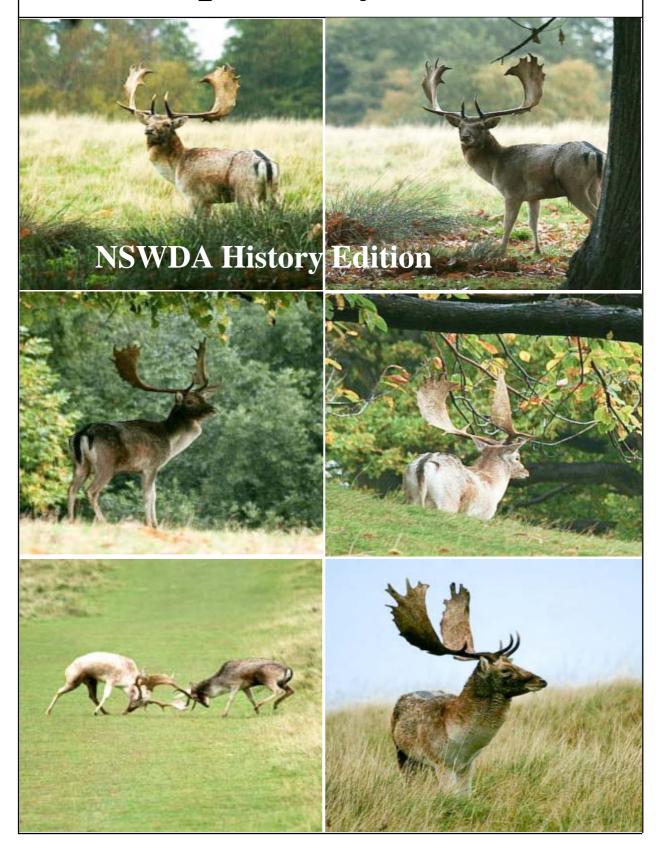
THE DEERSTALKER April-May 2010



THE DEERSTALKER

web address: www.newsouthdeerstalkers.org.au

NSW Deerstalkers Association

COMMITTEE FOR 2009-10

Formed: 7th June 1972

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Life Members: the late Gordon Alford

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Inc.

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The editor and editorial committee reserve the right to modify any contributions.

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All contributions are to be mailed or emailed to:

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Representatives: Greg Haywood, Steve Isaacs Mark Isaacs, Greg Lee, Peter clark, Les King,

Darren Plumb.

Advertisements:

Advertisements for products sold by NSWDA Members are accepted and printed free of charge provided a discount is given to club members.

Licence Testing

Co-ordinator: Greg Haywood

Video Library: Terry Burgess

Cover Photographs

Some of the magnificent Fallow bucks from Petworth Park in the UK. All from the camera of NSWDA member Stephen Hopkins, whose work has now graced several of our covers. Petworth Park is a National Trust property, open to the public & boasting a famous garden & house as well as the deer.

All Memberships & General Correspondence to be posted to: PO Box 519 PICTON NSW 2571

FROM THE EDITOR

This year we will publish four issues of this newsletter. We tried to publish five issues a year, but there is just not enough material submitted. To ensure that we get each issue out on time, there will be deadlines for submission of materials to be included. If material reaches me after a deadline, it will be included in the next issue, if appropriate.

Expect to recieve each issue about three weeks after its deadline.

Remaining 2010 deadlines are;

- * end of March
- * end of June
- * end of September

Guidelines for submissions.

Material which is emailed saves me a lot of work. **Prefered font is Times New Roman.**

Preferred font size is 12 point. Writing can be sent as a Word file, or a text file. For those without an expensive word processing program, you can use any writing program included with your operating system, or download "Open Office" free from the internet which is virtually identical to "Microsoft Office" can exchange files with that famous program.

Photographs should NOT be included in the article itself, but sent as separate files (attachments to the email). You can indicate where each photo might be placed by typing its file name in brackets in the text.

Photographs should be . jpeg files, saved at about 15 cm X 10 cm size at quality 8 / 80% (which gives the best quality for the smallest file size).

Photos can also be prints or negatives or slides. These can be returned to you if you include a stamped self addressed envelope. If these photos are valuable, send copies rather than originals.

Printed on paper submissions need to have



Meeting dates for 2010

20th May
22nd July (Also AGM)
14th October
Trophy Exhibition & Christmas
Party
Saturday 20th November

clear black typed text. Feintly printed text will not scan & cannot be included. **Very short pieces, such as personal adverts can be hand written.**

NSWDA Hunting Club AHO (for R licences), & the Agent No. is 7185 (both the same).

Please Note: The N.S.W.D.A. Inc. takes no responsibility for views expressed in "The Deerstalker". All articles submitted are signed by the relevant author. The Editor & Committee do however, take responsibility for views expressed in articles & reports submitted by them!



Our History

Two years ago while hunting with long time member Ron Thomas, the discussion turned to the importance of recording the histories of various hunting organisations to which we each belong.

Since each of us began hunting, not only have a lot of years passed, but also unfortunately some of the pioneers of deer stalking are no longer with us, and others although still active, are getting long in the tooth.

A few years ago I gave a pile of my early Deerstalkers & other material to another member who was going to use them to write our history. Good intentions.

Luckily, Bob Penfold, who started us off in the first place has written us a potted account of how we got started & our progress up until he headed off to persue a career as a professional guide.

There was a period after this when NSWDA looked like it would disappear, only to be reenergised & re-organised by a few current members, among them Steve Isaacs, who has written the second of our feature articles.

I'm positive there are other members out there who have significant pieces of our history which they could contribute. I'd like nothing better than to have more history to publish next issue.

A Challenge; these two accounts leave out some names which are important & whose considerable contributions should be recorded & acknowledged. Over to you.

Dal Birrell. Editor.

