

Private and Public Lands 2009 Committee Reports

by Gary E. Potts, IL Dept. of Natural Resources



MIDWEST
Association of
Fish & Wildlife
Agencies

MAFWA 2009 Spring Meeting

Private and Public Lands Working Groups
in Southern Illinois



05/05/2009

Meeting Highlights

- Working Group meetings held at Rend Lake Resort in southern Illinois
- Field Trips
 1. Private land – observed landowner projects on prairie & wetland habitat
 2. Public land - Pyramid State Park to observe extensive grassland & wetland habitat
 3. World Shooting Complex

Field Trips



Private Lands Working Group



Private Lands Action Items

1. Voluntary Access Program
2. Continuous Conservation Reserve Program and CP 38
3. CRP Contract Extensions & EIS
4. Sodbusting of Grasslands
5. Wetland Reserve Program

Letters were drafted on each issue

Voluntary Access Program



Continuous Conservation Reserve Program & CP38 (SAFE)



CRP Contract Extensions & EIS



Sodbusting of Grasslands



Wetlands Reserve Program



Private Lands – Information Items

- National Pheasant Plan
- National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative
- CRP – Mid-contract Management
- Monitoring of CRP

Thanks to Jennifer Mock-Schaeffer of AFWA on Farm Bill Issues



Public Lands Working Group Action Items

1. Reinstatement of the Public Lands Committee
2. Federal Highway Adm. Section 4 (f) Designation

A letter on FHA Section 4 (f) has been drafted



Public Lands Action Item

Federal Highway Adm. 4(f) Designation



Public Land – Information Items

- Allowable Uses of State Conservation Areas
- Restrictions of Consumptive Uses of National Wildlife Refuges
- Prescribed Burning
- Urban Wildlife Issues
- GIS Application Development
- Biofuels
- Staff Workshop Ideas
- Lead Poisoning
- Global Climate Change

Lead Poisoning

- Difference between
 1. Science – Structured for knowledge
 2. Politics – Decisions
 3. Policy – Art & Science of Compromise
- Preponderance of Evidence
- National Dove Hunter Survey



Policy-Making & Research

- Policy-making and research must be simultaneous activities.
- Sufficient reliable information exists, however, to suggest that some policy discussions should start immediately (with implementation several years away if necessary).
- It is critical for all stakeholders to understand that the need for additional research should not be used as a '*stalling tactic*' or '*displacement behavior*'.
- Future research should help inform policy development and implementation, not to further substantiate the problem.



Lead Poisoning Issue

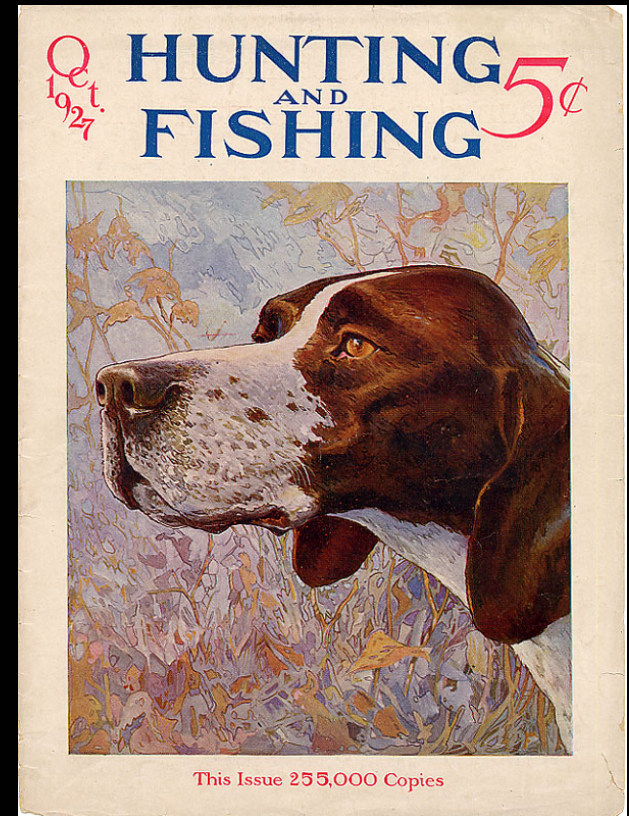
Polarization of Good vs. Evil

- Existing policy inaction has only fueled speculation and polarization.
- Some groups have used the issue to pit hunters against anti-hunters, gun ownership against gun control, or environmentalists against jobs and business interests.
- It will only further jeopardize any chances of success if the current trends of inaction and indecision persist.



