

Fish and Game club Network meeting  
August 17, 2012  
9am-1pm

Club's in attendance:

PCCA  
Norway/Paris  
Skowhegan  
Durham  
Royal River  
North Berwick  
Pleasant River  
Wilton

Opening remarks by David

Dept. introduction by Doug Rafferty, Director of public information – Dept. would like to come up with a list of shooting ranges in the state - Jeff Dugreau (sp) is working with clubs to get their information. Going to Mass. on Monday to drop off the grant proposal for \$750,000. Need to determine and prioritize which clubs need the money first.

Footnote: there are 191,000 hunting license holders in the state of Maine.

Next speaker: Mike Sawyer – safety instructor and supervisor of Recreational safety

The Department wants to find the voids in the state of where there is no clubs/shooting ranges and create them. They are also looking to do range improvements and rebuild new areas entirely,

There would have to be a 25% match, minimum, which can include: in-kind, donated time, materials and a little bit of cash match for administrative duties.

The Department will have to follow federal guidelines along with worry about public access, historical issues, tribal issues and burial grounds.

Discussion by Fish and Game Clubs:

Dean Smith – PCCA – This Network will bring groups together and will be extremely valuable – it makes us more efficient. We can make this a very successful program

Tony – PCCA – suggests having the state involved as coordinator. The other clubs needs to band together, the information will filter to other club members and to the general public.

Dean – food plotter – one of the components of deer recovery – need to continue along with that.

David – suggests that the Network needs a board of directors with a steering committee –

The following groups would be interested in being on the steering committee:

Butch Moore – Pleasant River Fish and Game Club

Woody – PCCA –

Wilton fish and game

North Berwick -

Norway/Paris fish and game

Durham Rod and Gun Club

**Suggested Next meeting date: September 27<sup>th</sup>.**

Suggestions:

- List out best practices on our website – start to begin to work on the fish and game tab on the website
- Can we put a link in the SAM news and the Northwoods sporting journal??
- Annie Oakley shoot – shooting adventures between boy scouts and girl
- Outdoor survival day – joint scouting day.

Clubs discuss their mission:

- Skowhegan – main purpose – education
- Steve Rand – North Berwick – shooting club – pistol, trap, instructions, hunter safety, trapping classes, ladies only (very successful), 480 members, very active, indoor range, they use new ammo (cci short range-green) (most semi-auto won't use it). Works great in revolvers and it has no lead to clean up.
- Ken Scribner, the maintenance technician for Durham Rod and Gun Club. Ranges: 25, 50, 200, 250, trap, skeet, 3-d range, trout pond, LL Bean has fishing derby with 87 kids this year. 117 people attended archeries on the Saturday after July 4<sup>th</sup>. The club has been around for 30 years.
- Butch Moore – Pleasant River – lots of hunter safety and trapping safety classes; ranges: 50, 100, 200, trap and skeet, hooked on fishing. National hunting and fishing day – do shooting contests. They do have a website – happy to help wherever they can.
- Phil of Wilton Fish and Game Club, which has 100 members with a club house on less than 2 acres. Ranges: 25, 50, 100 yard range, trap and skeet as well as a downstairs range. They host annual events, blueberry festival with competitions of shoot and archery, fall field day on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. They host an annual fishing derby and youth 22 shoots.
- Russell Voss – Royal River Fish and Game – very successful fly fishing, 20 and 30 kids learned how to fly fish ; great partnerships with other clubs in the area – they have a strong membership of 100. Ranges: 50 foot rifle range, 20 kids in junior rifle club. Windham uses the clubhouse for 4-h, shoulder to shoulder matches. They are working to keep the lead down and reduce the backstop.
- Fern Bosse- Norway Paris Fish and Game– they hold many raffles to raise funds. They are a 50 years old club with 270 members, community oriented with local businesses. They host an annual fishing derby; have a voice activated trap and archery range. The club is looking to upgrade their pistol range. They give out a High school scholarship , work with the local boy scouts and 4H groups as well as send 6 to 8 kids to Bryant pond – they ask for \$25 from the parents to make sure they attend. They also host fall shoots in September.
- Tony – PCCA –The Club is 84 years old with 300 members; (30 – 50) of those members do all the work; bingo was the primary fundraiser, but that dried up. Youth related, community related. Fundraisers consist of: sportsman's show, gun show and family fun day in Brewer. They host several hunter safety classes. They own 16 acres of land in Brewer and 1400 in Stetson. They are developing food plots on the Stetson property. The club helps the boy scout gain their shooting badges. The club suggests using your resources in your club with your members and to use the NRS club grants.
- Steve Rand make note that every range should work with the Friends of the NRA – Also, the North Berwick club hosts a very successful Appleseed shoot on September 8 & 9, which is a marksmen ship program 30 meters with 22
- PCCA would be willing to host a Network meeting in the future.

Questions:

Fern – how can we (with IFW and SAM) educate folks and get a different image to the general public?

Adjourned around 12:30pm.