NSWDA HISTORY I

By Bob Penfold

Before the advent of Deer hunting clubs, most of the deer hunting was conducted as a clandestine activity. Poaching was a way of life and most deer trophies were poached (shot illegally) in either some national park or on private properties. There was little legal hunting available at that time. When I began hunting deer in 1968, I gathered as much information as I could from hunters whom I knew to be deer hunters. There was little information forthcoming as those few hunters in the know were regarded as a secret society as kept most of their knowledge to themselves. Col Allison and Ian Coombes broke the cycle with their book "Australian Hunter" which they co-authored in 1969. This book was the first "tell all" book about all of the game animals and deer of Australia, where they were to be found and how to hunt them. I had two trips hunting deer following Col's information, but hated the illegal poaching aspect of the hunt. After those first two hunts I swore to myself that I would never poach again and I never did. Around 1972 I gathered a few friends and like minded hunters together in my garage in Shortland, a Newcastle suburb. We started the New South Wales Deerstalkers Association. Col Allison had moved to Newcastle as a journalist and became an inaugural member. We decided that we were going to take the necessary steps to have deer recognised as game species worthy of management and attempt to introduce deer management into NSW deer herds. As I had hunted the Glen Innes fallow deer herd on several occasions, I knew approximately the area where the herd roamed. We thought of approaching the area landowners with a scheme whereby we would manage the deer herd cooperatively with the area landowners. At that time, poaching and it



in a paddock before it had an opportunity to breed. There was a huge fight between the new Australian Deer Association and NSWDA when they scored the deer for their record book with the ear tags still in place. They announced that it was a huge and perfect head and gave Craig a huge fanfare for shooting and producing the big stag for their record books. Despite this set back, the "Glen Innes Deer Management Scheme" began to slowly increase the numbers and quality of deer in the total area, then they exploded in numbers as the illegal hunting and poaching was almost completely stopped. BLACK FALLOW SCHEME

I had hunted Tasmania several times and knew the hunting areas well. I had hunted Beaufront station and knew the owner Ken VonBibra. He had built a high fenced deer park as a tourist attraction and had really great trophies in the park. The herd was of very high quality, (of higher quality than any mainland herd) but quickly became overcrowded. A really beautiful mountain grazing property in the Hunter Valley, had a desire to have deer on their property complex. We erected a high fenced pen and arranged to buy some of the excess fallow deer numbers from Ken Von Bibra's Beaufront deer park. I arranged legal permits to transport the deer from Tasmania, across Bass Straight by car ferry and to transport them across Victoria and NSW. To arrange the finance for this operation, we presold a number of breeding pairs of these superb quality Tasmanian fallow to deer breeders throughout Victoria and New South Wales at a high price. Kevin Gleeson, formerly from Port Macquarie, however now the owner of the Mary River Game Ranch in NT, supplied the truck which we drove to Melbourne, crossed to Tasmania and drove to Beaufront. We captured a truck load of fallow and returned to the dock in time to take the ferry back to Melbourne. We dropped the pre-sold deer off at their destination

properties as we drove north. We then dropped the remaining fallow into the pen at the Huner Valley property where they were fed and watered by the farm staff. In all, I carried 126 fallow from Tasmania without killing a single deer in two trips... All of the deer that were not sold to cover our costs (except for 10 spikies) were dropped into the property pen where they lived quite happily. We took the 10 spikies and dropped them out at Glen Innes to join the increasing numbers of deer. Around that time deer breeding was in its early stages, however 8 years after we started the Glen Innes Deer Management Scheme with the landowners, fallow deer females suddenly became worth \$1000 each and deer farmers approached the area landowners of the Glen Innes to catch stock. Almost overnight, we found that all of our efforts were for nothing. The Glen Innes area farmers closed us down and sold catching rights to numerous deer farmers who devastated the numbers within a year. Hundreds of fallow were taken off to supply deer farms with breeding stock. The deer were plentiful and the area farmers were getting no monetary rewards from the deerstalkers as we built the herd up at our cost and massive amounts of time. It was over, almost overnight. Unfortunately, around that time, the deer that we held in the Hunter knocked down their enclosure fencing and escaped. Fortunately for us, the property owners were honourable and invited us to set up a management program to manage the deer that we had put on the property and NSWDA have been managing the herd successfully in cooperation with the family ever since. Many young hunters are now deer hunters and trophy hunters due to our extensive time and efforts that we put in over 35 years ago. At that time we thought that deer farming was the worst thing that could happen to the deer of NSW, however, that period of deer breeding and farming has now turned in our favour. After some time

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Secretary's Report!

Shooters Party – from Roy Smith MLC and Robert Brown MLC Safe Shooting Grants

Safe Shooting Grants under the MACOSC program was established by John Tingle MLC some 11 years ago. Under the program for 2009-10, the Shooters Party was successful in negotiating a total of \$600,000 and more than 50 clubs received grants.

Game & Feral Animal Control Bill

Robert & Roy had a meeting with Premier Keneally regarding Government support for the Bill which would see licensed hunters cull feral animals from some of our National Parks. It seems we have a long way to go to convince the Government that the Bill is in the best interests of conservation.

Recreational Fishing Inquiry

There has been a good response for submissions to the Recreational Fishing Inquiry which has been set up by the Upper House. The first hearings were held in Sydney and Batemans Bay. Further hearings will be held in Port Stephens and Port Macquarie. Robert is the Chairman of the Committee and is interested in hearing any contributions.

Hilltop Regional Shooting Complex

The Minister for Sport and Recreation was asked to provide the latest update on Hilltop. He said that construction of the new ranges could not commence until an additional spring ecological survey is undertaken in September.

Shooters Party opposes the River Red Gum National Parks which will see 107,000 hectares of River Red Gum Forests be declared a National park which will see substantial loss of jobs within the region.

The Shooters Party is pushing for an increase in

compensation packages for the closure of industries and for families being devastated by the decision to end logging in the forests and declare much of the south west Riverina along the Murray River to be a National Park.

Shooters & Fishers Party

Have announced the launch of their website – www.shootersandfishers.org.au
The website will be a key communication vehicle leading up to the Federal Election later this year and the NSW State Election in March 2011.

Game Council

Illawarra Ecological Deer Management Project (EDM)

The Illawarra EDM project will seek to establish EDM Cooperatives along the Illawarra escarpment and adjoining areas. The project will also concentrate on establishing deer management plans on private and public land in the Illawarra Region which currently have rusa deer populations.

They will determine impacts like fencing damage and motor vehicle accidents and will be measured through landholder interviews and surveys. A deer harvest strategy based on deer numbers and impacts will be established.

A number of opportunities exist for individuals to get involved in the project as landholders, land managers and volunteers to assist with research. Expression of interest forms can be downloaded from the Game Council website at www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au or by calling Game Council Central Office on (02) 6360 5111 or Project Officer James laconese 0459 072 164. Hunt NSW – April 2010

The Game Council has just sent this most informative magazine out to licensed hunters and it takes the place of their previous newsletters: At a glance:

cont. page 21.