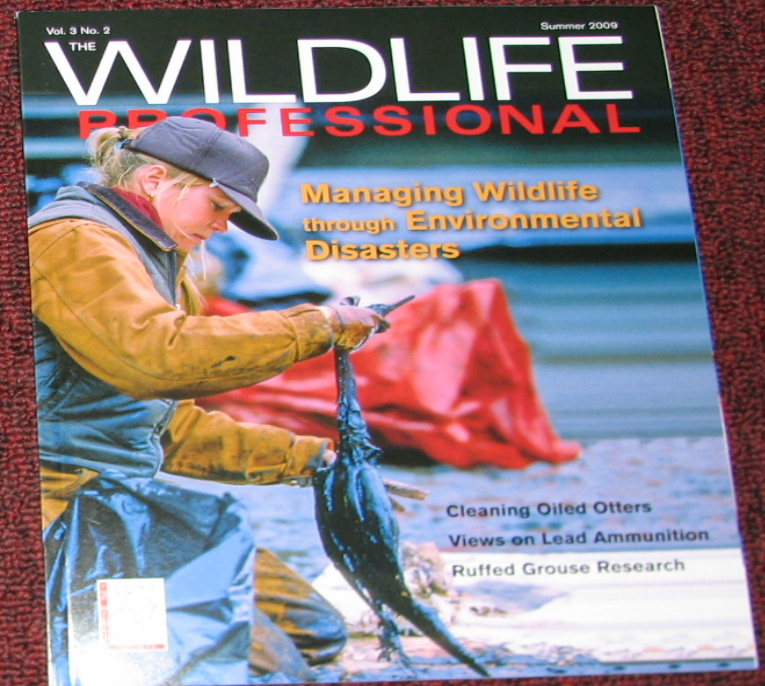
Leadership Into the Future

- Today, wildlife professionals, along with hunters and anglers, need to look for leadership opportunities that protect our collective long-term interests toward sustainability of natural resources and our hunting-angling heritage.
- Any other option will only disenfranchise stakeholders and brand them with negative perceptions of selfishness and self-interest from the non-hunting public.



