



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DUCK HUNTERS ASSOCIATION  
A NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION OF, BY, AND FOR THE DUCK  
HUNTERS.



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### HB261

I was pondering last night on what I was going to write about this month's short story about when I was looking in Facebook going through my normal groups of reloading and also waterfowling when I saw this person had put in a post of about signing some sort of petition going against Missouri bill HB261. Now I am a total sceptic and do not trust just about anything without vetting it first. I especially do not trust anything I see on Facebook without verifying it.

HB261 is a bill submitted by Representative LaKeySha Bosley out of District 079 of St Louis back in Dec of 2024. In a nut shell, without posting the entire bill, the opening lines state:

407.1170. After December 31, 2025, no person or entity shall sell any firearm ammunition unless the person or entity is designated by the secretary of state as a licensed ammunition seller.

2. This section shall not apply to:

(1) A commercial hunting club, provided the ammunition is used and consumed on the premises of the club while engaged in lawful hunting activity;

(2) A domesticated game bird hunting club, provided the ammunition is used and consumed on the premises of the club while engaged in lawful hunting activity;

(3) A domesticated migratory game bird shooting club, provided the ammunition is used and consumed on the premises of the club while engaged in lawful hunting activity;

(4) A nonprofit mutual or public benefit corporation that engages in recreational shooting and lawful hunting activity, provided the ammunition is used and consumed during a shooting or hunting event conducted by the corporation;

(5) A target shooting facility that holds a business or regulatory license, provided the ammunition is kept within the facility's premises at all times and used on the premises; or

(6) A person who sells no more than one hundred rounds of ammunition to one vendor in one month and who cumulatively sells no more than two hundred fifty rounds per year to vendors in this state.

So basically, if you went out and bought a case of Fast Steel 3" 2 shot, current price of \$240.00, shot a few rounds and you absolutely hated it, you are stuck with an almost full case of shells and you cannot sell it to your buddy who absolutely loves Fast Steel.

You have been informed. Hopefully this bill will die in committee.

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## MEMBERS MEETING

At our last meeting Gun Smith Eric Olson gave an outstanding presentation on deep cleaning. Couple of take a ways for me was that Hoppe's number 9 is still recommended, but make sure you get the non synthetic kind, which Eric stated is practically useless. Lucas Gun Lubricant is to be used for guns operated in sub freezing temps and that Rem Oil will gum up and that Break Free is also a great cleaner for just about anything gun related just don't get it on synthetics.

For this month's members meeting we will be having Jerry SR and Jerry JR talking everything you need to know about hunting turkeys. With the Spring season coming up this will be a GREAT presentation to freshen up your turkey skills for those turkey hunters.

## ANNUAL DUES

**Your annual membership dues are OVERDUE. Please consider renewing your membership dues of \$25. If you have not paid your dues yet.**

**IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR ANNUAL DUES, THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST CHANCE OR YOU WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP.**

## TROUT TRIP UPDATE

We had our annual fishing trip this past month to Lake Taneycomo where we stayed at Trout Hollow and we all had a fantastic time! Even found a new fishing spot when they are running 3/4 of a generator. Fishing this year was a challenge though, we had 17 anglers and caught 17 fish.

Here are some pictures of the event.



In the annual fishing tournament Jerry Sr won the Biggest Fish measuring out at 14.5"



Logan won the biggest stringer of 3.5 lbs. Story goes that he did lose about 15 set ups while he was fishing which kept his dad quite busy resetting him up. Plus he had some initial issues with the wind. It was very windy that day and when he first started out he began casting high which sent his rig back at him making it rather fun in the boat dodging his rig when it came back at

## MVDHA BOARD

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him and those in the boat. Great job Logan for a great stringer!



Second biggest stringer prize went to Lucas of 2 lbs.

As stated before, fishing was tough, but we all managed to still have a great time.



Could not have had a great time without there support in cooking, excellent as normal! We had fried trout, and various other fish. Excellent food.



Chilling on the deck, literally, and enjoying each others company while we discussed the day and enjoying great food!!

## FAMILY FUN DAY

We are in the infancy stages of planning, but we are looking at having our annual Family Fun Day in a new location this year which is a little bit close than Perryville community lake. Scott Thoele has permission for us to fish at a privately stocked lake from a friend of his.