President's Report

Welcome members to the May edition of the Deerstalker. I would like to thank those contributors to the magazine & especially Dal for his commitment to putting the magazine together. And his insistence in chasing my reports I have heard of several members taking some exceptional trophies so far this season. I hope that they will be brought along to the next club function so that we can view your successes. Wayne has also been busy scoring some of the larger heads, even to the point of driving to my place & running the tape over a BIG red deer taken south of Queanbeyan.

There are a lot of conflicting reports amongst hunters at the moment in relation to the Game Council & its operations. Like em or loath em we as the hunting fraternity have to support them & act on a united front.

I have sent on behalf of the club an expression of interest to be included in the Illawarra Ecological Deer Management Program. If there are members that want to get involved with this research project please contact the Committee or download a copy of the EOI from the Game Council's website. With that, I am off to the land of the long white cloud & hope to see as many members as possible at the next club meeting.

Safe hunting Darren

List of Official NSWDA Scorers.

The following members of NSWDA qualified as NZDA scorers at the workshop held in Sydney last year.

Members should contact any of these official scorers to get a head scored officially for NSWDA records.

As I think this list is incomplete, would any scorers who need to be added to the list please contact me, preferably be email. My contact details are in the front of this Deerstalker. Editor.

Chris Graham (Liason Officer with NZDA)
John Desanti
Wayne McPhee
Steve Isaacs
Darren Plumb
Josh Raffin.

Website Notice.

Members, we want to update our top 20 trophy lists. If you have deer trophies which equal or better the Douglas scores of any of the deer in our top 20 lists on our website, please send a copy of your official NSWDA score sheet and a photo of the head to the Editor, will have qualifying trophies added to our lists.



Video Library

Free hunting videos for members to borrow for one month if picking up video's at a meeting. Members must pay postage by registered mail back to the club in carton supplied. You can phone or write for videos to be posted to you, however the member must pay postage both ways. When returning videos to the club within one-month members must include cost of postage to them in stamps inside the box.

If members are to lend these video's to fellow members, remember that the original person who borrowed them from the club will be held responsible if they are not returned within due time. As these videos are the property of the club, you are expected to look after them. If you loose or damage a video you will have to pay the replacement cost. If you don't return them after 4 weeks you won't get anymore.

To borrow a Video contact:

Terry Burgess P.O. Box 80

Cremorne Junction NSW 2090

Library List

- 1. Black Death, Cape Buffalo, Lion
- 2. Capstick, Botswana Safari Buffalo, Lion
- 3. In the Blood, Capstick, Rhino
- 4. Zambia Safaris
- 5. Whitetail, Mule Deer, Pronghorn, Late Season Elk
- 6. Monster Elk, Horns of Plenty, Hunt Exotics 1 & 2
- 7. Hunting Bugling Elk, Big Muleys, Caribou
- 8. North American Big Horn Rams, Greatest Whitetail, Wild Hogs of Texas
- 9. Col Allison Hunters Home Video, Big Bears, Russian Boar, Whitetail
- 10. North American Mixed Bag, Big Horn Rams, Whitetail

11. Great Trophy Bucks Mixed Bag, Big Horn Rams, Whitetail

Ph: (02) 9909 1267

- 12. Wild Boar Pig Hunting Down Under Part 1
- 13. Hunting Sheep, Goat & Moose in B.C.
- 14. Big Rams Brooks Range, Big Horn Rams, Mouflon
- 15. The Bow Hunter, Whitetail Deer
- Big Rams, North American Big Horn Sheep, Mouflon Sheep
- 17. North American Big Horn Sheep, Big Rams Mixed Bag
- 18. Mouflon, Bow Hunting Elk, Whitetail, Mule Deer etc.
- 19. Challenge of the Mountain Monarchs, Thars, Mouflon Sheep, Red Deer in Qld



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- 20. Pig Hunting in Qld, Wild Goat in Qld, Mouflon
- 21. Pig Hunting in Qld, Red Deer in Qld
- 22. Hunting in Spain, Pig Hunt in Tunisia, Red Deer in Scotland
- 23. Hunting Fallow in Scotland, Red in Scotland, Kiwi Hunts North West Territories
- 24. The Wildlife Bow Hunter, Deer, Pigs, Foxes, Mountain Hunting NZ, O'Rourkes Deer, Chamois, Thar
- 25. Mountain Hunting N.Z., Deer, Thar, Chamois, Red, Sika, Bow Hunter
- 26. N.Z. Hunting, Sambar in Victoria, Red Deer in France
- 27. Hunting N.Z. Red Deer, O'Rourke's N.Z., Chamois in Europe
- 28. Bowhunting Red Deer in N.Z., Bugling Red Deer Rifle
- 29. Fox Shooting at its best-Volume 3 & 4
- 30. The Ultimate Whitetail Hunt
- 31. Sambar Hunting, Mountain Hunt N.Z., Thar in N.Z.
- 32. Caping Demo by NSWDA
- 33. Roar Red Stags, Shadows in Scrub, Great Trophy Bucks
- 34. Hunting the Elusive Wild Dog, Hunt to outsmart Wild Dogs
- 35. Dark Continent
- 36. Red in Qld, Dingo, Fox, Fallow, Hog etc., Sika N.Z., Cape for Trophy Mount

- 37. How to cape for a Trophy Mount, Shoot the Bull, Hunting QLD Red Deer, Deer Attack
- 38. Hunting African Lion, Hunting Cape Buffalo
- 39 Big Horn Rams, Nth American Mixed Bag
- 40. Shadows in Scrub, Red Deer Clark McGhie
- 41. Sambar Stalking 1 & 2 Reg Gordon
- 42. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Sportsmans Paradise, Pigs, Barramundi, Tusk Versus Tooth, Pig Hunting with Dogs
- 43. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Hog Deer in Victoria
- 44. Bucks & Bulls, NZ Chamois, Thar, Whitetail, Sambar Stalking 1 & 2 - Reg Gordon
- 45. Dogs, Guns & Grunters, Tusk Versus Tooth, Lifes a Boar NZ
- 46. "How To Load From A Disk" Ballistic CD-Rom
- 47. Huge Hogs of Aust. North Part 1 & 2
- 48. Sambar Safari Vol 1, SHIKARI
- 49. Venison Hunters, Hunting Northern Cape, Hunting NZ Southern Alps.
- 50. Hunting the Zambeze Delta, Trophy Seekers, Trophy Seekers Shadows End
- 51. NZ Hunting, Hunting Safaris Vol 1 & 2, Rusa Hunting



