

CICC OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

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Colusa Indian Community Council

OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

360°

NEWS AND COMMENTARY - DIRECT FROM OUR EXPERT GUIDES

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When hunting or fishing with Outdoor Adventures you will receive a discounted room rate of \$79.00 per night.



Inside this issue:

Season Wrap Up!	1
COHA	2
Hog Hunting	2
Duck Boxes	2
Turkey Time	3
Pintail Survey	3
Fish On!	3

I cannot believe that I am writing the number 2010. We have opened the door on a new decade and I am fairly optimistic that the ten years that lie ahead of us are destined to be outstanding. I am sure that we will see our fair share of road blocks and speed bumps, but I have faith that we will overcome anything that is thrown at us. California is a volatile political environment to live and work. Our way of life is under constant criticism and ridicule by a variety of anti-hunting organizations at all times. It seems that a new threat is eminent at any time and another battle awaits constantly. Several of the articles within this newsletter lightly touch upon this political environment in which I speak. The California Waterfowl Association has issued a request for waterfowlers to complete an

online survey regarding Pintail bag limits and how they affect you as an individual. I encourage you to participate in the survey as it will play an integral part in the determination of future waterfowl season regulations. You will also find an endorsement for the California Outdoor Heritage Alliance. COHA is working hard to protect our hunting heritage and wildlife habitat which is under serious threat. Finally, a more proactive political stand point begins with our youth. The CICC Outdoor Adventures Team stresses that the most significant move we can make to secure the future of the hunting and fishing industry starts with our youth. We are pleased to be making every effort possible to engage and encourage the youth of our own community as well as others to participate and become knowledgeable about the

outdoors and our heritage. Our very own wood duck project has helped connect the tribal children with the wildlife that surrounds them. More can be read about the project inside this issue. We are also pleased and very proud to have been the headline sponsor as well as to have participated in the WON Youth Outdoor Sports Fair at both San Mateo and Sacramento International Sportsmen's Expositions this year. The team had a wonderful time helping kids learn more about the outdoors through a simulated waterfowl hunting experience. As always I urge you to pass on the tradition by taking a child with you on your next outdoor adventure, after all they are our future!

*Regina Stafford
Editor*

Waterfowl Wrap Up



A full strap of limits taken on a CICC Outdoor Adventures Hunt near Colusa, CA.

Although the 2009-2010 Waterfowl Season was not what we had hoped, we still had a few good days which produced several good hunts. Our overall harvest numbers for the guide service were far less than those of the previous season and from what I hear around the valley, we were not the only service harvesting fewer birds. However, the positive aspect of these low counts is that many breeding ducks were left to do their thing and hopefully that will result in a very abundant hatch of birds for next season. Our waterfowl clients are some of the best guys and gals around and I would like to say, "Thank You" to those of you who have been hunting with us for years as well as to the newcomers. Myself, and all the Outdoor Adventures Guides had a very memorable and successful season because of your patronage to our business. It's never too early to start planning your next Outdoor Adventure! Remember to book early!



A Sportsman's Best Ally

Lately it seems that there is a variety of hunting conservation type organizations around. Turkeys, quail, deer, gun ownership rights, and youth outdoor participation are all of special interest and concern and agreeably they should be. However, as the average Californian's pocket book becomes less deep and money gets tighter, I think that we all start to rethink which group we should donate to, if any at all. So, why not donate and give your membership dollars to one organization that encompasses so many! The California Outdoor Heritage Alliance (COHA) is a

partnership of conservation organizations, outdoor industry groups, other related interests and individuals who support science-based wildlife management and the preservation of our hunting rights in California. COHA is a 501(c)4 Political Advocacy Organization dedicated solely to influencing legislative, regulatory and administrative policy decisions which promote wildlife conservation and our outdoor heritage. True to their name, COHA serves as an *alliance* under which over thirty hunting clubs, organizations, and industry groups



have united in order to speak with a single more powerful political voice in the halls of our State Capital and beyond. COHA is preserving our traditions and protecting our way of life! They truly are a Sportsman's best ally! For more information about the California Outdoor Heritage Alliance, please contact (916) 643- 4607 or online at: www.outdoorheritage.com.