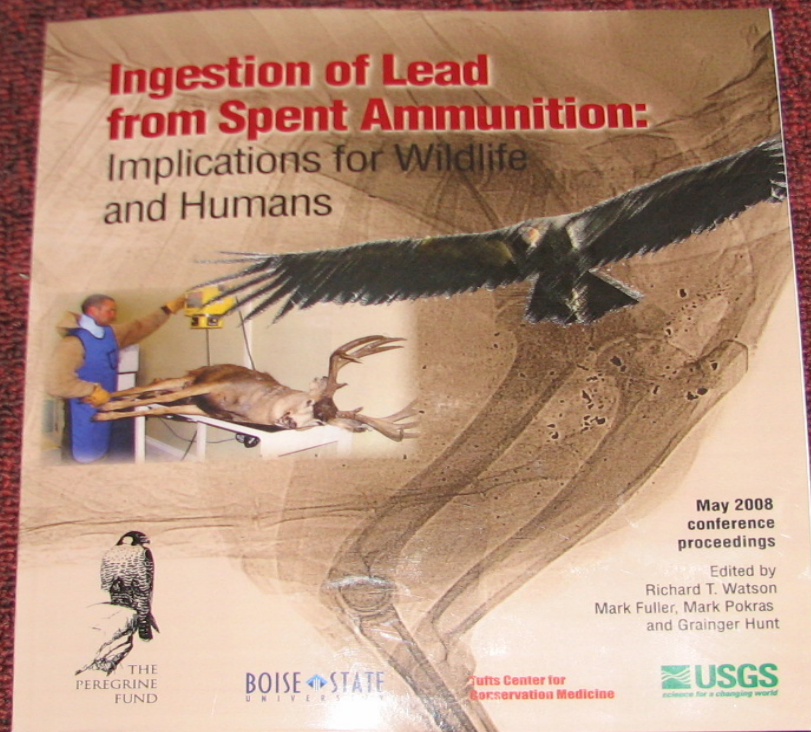
Publications from The Wildlife Society

www.wildlife.org PH: 301 897-9770



2009 Publication on Lead Poisoning

Ingestion of Lead from Spent Ammunition: Implications for Wildlife and Humans



Global Climate Change

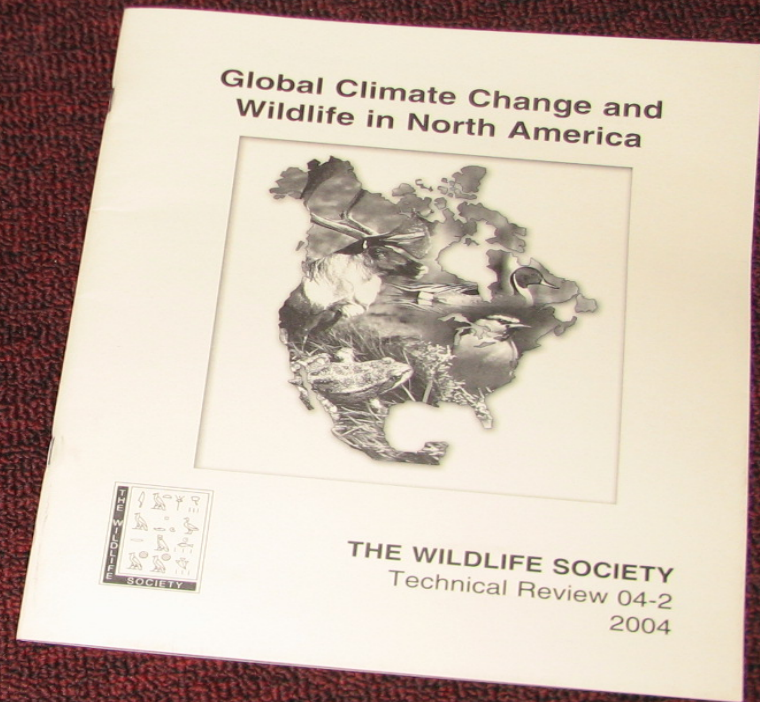
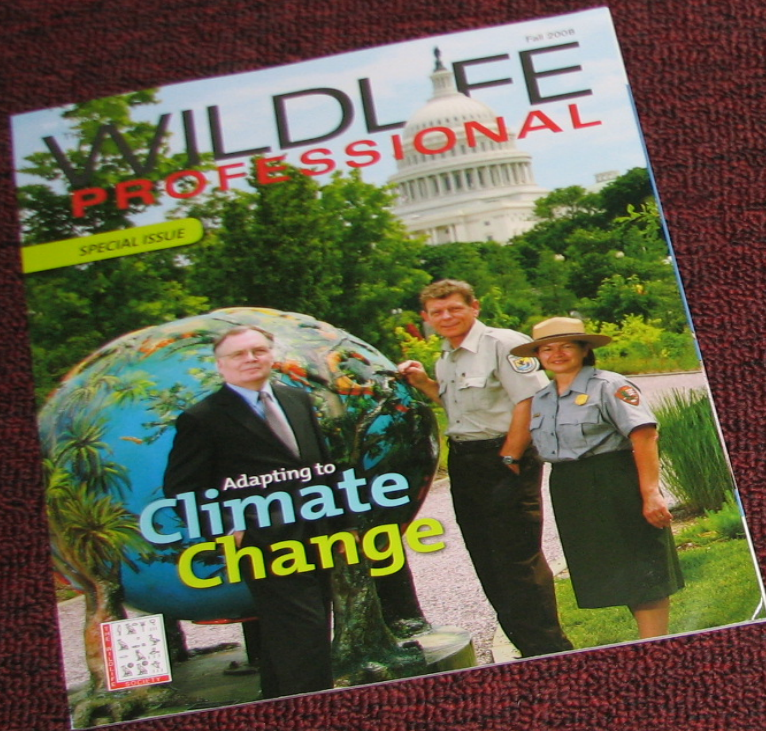


Global Climate Change



Publications from The Wildlife Society

www.wildlife.org PH: 301-897-9770



Summary

Policy Making / Leopold Shack

