



Federation of Dutchess County Fish & Game
Clubs, Inc.
Post Office Box 3201
Poughkeepsie, New York 12603

Federation–October 2016- Board & General Membership Meetings

Legislative Report (Read at regular meeting & placed on Internet site & sent to member clubs & interested parties)

Legislative Report (Posted, read at general meeting & on Internet Site):

Tracking a State Bill: 518-455-7545 or Hotline=800-342-9860/Monday-Friday-9am-6pm.

Note:

Bills are tracked when Legislature is in session from January through June of each year. In the second year of the two-year session, New York State legislators are elected to a two-year term. On the first day of the new session, most of the previous year's bills, which remain active at the end of the year, will automatically be carried into the new session, with some exceptions: bills not carried over will include (but are not limited to) those that were Chaptered, vetoed, had the enacting clause stricken, or the sponsor is no longer in the Legislature. A bill will retain its bill number assigned to it in the first year of the two-year session. If a bill only passed its own house last year, it must repass that house again in the new session, before it can advance to the other house. In general, all active bills will be referred to the original committee, with the exception of Assembly bills which passed only the Assembly last year; these bills will be reported to the Assembly's third reading calendar*. *Exception: if an Assembly bill had a "Home Rule Request", that bill will be recommitted, even if it passed the Assembly. (Legislative Rules.)

Bills of Interest (in part):

Land owner liability:

1-A1846/S3101: Relates to the liability of landowners who permit recreational uses of their land (protects landowners); referred to judiciary.

Dogs:

1-A1006/S4706: Prohibits tethering, restraining, caging or penning of dogs or animals between the hours of 7pm to 6am; referred to agriculture.

Firearms:

1-A 2651/S 1476: relates to repealing the New York SAFE ACT of 2013; referred to codes.

2-A 3943/S 1193: repeals chapter 1 of the laws of 2013, amending the criminal procedure Law and other laws relating to suspension and revocation of firearms licenses; private sale or disposal of firearms, rifles or shotguns; referred to codes.

3-A 5629A/S 2613 A: repeals provisions of law relating to sellers of ammunition; referred to codes.

4- A 5864/S2683: requires owners of firearms to obtain liability insurance; referred to investigations and government operations.

5-A 6192A/S1113 A: requires semiautomatic pistols manufactured or delivered to any licensed dealer in this state to be capable of micro-stamping ammunition; amend and recommit to codes.

6-A 6486: requires proof of liability insurance prior to issuing a license to carry a firearm; referred to codes.

7-A8196/S5837: relates to firearms; repeals several sections of SAFE Act, transfers pistol license functions to the DCJS; referred to codes.

8-A5864/S 2683: requires owners of firearms to obtain liability insurance; referred to investigations and government operations.

9-A 10404S 4227: relates to the definition of an assault weapon; eliminates prohibition of thumb hole stocks on semi-automatic rifles and shotguns; referred to codes.

10-A8053/S3373: Authorizes the transfer of certain weapons from an estate to an immediate member of the decedent's family; permits transfer of "assault" weapon to family member of decedent; referred to codes.

Hunting:

1-A3855/S 2634: makes contests and competitions to take wildlife unlawful; referred to conservation.

Knives:

1-A 4697/S3455: prohibits the manufacture, transport, shipment or possession of an undetectable knife; referred to codes.

2-A9042-A/S6483A-Relates to the definitions of a switchblade and a gravity knife; advanced to third reading.

Licensing:

1-A 1918/S 2951: protect certain information on hunting, fishing and trapping license and permit applications from disclosure; currently DEC refuses FOIL requests and has not been challenged; referred to environmental conservation.

2-A7396 eliminates sporting license fees for honorably discharged veterans; referred to environmental conservation.

3-A7082/S4176: Relates to the cost of various hunting, fishing and trapping licenses; reduces age for senior licenses to 65; referred to environmental conservation.

Tax (480A):

1-A844/S820A: authorizes state reimbursement to municipal corporations for tax revenue lost and expenses incurred as a result of the reduced assessment of forest land; amend and recommit to real property taxation.

2-A2174/S1559: exempts certain old-growth forests from taxation; would allow exemption for property not under management plan. Harvesting not required, contrary to purpose of exemption; referred to local government- referred to real property taxation.

State Information:

NYS Fish & Wildlife Management Board (NYSF & WMB) reported:

- Representatives from SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry presented and discussed monitoring efforts of New England cottontail interactions between Eastern cottontail (EC) and New England cottontail (NEC).

