

1/9/25 Pheasants Forever

Pheasants Forever Meeting Notes

Thursday, January 9, 2025

Spokane PF Chapter ch0800

Meeting began at the North Spokane Public Library meeting room at approximately 6 p.m.

President Jeff called the meeting to order and participants introduced themselves.

Plaques of appreciation were presented to Steve Hollenbeck (former president and vice-president) and Brian Jokela (former secretary) for prior years of service to our chapter. Steve harkened back to the days when our chapter had approximately \$150 in the treasury.

Treasury – Kristin

Kristin updated board with account balances

Jeff updated proposed budget ending balance after estimated 2025 expenditures.

Mentor hunt at Rock Lake -Mike G.

Agreement all around that participants had a great time. Coordination between WDFW and mentors (our Chapter) could be improved for future hunts.

Julie Rouze has volunteered to tackle the issue.

Guest speaker Eric Lewis (PF) – Wildlife Operations Manager for the State of Washington.

Partnership between NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) and USDA (US Department of Agriculture) to fund conservation projects.

Eric stated that wildlife biologists are now being hired in Washington and are fully funded by NRCS/USDA.

Eric in process of submitting grant proposal, amounts of \$100-200K are feasible. Grants lean toward threatened species however, pheasant habitat should benefit indirectly.

Money would come ahead of time - projects are then approved, completed, and then reimbursed.

Projects can take place on public or private land.

Washington State Pheasants Forever Chapter(s) get together is targeted for 2025.

Mike G. (habit chairman) 2025 projects:

LAMONT:

March 27th or April – (since confirmed as the 25th thru the 27th).

State will supply shrubs; we supply everything else. The WDFW private lands biologist will be viewing past projects at Lamont and Packer Creek on March 25th. WDFW Biologist and Technicians (15-20) will help with planting shrubs on March 27th. We will supply lunch at Lamont.

REVERE:

WDFW Biologist and Technicians (15-20) will help lay fabric on March 26th.

April 12 and 13 are the planting dates.

WDFW has a new fabric-laying machine.

Shower tents discussed as makeshift porta potty enclosures.

(Mike and Brian already have these.)

Ducks Unlimited has finished their project at Packer Creek.

It will take awhile to heal but should be beneficial in the long run for pheasants.

SWANSON LAKES

A porcupine has chewed through the perimeter fence but trap efforts are underway.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mule Deer Association is excited to lend a hand on this year's projects.

Other PF chapters & Wildlife Biologists are coming up to view our completed projects.

Spokane Audubon has funds and people power available to help with projects.

Soil samples have been taken at our food plots; results are pending.

General agreement that food plot soil is depleted but fertilizer is expensive.

Jason Lowe, BLM, would like to do a project on Imbler Creek (across the road from Revere) in spring of 2026 (they would fund 100%).

Jeff (president)

Jeff has been meeting with Cabela's and a monetary grant is possible.

Results of email survey sent by Jeff to all chapter members resulted in 50 completed surveys, which is about 23% of our members.

46 members were most interested in habitat projects followed by fund-raising events; then social events with monthly meetings being the least interesting to our members.

24 members attend our monthly meetings; 17 members do not but may be interested; 9 members were not interested in the meetings.

If the monthly meeting was located differently, would you be more likely to attend? 8 members said "yes"; 20 members said "no"; and 22 members said "maybe, depending upon the location".

28 members said they participate in our habitat projects; 18. Said they don't but would like to; and 3 members said they were uninterested in habitat projects.

25 members said they have attended our sporting-clay fund-raising event; 19 said "no" but would be interested in attending one; 6 members indicated no interest in the event.

People, in general, seemed to be happy with our current meeting place at the North Spokane Public Library.

Youth hunt suggestions:

Kristin suggested a trap shoot(s) to take place a week or two prior to the actual hunt (some of the kids have never shot). It was agreed this was a fine idea.

Looking for a volunteer;

To help moderate an Eastern or entire State Facebook page to inform/coordinate PF chapter activities throughout the region or state.

Looking at a Pheasants and Pints

Event at the Big Barn to include onX Hunt tutorial and possible donation. One-year membership to onX Hunt door-prize.

Slide Show – Mike G

Nice job of putting together slides of the various projects over the years reminding us of the hard work we put in.

Many of the slides depicted before-and-after, very impressive improvements at Packer Creek

Escure

Shawgo

Revere

Lamont

Swanson Lakes.

Doug Koenig (president, Spokane Bird Dog Association)

SBDA banquet February 8

Rattle snake aversion clinic in June

Porcupine aversion clinic May 17

Contact Doug for details on any of the above.

NEXT MEETING(S):

FEBRUARY 3

MARCH 6

MEETING ADJOURNED at 7:30 p.m.