most deer farmers realised that it was simply just another speculative con and that in fact the farmed deer had little to no commercial value. When the deer farmers encountered drought or cash shortage for feed and had no viable markets for their deer, they simply released their farmed deer into the bush surrounding their properties. The many herds of rusa, fallow, reds and axis deer that now roam almost every suitable habitat area of NSW are now available to deer hunters due to the releases of these deer. In some areas the deer have overpopulated their range and require extensive culling to control the numbers. Experienced deer hunters should become involved in these management projects and assist landowners with their herd management. The last thing that we hunters want to see is for the government agencies to get involved. We all know that just ends up with mass poisonings. Shortly after that time, I gave up my panel beating business and turned my hand to professional big game guiding from which I retired after a 27 years successful career. I was lucky to be able to hunt big deer all over the world and I was successful in taking close to 30 different species, so I had my share of deer hunting before I retired from business four years ago. I have never returned to the Hunter Valley property or hunted that herd of fallow since that time. I am personally thrilled that some keen hunters banded together to start the NSWDA and that we provided so much hunting opportunity for this new generation of deer hunters that is ongoing and expanding every year. I hope that your next deer hunt will be memorable and successful. I hope that from time to time you consider what a few keen hunters effort provide for you in the way of great outdoor adventure and deer hunting so many years ago.

Poaching has to stop.

There is simply no excuse for poaching, especially now that there are vast areas of public hunting land available through the NSW Game Council.

Many land holders and game management groups are putting a lot of time & effort into managing & improving their herds. Poachers are thieves. They are no different to any other thieves. By sneaking onto the place where you are legitimately hunting they place you & themselves in danger of being shot. You are blamed for the damage they do, the stock they shoot, the gates they leave open. They give all legitimate hunters a bad name and make it difficult for us to gain access to private hunting land or to shake off the bad press we

Make poaching your concern; carry a pocket camera & a mobile phone with you while hunting. It's probably unwise to approach them and you should not try to apprehend them.

Call "Bush Alert" (crime stoppers) as soon as you can. A call to the Game Council with the same information can identify those hunting without a permit or a game licence, or if a licenced hunter or guide can result in the loss of that licence.

Put these phone numbers into your mobile; Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000 Game Council 02 6360 5111

Bush Alert - help put an end to illegal hunting in NSW

Record

:#Time and date of incident

hunters too often get.

- # Place
- # Number of people involved (and a description of what they were wearing)
- #Their names (if known)
- # Number of vehicles involved
- # Vehicle registration(s)

cont. next page.



NSWDA HISTORY II

Steve Isaacs.

From my poor memory I have jotted down the information that is clear to me but unfortunately my memory for dates is gone.

I was first approached by Gordon Alford at a dinner at his home about joining the Liverpool Scheme later named the Black Fallow Scheme { for the obvious reasons of keeping the whereabouts safe}. The scheme was run by the New South Wales Deerstalkers Association. Bob Penfold was involved with the scheme and had with the help of others purchased 15 deer that were transported from Tasmania, all black, about was 3 years prior to me joining the scheme (see Bob's article).

The NSWDA was also involved with various other schemes in NSW including the Glenn Innes scheme which was struggling.

Bob was heavily into organising his guiding business at the time and had lost some interest in the club leaving others to pick up the pieces and keep poking along.

I travelled with Gordon, Wayne Mcphee and I think Paul Wilkes to Newcastle to attend a meeting of the NSWDA which for all intents and purposes was on the rack and accept for the Scheme had very few members.

On the way to this meeting Gordon persuaded me to take on the job of NSWDA President and Wayne as Secretary. I think Paul agreed to be Treasurer. This would have been 1980ish.

Wayne and I had met through owning Show Dog Bull Terriers and had become hunting mates, but I had also become very interested in Management and Wayne had a small herd of Deer in a pen in his back yard.

Anyway we took on the Club and for the first 5 years we pushed the name and the reputation of the club as a Deer Hunting club only, and I guess

to be honest that is what it is.

Our primary objective in the early days was to enhance the Liverpool Scheme and work at establishing a huntable herd as quickly as possible. From those early years on the scheme was the NSWDA.

I spent 7 years as President until my career took over and work commitments changed my priorities. Wayne took over as President but not before the committee had achieved the following major objectives.

Incorporation as an association and establishment of a constitution, Regulation of the Black fallow Scheme with hard and fast rules that have led to this scheme being the number one Fallow herd in NSW and possibly Australia; Development of the Chital Scheme and access for 60 hunters to hunt Chital in NSW, the only other herd outside of Qld at the time. Inaugural club to establish the Joint Committee of Recreational Hunting Clubs later to be called Game Con.

During my first term as President the meetings would often draw 50 to 60 members And the meetings were held at alternate sites between Sydney and Newcastle.

My second term as President was only recent, 2005-2008 and attendances are not as strong. There are many many stories to be told along the way, but I guess 30 years has clouded my memory.

Stop Poaching cont.

#Type & colour(s) of vehicles

#Activity (for example, "spotlighting").

If you can photograph the poachers or their vehicle without too much risk, you should include that information in your report.



US Bighorn Sheep in Trouble.

Washington State Wildlife officials were forced to cull bighorn sheep herd for disease before the 2010 lambing season started.

Pneumonia in bighorn sheep is nearly always fatal. Those that survive often pass the disease on to their vulnerable lambs. Sometimes sick herds can go more than a decade without having any surviving offspring. Wildlife officials planned to shoot pneumonia-sickened bighorns before lambing season started in late March. Washington State Fish and Wildlife has been working to bring the species back from extinction in that state.



Deadly pneumonia infections have appeared in a 4th herd of bighorn sheep this winter in Montana The goal was to kill infected sheep before they could pass the disease to healthy bands. Bighorn pneumonia kills 70 percent to 90 percent of its victims within a few weeks, and there is no effective vaccine or treatment for it in the wild. Preliminary surveys of the East Fork herd found 71 healthy sheep in the area after the cull there. Vinkey said a similar cull may take place in the Upper Rock Creek herd. Those sheep live in relatively accessible terrain. He planned to make an aerial survey of the area later this week to

determine how widespread the outbreak is within the roughly 360-animal herd.