..... EC replace NEC after poor winters, need to manage existing sites not just newly created sites.

..... NEC using different summer habitat suggests need to manage for patches of young shrub land/grassland within larger shrub land management patches.

..... NEC using residential areas bordering shrub land.

..... NEC are using grassland/young shrub land.

..... NEC using human structures and outbuilding as daytime/winter refuges.

..... Naturalized coyote potentially increasing predation on NEC.

..... NEC using non-native, invasive rose and barberry.

..... Management for habitat on private lands will be important for species persistence.

A representative from Cornell presented and discussed findings on study of Lymphoproliferative Disease Virus (LPDV) in New York wild turkeys in health status of New York moose.

..... **Turkeys and LPDV in New York:**

..... high prevalence of disease (55%) found in New York

..... adult turkeys are more likely to test positive than juveniles

..... female turkeys are more likely to test positive than males

..... may be a relationship between LPDV and harvest decline

..... **Moose in New York:**

..... vehicle collisions highest source of mortality (56%)

..... approximately 16% indicated presence of brain worm

..... no viral diseases detected

..... most are average to excellent body condition

A presentation was made regarding harmful algal blooms (HAB's) in dogs, potential for new aquatic invasive species to be introduced, and economics of sport fishing in New York.

..... harmful algal blooms are excessive growths of toxin producing blue-green algae, but not all blue-green algae blooms are toxic.

.....HAB's most likely to occur during calm summer conditions, after a runoff event, with water temperatures 60 to 86°F.

..... Potential to cause toxic poisoning in dogs.

..... Three newly identified potential invasive species from the Caspian Sea: monkey goby, black striped pipe fish, and big scale sand smelt.

..... Threat of introduction via ballast water has been reduced due to regulations and ballast water practices by shipping companies.

..... Must remain vigilant in on the lookout for new, high risk species.

..... Based on most recent survey of hunters, anglers, and wildlife waters – 2.7 million anglers spent \$2.7 billion while fishing in New York.

..... total economic impact in New York of \$4.5 billion and supported 32,316 jobs.

A representative from the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF), presented on NWTF's "Save the Habitat – Save the Hunt" initiative.

.....**National Objectives:**

..... 4 million acres of critical upland habitat conserved or enhanced.

..... 1.5 million new hunters created.

..... 500,000 acres of newly assessable land.

.....**New York Objectives:**

..... Restore turkey population to 225,000 birds.

..... Enhance 6000 acres of private land by 2019.

..... Enhance 5000 acres of public land by 2019.

..... Enhance 500 acres commercial land.

..... Generate new 1500 hunters per year.

..... Create 15,000 acres of newly assessable lands by 2009 (includes lands currently assessable but for which habitat has been approved).

..... 1400 acres of public lands and 10,300 acres of private lands enhanced in New York since 2013.

..... 67 acres added to Northern Montezuma WMA.

..... Support: young forest initiative, conservation seed program, New England cottontail efforts as NEC habitat equals turkey nesting cover.

A presentation was also made by Quality Deer Management Association (QDMA) both at the National level and in New York State.

..... Healthy deer herds plus healthy habitat equals great hunting opportunities.

..... There 15 QDNA chapters in New York

..... The four building blocks of QDMA are herd management, habitat management, hunter management, and herd monitoring.

..... QDMA's "**Reach program**" = **Resource, educate** to expand educational activities and new methodologies, **advocate** to increase involvement in all aspects of Whitetail deer hunting and management at all levels, **certify** both individuals and property certification and **hunt** through youth programs and mentored hunts.

FWMB is supportive of efforts to prohibit importation of whole harvested cervids from all areas outside of New York (not just those areas where CWD has been identified – e.g. remove exceptions to NYCRR 189.3 € (1) and to prohibit the use of urine based attractants as a measure to prevent introduction and spread of CWD in New York's whitetail deer herd. FWMB will draft a letter, review, and sent to DEC indicating their support of these actions.

FWMB members voted in support of the proposed changes to use of crossbows for hunting in New York (S7005/A9623)-allow for use of crossbows throughout all archery seasons, use a bow hunting privilege to hunt with crossbow, reduces setback distance to 150 feet from dwelling, and removes maximum poundage and limb length stipulations for allowable crossbows.

FWMB members discussed the merits of proposed A 9642 – A: would allow the use of cable restraints to take coyotes and other species in all areas of New York except New York City, Westchester, Rockland, Suffolk, Nassau County’s. FWMB is supportive of this proposal.