This stocked 30 acre lake is located in Bismarck MO, which contains bass, bluegill, croppie and various others. There are some small docks to fish off of and the lake is very accessible from the shore. There is no boat ramp, but if you have a boat that you can hand launch you can put one in. Motors are allowed also.

We are planning for a date in June so stay tuned!

## LIFETIME PERMITS

Art Meister brought to my attention last month when I posted about getting your fishing permits is that did you know that if you are between the ages of 60 and 64 that the life time fishing permit costs \$38 and that it includes the trout permit which costs \$12 annually? The lifetime hunting permit also cost \$38 which also includes the Conservation Order permit which costs \$5.50?

The life time fishing permit alone will pay for itself in about three years if you are over 64.

Thanks Art for this info!

## JUNE MEETING

The June meeting will take place on 10 June, **WHICH IS A TUESDAY, BETWEEN 5 AND 5:30 PM** out at Jay Henges. We are fortunate to be able to have the Trap Night again this year on Tuesday, June 10th at Jay Henges Conservation Area. The scenario is the same as last year. The MDC will furnish the clay targets while members need to bring their own ammo (size 7 1/2 or smaller lead shot). MVDHA will furnish hot dogs, chips, and water for members and their significant other. Plan on arriving **BETWEEN 5 AND 5:30 pm** to enjoy a dog and listen to the safety rules. We should get in a good two to three rounds of shooting before darkness. While there, please tell the MDC staff how much we enjoy this event.

## FOR SALE

Garmin Xero C1 Pro Chronograph. I bought this chronograph to test out my shotgun

rounds I was developing for TSS but it only picks up about the fourth round. After I bought it I was looking into why it only picked up about every fourth round. After doing a bit of research, Garmin states it is not for shotshell rounds and that it is for a single projectile rounds, IE rifle or arrows. I tested it on an air soft gun I have and it picks it up every time. I only used this about a dozen times. It retails for \$599.99 at Cabellas. I will sell it for \$400 or best reasonable offer. Contact me at bjd7960@att.net.

## MDC AND GRHA

From an email I received from MDC:

### **MDC is working with Great River Habitat Alliance to protect and enhance waterfowl opportunities in St. Louis area**

New GRHA property in St. Charles will create innovative partnerships in education, research, mentored and special hunts for the public.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) and the Great Rivers Habitat Alliance (GRHA) recently entered into a cooperative agreement to protect habitat and add public and educational opportunities on nearly 785 privately-owned acres of prime wetland habitat in St. Charles County previously known as the Whistling Wings Duck Club. The Missouri Conservation Commission formally recognized the new partnership at its Feb. 7 open meeting in Jefferson City.

The property lies just outside of St. Louis within the Confluence Region, an area recognized by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan as a priority Waterfowl Conservation Re-

gion. This is an important "Conservation Opportunity Area" and is specifically identified in Missouri's Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy as an area in need of conservation. The property is a mix of natural and agricultural habitats and holds a 330-acre refuge which is a significant migratory stopover for ducks, geese, and shorebirds during spring and fall migrations.

The former private duck club was recently acquired by GRHA from Ducks Unlimited. GRHA will own and operate the property for the purpose to forever protect, preserve and conserve the agricultural and natural areas for significant public benefit. The property will serve as GRHA's new headquarters and be a center for education, scientific research programs, land-management workshops, and managed public-hunting opportunities. The headquarters will be named the Jay and Carolyn Henges Wetland Education and Conservation Center in honor of the Henges Foundation financial support to GRHA. Jay Henges also served as a Conservation Commissioner from 1987 to 1993.

"We are thrilled about the creation of a conservation and education partnership with MDC and our shared vision to protect and conserve the property for generations to come," said GRHA President David Bub. "We look forward to developing public-use programs that align with GRHA, and MDC's mission including conservation demonstration, education, research, and hunting. Hunting programs will focus on recruiting new hunters, youth, veterans, women, educators, and first responders."

The cooperative agreement includes \$2 million in financial support from MDC to GRHA to help

with acquisition of the property and to maintain critical wetland and waterfowl habitat on the area. These funds will also support mentored hunting opportunities for new hunters, veterans, youth, and others. The property will not be a part of MDC's managed waterfowl hunt program.