FWP will kill at least 10 to 20 diseased sheep in Upper Rock Creek for analysis to identify the disease organism, and investigate whether the 4 pneumonia outbreaks might be related, he said. A report from an interested citizen who volunteered to watch the sheep for FWP last week, resulted in the 1st detection. A local rancher helped Vinkey kill 2 ewes and a young ram on Saturday [30 Jan 2010], and perform the necropsies that confirmed pneumonia is present. Reports from the public were responsible for the 1st detections of pneumonia in all 4 recent outbreaks.

The Upper Rock Creek bighorn herd is a native population that was supplemented by the addition of 31 sheep (21 ewes, 10 rams) from Sun River in 1975. That herd was over its population objective and plans were under way to capture up to 40 of its members for transplanting to Utah in the next 2 months. The disease outbreak scrapped those plans.

[Byline: Rob Chaney]



Game Council Announcement.

2 New forests opened recently. Blenheim Lowes Mount (weekdays only) Also the Abbotsbury Section of Sunny Corner has been opened. These are all located in the Central West.



Fox hunting 2010.

FW: Savage Model 10MLSS .50 caliber Muzzleloader Rifle...

Never ever, EVER use black powder measures when using smokeless powder in a Rifle!!! Use a powder scale & weigh your charges! Selling Cheap: Only Fired Once.









NZ, Always to Return.

By Josh Rafin.

New Zealand is just one of those places. If you have never been I highly recommend it! Big trophies, free hunting access and a welcoming general public view of hunting, what else could you ask for? My trip started with just a general interest in hunting the land of the long white cloud. It wasn't long at all and I had selected my Species. The Himalayan Tahr. On very good report's I contacted Peter Chamberlain of Kiwi Wilderness. Prompt replies via email had Pete calling me at home within the week. We chatted



and I booked in a Offpeak wilderness hunt in the first week of November. Talking to Peter I decided to borrow one of his many rifle's. It's just easier! Two weeks out from me leaving and close to the peak of my fitness I managed to injure my Archeries tendon on a hunt with mentor, Paul Wilkes. His medical advice was second to none! A email to Peter and he assured me all would be fine so long as I could walk, I could. Closer to the date my leg was somewhat better and my hopes were high. I boarded without a hitch and flew into Christchurch. Jumping off the plane I was collected by Peter at the gate and we were on our way, Straight from the Airport to the bush. As many people know,



Peter is a nice guy and it wasn't hard burning a couple of hours in the car talking. A quick stop on the way I tried out a few rifle's and fell in love with a little Model 7 Remington in .260rem shooting the 120grn Gameking. It was a pleasure to carry. The first afternoon out the use of good optics in this type of hunting was immediately obvious. While I did use my binoculars Peter had a very nice set of Swarovski's sitting in the truck should I change my mind. Eagle eye Chamberlain spotted Tahr with ease and early in my hunt two bulls were spotted bedded up high so we waited them out. Plenty of other animals were within view so we kept a close eye on them all. As the day wore on eventually the two lone bulls that were bedded high had made their way right across the mountain with ease and fed into a deep gutter where we had seen several young bulls enter earlier in the day. Deciding one might be worth a closer look we devised a stalk. Passing under a young bull perched on a bluff we had luckily seen while moving in we eventually rounded the mouth of the gutter turn slip and there right up in the belly of it were 3 Bulls feeding, Peter assessed while I set up for the awkward angle shot. As a greenhorn to Tahr they all looked





good to me but Peter assured me that none of them were the original bull we were after. We moved position and a fluffy maine was visible through some scrub, Ranged at just over 320 metres all eyes were on the spot, we waited. As anyone waiting for a shot knows, it takes an eternity but eventually he carelessly wandered down and trotted a few steps up a rocky outcrop. A quick discussion with Peter and I decided to take him. While he was still facing away I had the opportunity to watch him go about his business through the scope. Its moments like these that really drive home my love of trophy hunting. He glided his large body around as he fed on that rocky ledge eventually offering a shot. At the shot I lost where he went but there were 3 other bulls visible and I wasn't sure what was going on with my bull for a second. Peters smile said it all and my bull apparently had taken a step then plunged down the gutter. Climbing up the side of the Shute going was tough in spots, pushing through the thick scrub this is where the short handiness of the Model 7 was truly appreciated. Stumbling out into the rocky gutter the truly magnificent animal lay there and rolling him over I was indeed very happy with him. Falling some distance he did

break a horn but nothing that can't be fixed. I was just happy to be able to get to him! I did my best to position him in the fading light all the while trying not to slip down the cliff we were right on the edge of. Photo's out of the way I caped him and enjoyed the slip, slide and push down to the river for the walk out. My week long hunt was soon over and I found myself making plans for my next trip before even leaving from my first! It was just that good. Packing up and heading out I left NZ without a fuss. Even having a lengthy chat to the guy who was doing a random drug swab on me about my recent Adventure. Coming back into Sydney Airport in peak hour was fun but the crowd was the least of my worries. Of course I declared my cape and with all permits in hand I was rather confident. As I unfolded the cardboard dry cape immediately it was obvious I was about to have problems. Showing my paperwork I was asked why my Aquis permit did not have my name on it and had "NSW Deerstalkers" on it. Explaining was useless and I wasted an hour or so arguing the point. The cape AND HORNS was going to be taken. Have Radiation treatment and I was to pick them up from Sydney Airport in 4-6weeks with a letter of Authority from the NSWDA and a \$60 Fee. Not likely! A quick phone call to Greg Haywood then to Darren Plumb (who was extremely helpful- Thanks Guys!) And I had my very own Team of Customs officers attending to me, Including the Duty supervisor. All was cleared up and offcourse I was ok to go through, the original ill informed Customs Officer was wrong. I walked a short distance away and spoke to Darren again relaying the good news and when I returned a vial was presented with a speck of what appeared to be dirt- a bug infestation in my cape apparently! There was little I could do at this point about it and after another lengthy process I managed to get away with the scull and horns.

cont. page 17

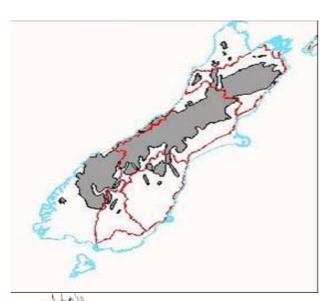


Chamois – An Introduction to the Animal and a few hints on hunting them in New Zealand

Brian Boyle.