FWMB members discuss merits of A 1427/S2652: establish a non-trail registration for snowmobiles that are solely used for hunting, fishing, and trapping.

Conservation Fund Advisory Board (CFAB)reported:

- Access to ACELA (New York’s automated electronic sporting license data and software) for convicted felons who want to sell sporting licenses continues to be an issue for CFAB). CFAB is opposed to allowing access to ACELA for these individuals.
- The use of Conservation Fund- funded the DEC staff (ECO’s) for the Dannemora escaped convict manhunt is sitting poorly with CFAB. CFAB feels that the staff time dedicated to resolving the situation by these officers should be reimbursed to the Conservation Fund.
- There are concerns about ECO vacancies that will continue to exist even after the current Academy is finished and new graduates are in the field.

The Conservation Fund has contributed \$200,000 this year for the management of aquatic invasive species which could significantly impact the state’s fishery resource. This is in addition to the hundred \$192,000 contributed 2012.

Federal Information:

Senate vote on UN Arms Treaty:

A 53 to 46 vote regarding the UN resolution 2117 list 21 points dealing with firearm’s control, but perhaps of most interest is point number 11: calls for member states to support weapons collection and disarmament of all UN countries. By a 53 to 46 vote the U.S. Senate voted against the UN resolution. In the 53 to 46 vote, the Senate narrowly passed a measure that will stop the United States from entering into the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty which was champion by the Obama administration and would have effectively placed a global ban on the import and export of small arms, also the ban would have affected all private gun owners in the United States and had language that would have implemented an international gun registry, on all private guns and ammo. Astonishingly, 46 out of our 100 US senators were willing to give away our constitutional rights to a foreign power. Amongst those Senators voting for this measure to take away our Second Amendment rights were Gillibrand-Democrat from New York and Schumer- Democrat from New York.....**We need to get out and vote and let our collective voices be heard to protect our Second Amendment !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Legislative resources:

New York Senate: www.nysenate.gov

New York State Assembly: www.assembly.state.ny.us/mem/

New York Senator=Sue Serino-41st. District
Serino@nysenate.gov

LOB Room 617, Albany, N.Y. 12247

Assemblyman Kieran Lalor-105th. District-LaLork@assembly.state.ny.us

US Congressman Chris Gibson – 19th District – Gibson.house.gov

Assembly woman Didi Barrett – 106th . District – Barrett D@assembly.state.ny.us

New York Senator – 40th District – Terrance Murphy – Murphy@NYSenate.gov-LOB Room 817, Albany,N.Y. 12247 – 518-455 – 3111

US Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney – 18th District – Seanmaloney.house.gov

US Senator Kristen Gillibrand– www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/

US Senator Charles Schumer – [www.Schumer.senate.gov/contact Chuck.CFM](http://www.Schumer.senate.gov/contact/Chuck.CFM)

Gov. A. Cuomo – www.governor.NY.gov

Important Contact Groups:

Shooters Committee on Political Action(SCOPE):www.scopeny.org
SCOPE legislative reports are available at this website
SCOPE INC, Attention Legal Defense Fund Project (for donations)
[P.O. Box 12711](mailto:)
[Rochester, N.Y.14612](mailto:)

New York Firearms: www.nyfirearms.com

Second Amendment Foundation: www.saf.org

National Rifle Association: www.homenra.org

National Shooting Sports Foundation: www.nssf.org

National Association for Gun Rights: www.nationalgunrights.org

Firearms Policy Coalition: www.firearmspolicy.org

Gun Owners of America: www.gunownersofamerica.org

For Dutchess County Federation of Fish and Game Clubs monthly report go to:
www.dutchessfishandgame.org

New York Safe Act: www.governor.ny.gov/nysafeact/gun-reform

New York State police Field Guide to the New York State SAFE Act:
www.nypdcea.org/pdfs/nysp_safe_act_field_guide

New York State Rifle and Pistol Association (NRA Affiliate): www.nysrpa.org

Note: NYSR&PA Legislative Report is available at this website which follows all important bills.

New York State Conservation Council – look up bills –www.nyscc.com

Submitted by:

Paul W. Annetts-M.J.A. (marineactual@gmail.com) Whortlekill Rod & Gun Club's Legislative & Property Management Chairman/Board Member/Federation Representative & Federation of Dutchess County Fish & Game Clubs, Inc. Legislative Vice-President/Board Member & Conservation Awareness Foundation, Inc. Board Member
Cc: Secretary