Spring Fishing Forecast

The water is flowing in the Sac! Words that we have eagerly been waiting to say for some time now. Those increased flows can only mean one thing; FISH! The sturgeon fishing action has been impressive both from the bank and out on the river. Although the river has dropped a bit and slightly cleared, sturgeon are continuing

to be caught with consistent success. More rain is still expected to douse the valley over the next few weeks which may result in a early push of striped bass up in our neck of the woods. The rain levels that we have had this winter are a promising sign that a successful striper season lay ahead of us. We are predicting a steady catch to last all spring long; beginning in April and continuing through June. We can accommodate both small and large fishing parties, all you need to bring is your license and snacks! We've got the rest covered.

"Sturgeon are continuing to be caught with consistent success."

Getting Our Ducks In A Row

CICC Outdoor Adventures has recruited the help of the Colusa Indian Community's Tribal Children to help launch our very own Wood Duck Box Program. As many of you are aware, almost 90% of wood duck nesting habitat has gradually declined since the mid 1800's resulting in a detrimental decrease in the wood duck population. The man-made nesting boxes, integral to any wood duck box program, and the

volunteers that maintain them have helped wood duck populations recover and improve tremendously. The intent of our own wood duck box program is no different. Our main objective is to attempt to increase the wood duck population on and near tribal owned properties and our purpose is to help spread the desire and knowledge of conservation and the environment to our youth. The

tribal children were able to claim a box as their own and it will be their responsibility with the help of the Outdoor Adventures Team to maintain and monitor their individual boxes. We are hoping that this hands-on approach will encourage and excite the children about conservation!



SOMETHING TO GOBBLE ABOUT!!!

Spring Turkey Season is almost here and the countdown to the opener has started for CICC Outdoor Adventures! Our guides have been spending a lot of time tracking and patterning the flocks of birds on our properties and, "knock on wood", the outlook for the season seems to be promising. Last year's dry winter left us searching for toms as it seemed that the breeding season had fizzled by the time opening day came around. Rain, fog and cooler weather, seem to be working in our favor this year and we are hoping it stays that way for a few more weeks at least. This upcoming season should produce hunts that are much more entertaining as the toms should strut, gobble and decoy with much more tenacity!!! This year's spring general season will run from March 27, 2010 through May 2, 2010. Hunters with Jr. Hunting Licenses will be able to hunt the Saturday and Sunday before the opening of the general season as well. Remember our hunts book up fast, so please call soon if you are interested.



Cole Smith, enjoyed a fun and successful 2009 Spring Turkey hunt while hunting with his dad and CICC Outdoor Adventures Guide, Andy Smith.

CARE ABOUT PINTAILS?

Then Take This Survey!

The USFWS has indicated the harvest strategy for pintails will change in the near future, possibly as early as next season. This action could result in different bag limits or season lengths each year, depending on which option is selected during the regulation setting process. The Department of Fish and Game is seeking public input about the preferences of hunters in California, so they can better represent your desires when discussing the options with the USFWS and the other Pacific

Flyway states at their meeting in March. Pintails are more important to hunters in California than in any other state, so it is critical that waterfowlers here make their views known. The Department is conducting an online poll to get feedback from you. The questions have been designed for hunters to provide their opinions on the trade-offs between daily bag limits, length of the pintail season, and the consistency of

hunting regulations associated with the options presented by the USFWS. Please forward this message to your duck hunting friends and family to ensure the voice of Californians is clearly heard. To learn more from the DFG's website and to complete the survey, please visit:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/waterfowl/docs/PintailSurveyQuestions.pdf>

Courtesy of Cal Waterfowl Website

"The Department is conducting an online poll to get feedback from you."

Hogs, Hogs, and More Hogs

Somewhere between post-waterfowl and pre-fishing seasons, you will find the kick off to our hog hunting season. Late winter rains and warmer days bring the hogs out of the cover and moving about in full force. As part of our management plan, each year our foothill ranch is left to rest beginning in late October continuing through the middle part of the month of February. This strategy allows for the pigs to procreate, relax, and live in a un-pressured environment for a long period of time. We continue our "less pressure, the better" approach as we begin scheduling and booking trips throughout the year. Our goal is to accommodate only one hunting party each week. This allows each party equal opportunity at a successful hunt; seeing many groups of hogs moving about the ranch in a very calm undisturbed state. Our hog hunting opportunities have grown in popularity and our trips book up quickly. If you are interested in harvesting a hog this year, please call and book your date as soon as you can!



Bob Sufi from Carmel, Indiana harvested the first hog of the CICC Outdoor Adventures Season! The hog weighed roughly 225lbs. With 2" cutters.