Prized as a sporting animal in their native Europe, chamois (Rupicapra rupicapra) were introduced to New Zealand in 1907 in order to provide good



hunting, especially for tourists. Chamois increased rapidly in numbers and distribution and at present occupy most of the alpine country in the South Island. At first they were protected, but their rapid build-up in numbers and effect on their habitat caused concern resulting in the removal of protection in 1930. Chamois have not been successfully introduced anywhere other than to New Zealand. Description Chamois are similar in appearance to goats, but have longer legs, a more erect neck, pointed ears, and differ in shape and curvature of the horns. Adult males (Bucks) have a shoulder height of up to 36 inches. Adult males do not often weigh over 100lbs, while adult females (nannies) seldom exceed 801bs.



Chamois in summer coat

The overall colour of the coat varies seasonally, and while there is considerable variation between individuals, tends to be brown to almost black in adult males in winter to a brownish fawn in summer. Chamois in winter coat A dark strip extends along the mid-line of the back from the neck to the base of the tail. On the ventral surface and hindquarters the brown colour is

cont. page 18.

NSWDA Merchandise

I have organized some new club shirts, polar fleece & caps.

The colours are at this time;

Polo shirtswhite/navy trim......\$ 25.00

Micro fleece top......\$ 35.00

Caps......\$ 15.00

Caps......\$ 15.00

All garments have the club emblem embroidered on the item

We will have the items at the next meeting for sale & also at Coffs Harbour.

For further information members could contact me on 48 210 774 / 041 202 1741 or at 20 John street. Goulburn, 2580

Postage will be at \$5.00 for members.

Also, other colours are available but will need to be a special order.

Thanks Darren

The Cape was to be fumigated and posted to my door (which I received 2 weeks latter) for a \$20 fee. Not too bad considering what was going to happen from the start. The more I reminisce the more I need to go back, I certainly hope my good fortune minus Border Security carries on to my next hunt. Josh.



lighter in summer, becoming almost white.



Chamois in dark winter coat.

The head is pale fawn in colour with a dark band beginning near the nose, surrounding the eyes and ending at the base of the horns and ears. The colour pattern of the young is generally lighter than that of the adult. The hooves, which reach a length of three inches in adult males, are similar to those of tahr. There is a soft central pad surrounded by a hard rim. The horns, carried by both sexes, are the most characteristic feature of the chamois. Growing upwards from the head they are almost vertical, curving near the end to form sharp posterior hooks. The horns diverge at the point where they curve, often considerably in the female chamois. The male chamois have heavier horns than the female. As with tahr the horns are measured from the base to the tip along the outside of the curve, and the circumference of the horn at the base is also usually measured (Douglas, 1959). A good pair of trophy horns are those over ten inches in length; an exceptional pair may exceed fourteen inches. Chamois have a well developed sense of smell and very good eyesight. As discussed in a previous article on tahr (Christie and Andrews. 1964), chamois appear to rely on their eyesight for warning of any disturbance. The

alarm call is a sharp whistle, often accompanied by the stamping of the forefeet; normally chamois are silent. Young chamois may bleat occasionally. Chamois are particularly agile in rough, broken country and are seldom defeated by the steep bluffs which they climb, often at remarkable speeds (Christie, 1964).

Social Characteristics As with tahr, the chamois bucks usually separate from the nanny (adult female) and juvenile herds when they become fully mature adults at two to three years old. The rutting period appears to be later than for red deer, taking place during May and June. During the winter chamois are confined to steep bluffs where snow does not accumulate or to the scrub belt which may be extensive on the western slopes of the Southern Alps. Chamois prefer swards of shorter grasses, preferably with rocky outcrops nearby where they shelter during periods of bad weather.



Chamois resting in typical habitat – steep guts with scrub

Young are born in December and January. Asdell (1946) gives the gestation period from 153-210 days. Usually one kid (young chamois) is born although there are reports that in Austria twins are not uncommon. Even shortly after birth the kids



have great agility, and in most cases show no difficulty in keeping up with the parent. Although there are a number of predators of chamois in their native habitat, there is no predation of chamois in New Zealand, other than by man. The precipitous nature of their habitat does, however, lead to a number of accidents, and avalanches probably claim a number of victims.



Typical habitat in Southern Alps

Hunting them Gear: You need a flat shooting rifle - .243 and up is OK. Chamois are relatively small soft skinned animals - so a rapidly expanding bullet is required. Good binos and you need to be prepared to possibly climb high early in the day and glass for them. Being in the Alps you need to be prepared for any kind of weather at all times of the year, so a good day pack with all your gear – including a rain coat and apart from gear you need to be reasonably fit if hunting on the higher areas and especially on the West Coast.

When? May is a good time as the Bucks are active in the rut. I love hunting them in summer in North Canterbury – nice weather and plenty of time to cover the country and get onto them and you don't have to put up with camping in brass monkey conditions

Where? Most of the high country in the Southern Alps is potential chamois habitat. – One point to note chamois will move out of areas where there

are high populations of tahr.

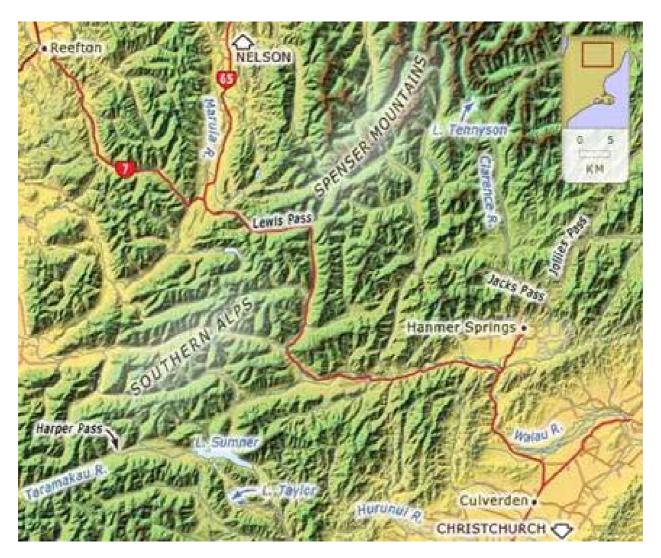
Chamois can be found in open tussock country if they haven't been chased by the choppers for a while – but steep gutty country with alpine scrub is a good place to look. On the West Coast you will find them on the slips and in the creeks down to low levels – even on the river flats of the Taramakau River and other big rivers. A GOOD HINT IS TO CHECK THAT THE AREA HAS NOT HAD A RECENT 1080 DROP FOR POSSUMS. The 1080 carrots for possums cleans up the chamois as well. Check the DOC website - they list the planned ops for each year – call the local DOC office to confirm. Weekend hunts. If you are in Kiwi and want to try a couple of easy hunts for chamois – possibly try these-

East Coast. Hanmer Springs area – try Jacks or Jollies pass for a couple of quick day hunts – check with DoC for the exclusion areas in the Hanmer Forest – But you can hunt off the roads in the area and you can get in there by 2wd. The St James Station has recently been acquired by DoC as well and there are some nice streams over in the Molesworth River area.



