish or leave plain.

Brush top of pastry with egg wash. Bake at 350 deg. 30-45 min or until golden brown.



Conservationist Pledge: I give my Pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, it's Air, soil and minerals, it's forests water and wildlife

This Publication is compiled and distributed by Ronald H. Burris Past Present, Region
7 Director Michigan United Conservation Clubs