The Lewis Pass can also be good day hunts –





Waterfall Stream is worth a look – bit of grunt getting up to it.

If you want to go in for a few days think of the Hope River – you can get a chopper in from Hanmer to drop you off in the Hope / 3-Mile area – heaps of country to cover.

West Coast Wanganui River; going up the Wanganui River to the Twister which comes in on the True left. You can hunt the slips in the creek – chamois can be quite low down.

Victoria Ranges (near Reefton); You can do a day trip up on to Mt Haast via the Mt Haast track—or you can get dropped off by Alan Rosonowski to the Vic biv – good hunting from there – very short chopper flight and you get in high into the

area. Good luck BB



2010 Deer Hunting Workshop – Lake Keepit Sport & Recreation Centre, Gunnedah 11-14 June 2010

2010 Game Management Workshop – Lake Keepit (as above) 13-14 November 2010 2010 Bow-Hunting Workshop – Orange Bowhunting Club 10-12 September 2010 (camping, BBQ's and campfires on-site).

Recently we sent out a letter to those members who became unfinancial and most have responded paying their membership fees. If you are one of those members who have not paid, please pay immediately.

On another note, those members who have not been to two meetings in a calendar year or carried out another club approved activity to comply with the mandatory attendances and have complied by attending other hunting club meetings, could you please advise me of those attendances so that I can record them as part of our membership database.

Don't forget to get those stories on recent hunts to our Editor as we are always wanting good stories. Good hunting!

Greg Haywood





2010 Deer Hunting Workshop Information

Location

The 2010 Deer Hunting Workshop will be held at the Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre (SRC). Lake Keepit SRC is approximately halfway between Tamworth and Gunnedah in north-western NSW. Travelling distance from Sydney is about 467km; from Brisbane 622km; and from Tamworth 71km. (See attached map for directions.)

Times

The course starts with dinner at 7pm on Friday 11 June and concludes after lunch at approximately 2:30pm on Monday 14 June. A course itinerary is attached.

Accommodation

Dormitories with power, wood heaters, bathroom facilities, and bunk-style accommodation is supplied. For more information, go to the Lake Keepit SRC website at: http://www.dsr.nsw.gov.au/lakekeepit.

Equipment Session

On Sunday afternoon, a deer hunting equipment session will be run For this, course participants will be split into five groups. Each group will spend 45 minutes at a station. There will be five stations:

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Station 1 — Optics (bino's, scopes and range finders) — Reg Gordon
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Station 2 — Trail cameras — Mike Welch

Station 3 — GPS and mapping — Bob Gough

Station 4 — Tree stands and bow hunting — John Dunn/Daryl Venables

Station 5 — Photographing deer — Brian Boyle

Workshop Costs

The course costs \$325. Payment and registration is through the Game Council NSW Orange Office on (02) 6360 5111.

What will be supplied

Course fees will include accommodation and all meals. A course booklet will also be supplied at the course.

What you need to bring

The following is a suggested inventory of gear you will need:

- Warm clothes and bedding (including pillow)
- Wet weather gear
- Sunscreen and hat
- Writing materials for notes
- Material to sign by authors

Course Timetable

		FRIDAY 11 June 2010		
FROM	то	PRESENTER		TOPIC
7pm	7:30pm	Dinner		
7:30pm	7.45pm	Brian Boyle	1	Introduction and welcome
7.45 pm	8.30pm	Andrew Moriarty	2	An introduction to the deer of Australia
8.30pm	9.15pm	Brian Boyle	3	Hunting Law in NSW
		SATURDAY 12 June 20:	10	
8am	8.45am	Mike Welch	4	Forests management and hunting and booking an R license hunt.
8.45am	9.30am	John Dunn	5	Hunting with firearms
9:30am	10:15am	Daryl Venables	6	Bow hunting deer
10:15am	10:45am	MORNING TEA		
10:45am	11:30am	John Dunn	7	Hunting with Black Powder
11:30am	12:30pm	Reg Gordon	8	Hunting sambar deer
12.30pm	1:15pm	Clarke McGhie	9	Hunting chital deer
1.15pm	2pm	LUNCH		
2pm	3:30pm	Brian Boyle/Clarke McGhie	10	Cape and butcher demo
3:30pm	4:00pm	Afternoon Tea		
4:00pm	5:30pm	Brian Boyle/Clarke McGhie	11	Cape and Butcher demo cont'd
5.30pm	7pm	EVENING MEAL		
7pm	9:30pm	Bob Gough	12	Navigation, bushcraft and survival
9.30pm	Late		13	Camp fire, book signing, merchandise, R-Licence testing.
		SUNDAY 13 June 2010	0	
8:00pm	8:45pm	Brian Boyle	14	Hunting hog deer
8:45pm	9:30pm	Rob Mulley	15	Hunting fallow deer
9:30pm	10:15pm	Brian Boyle	16	Hunting with dogs

10:15am	10:45	MORNING TEA		
10:45am	11:30am	John Dunn	17	Hunting rusa deer
11:30am	12:15pm	Clarke McGhie	18	Hunting red deer and RIDGE
12:15pm	1:00pm	LUNCH		
1:00pm	1:45pm	Andrew Moriarty	19	Equipment session — round 1
1:45pm	2:30pm	Andrew Moriarty	20	Equipment session — round 2
2:30pm	3:15pm	Andrew Moriarty	21	Equipment session — round 3
3:15am	3:30am	AFTERNOON TEA		
3:30pm	4:15pm	Andrew Moriarty	22	Equipment session — round 4
4:15pm	5:00pm	Andrew Moriarty	23	Equipment session — round 5
5pm	7pm	EVENING MEAL		
7pm	9pm	Tony English	24	Open Forum and conclusion
		MONDAY 14 June	2009	
8am	10am	Andrew Moriarty	25	Travel to Dongadale Deer Park —
				Coolah (two hours drive south)
10am	1pm	Andrew Moriarty		Tour of Dongadale Deer Park
1pm				Depart from Dongadale Deer Park

Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre

Location Maps

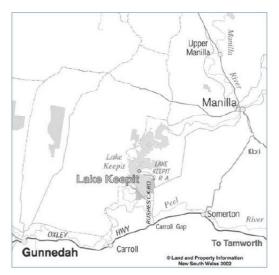
From Tamworth

- Follow the Oxley Highway out of Tamworth heading for Gunnedah and stay on this road for 50km.
- Turn right into Rushes Creek Road, signposted with "Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation, Lake Keepit State Park and Manilla". Follow this road for 10km (do not take the State Park turnoff at 7km).
- Turn left in to Fitness Camp Road, follow this road for 6km to the Centre.

From Gunnedah

- Follow the Oxley Highway out of Gunnedah heading for Tamworth and stay on this road for 30km.
- Turn left into Rushes Creek Road signposted with Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation, Lake Keepit State Park and Manilla. Follow this road for 10km (do not take the State Park turnoff at 7km).
- Turn left into Fitness Camp Road, follow this road for 6km to the Centre.









Hunting in Ecological Deer Management Forests in NSW

Background

Ecological Deer Management (EDM) is a new management system for wild deer species in NSW. It allows land holders and land managers to set deer harvest levels according to both population numbers and impacts on environmental, agricultural or community values. Where deer impacts are minimal it also allows land holders to manage deer as a game animal and maintain both a healthy landscape and a healthy deer herd.

The primary tool for effecting deer population management is the use of trained and accredited Volunteer Conservation Hunters. An integral part of EDM will be the formation of local EDM

cooperatives which will involve landholders and hunters working together to achieve strategic and realistic property based deer management objectives.

EDM will be initiated on both private and public land in NSW. A research project currently being conducted in Southern NSW will set both population and impact monitoring standards for use in future EDM projects. This research project will particularly affect deer management in State forests in NSW declared for hunting. However in the interim some important changes will be implemented in several State forests which contain important deer populations.

An interim EDM forests strategy will be instigated at Maragle South, Maragle North and Mannus State forests for the 2010 fallow deer hunting season, commencing on 1 March 2010. This pilot strategy has been initiated to help better manage the fallow deer population in these forests and to provide for a more equitable access system for all R-Licensed hunters.



What changes will affect hunting in EDM Forests?

In the absence of ecological data, which will be provided by the EDM research project, the following harvest restrictions will be in force for the 2010 follow deer hunting season in the three EDM forests:

- The normal R-licence online booking system will be in force.
- Hunters will only be allowed to hunt for a maximum of four days in every 60 days of the deer season (only one booking per EDM forest permitted during this time). If a booking is cancelled during the 60 day period a second booking is not allowed.
- A condition of a written permission for an EDM forest will be that all Hunters must have read and understood the information contained in this brochure.
- Each hunter will be allowed to harvest one buck in each of the three EDM forests per deer hunting season.
- Only fork antlered bucks (i.e. no bump or spike antlered bucks) will be able to be harvested (see attached buck identification guide).
- If a bump or spike antlered buck is harvested and that hunter has not taken a buck in the current season, that hunter will not be allowed to harvest another buck in that forest in that season.
- There will be no harvest restriction on female deer.
- Hunters harvesting deer on EDM forests will be required to complete an EDM

Forest hunter return. This form will be available on the Game Council EDM website. It will also be included as an attachment to written permissions generated when an EDM forest is booked.

- Hunters are also required to remove the lower jaw from all harvested deer and either drop the jaws into marked boxes placed at the entrance to each EDM forest, at the Game Council Tumut Office or post jaws to the Game Council Central Office in Orange.
- Hunters are also encouraged to supply a good quality digital photograph of each deer harvested. Digital photographs can be emailed to Game Council NSW through the information account with the subject line of "EDM Forest Harvest return photo" to info@gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au.
- Hunters who submit a jaw, EDM Forest hunter return form and digital photo for the first time will be sent a free Game Council blaze orange cap.
- Only dogs on a leash and used for pointing and tracking animals will be allowed to accompany hunters during the deer season in EDM Forests.



What Penalties will apply to breaches of EDM conditions?

The following table lists offences and penalties for breaches of EDM Forest hunting conditions:

Offence	Penalty
Harvesting more than one buck per EDM forest in a calendar year	Condition applied to licence that suspends access to public land hunting for period decided by the Game Council Committee of Management and a Penalty Infringement Notice (PIN) will be issued
Hunting outside of an allocated time period	Suspension or cancellation of R-licence and PIN or court action
Fail to supply a jaw and or hunter return after hunting in an EDM Forest	Suspension or cancellation of R-licence

Game Council Game Managers will be making regular visits to EDM Forests (Maragle South, Maragle North and Mannus State forests) to ensure that the above EDM conditions are met.

Questions and Answers

Q: Will I be able to hunt other listed animals in EDM forests?

A: Yes however during the fallow deer hunting season (1 March 2010 to 31 October 2010) deer hunters only are encouraged to hunt in EDM Forests. The hunting of other listed animals will be encouraged outside of the deer season (1 November to 28 February).

Q: Am I able to scout EDM forests prior to the deer hunting season or my hunting trip?

A: Yes, hunters are encouraged to scout EDM forests prior to hunting, however hunters should take care not to disturb other hunters and should always wear blaze orange when scouting.

Further Information and Contacts

For further information go to: www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au/EDM

Game Council NSW Tumut Office (lower jaw box) Shop 2, 'Wynyard Centre' 123-129 Wynyard Street Tumut NSW.

Game Council NSW Central Office (postage of lower jaws and return forms) PO Box 2506 Orange NSW 2800.



Game Management Workshop 2010

The Game Management Workshop fee is \$250 (inclusive of GST)



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ENROLMENTS and ENQUIRIES TO:

Phone: 02 6360 5111

Fax:: 02 6361 2093

Email: info@gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

Postal Address:

PO BOX 2506, ORANGE NSW 2800 **Website:** www.gamecouncil.nsw.gov.au

NEW SOUTH WALES DEERSTALKERS ASSOCIATION INC Dedicated to the Sound Management and Conservation of Deer in NSW. MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

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