"The Missouri Department of Conservation is excited about our new partnership with the Great Rivers Habitat Alliance and the new opportunities we will have to provide high-quality mentored hunting on the property," said MDC Director Jason Sumners. "MDC staff will also be able to use the property to offer educational programs and habitat workshops."

GRHA was founded in 2000 to protect the confluence 100-year floodplain of the Missouri and Mississippi rivers through policy, protection, conservation, public awareness and education. GRHA collaborates with partners such as MDC to restore wetlands and to protect their conservation, flood storage, and habitat values in perpetuity by teaming up with farmers, duck clubs, and other land stewards to protect land and land-use practices important to wildlife, waterfowl, and people. Learn more at [grha.org/](http://grha.org/).

## MFOR

Craig Sondker is getting together a new, it is not necessarily a club, I guess it would be considered an organization called MFOR, Missouri Federation of Outdoor Resources, similar to IFOR in Illinois.

To give you an idea, from the IFOR website of:

<https://if-or.com/>

## What is IFOR?

IFOR is a unique coalition of individuals and organizations. We are one of the most unusual sportsmen's groups anywhere because we don't blow the horn or promote the cause of any single special interest group. IFOR represents all outdoorsmen, all sportsmen, and all recreational users. We believe it is critical that we all band together under one large umbrella organization to form a united front against those who would take from us what is rightfully ours.

## MISSION STATEMENT

To unite all outdoor resource user groups and conservationists (ex. hunters, fishermen, trappers, trail riders, etc.), dedicated to preserving, restoring and developing the State's natural resources, and to provide a professional liaison to the Illinois Legislature and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), to protect sportsmen's rights and recreational opportunities; and to work together to ensure long-term, adequate dedicated funding for, and professional management of the IDNR.

IFOR is a not-for-profit 501 C (4) Conservation Organization whose main purpose is to unite Illinois Outdoorsmen under one statewide umbrella and protect and defend the recreational rights of natural resource users in the state of Illinois. Currently we have united over 100 conservation groups and in excess of 76,000 outdoorsmen as members of IFOR.

This is exactly what we need here in Missouri. Granted, after chatting a bit with Tony, CFM does this similarly, however, if we have another avenue to voice our opinions would be a great thing. More organizations

and individuals under one voice to ensure our outdoor activities, be it hunting, fishing or any outdoor activity is to remain here currently and for the next generation. With the current policies that MDC is doing now, it is more than important to get organized, in which case we might be too late, for example: River blinds taken away, even when it was totally against by hunters, MDC turned a blind ear. Columbia Bottoms, the once jewel of MDC looks like a slum and now this cooperative agreement with the Great Rivers Habitat Alliance.

We need a larger voice to be heard. Not just single individuals or group voicing concerns to MDC and Jefferson City and this could be the answer.

Craig has set up an organizational meeting of MFOR on :

1 June 2025 at 12:30 PM

At American Vets Post 106

360 Brown Road

St. Peters MO

Craig would like a head count of who might show up. You can either let him know or reply to this email if you plan on going and I will get the word to him.

## 2024—2025 SEASON

### Light Goose Conservation Order

Season: Feb. 7 through April 30, 2025 Limits: No daily or possession limits

Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset

## NEWSLETTER

As part of membership to the Mississippi Valley Duck Hunters Association this newsletter is distributed to the members either by mail or via email. All members who have an email address will be receiving

this newsletter via email. With the cost of postage, printing, labeling and handling on the increase this will save YOUR MVDHA a little over \$1.50 per month per member that can be used in other areas. That is a substantial savings, with a projected cost savings of over \$250.00 a year if all members received the newsletter via email. If you still wish to receive your newsletter via snail mail, just let me know at the next member's meeting or if you wish to no longer receive it by snail mail and want to save the association funds you can provide me your email address by sending me an email at [mvdha@mvdha.com](mailto:mvdha@mvdha.com). Please consider this, it will save the association money over the time of your membership that can be used else where.

## Up Coming Events

**April 9 : Talking Turkey with Jerry SR and Jerry JR**

**May 14 : Brian the Vet**

**June 10 : Trap Shoot Jay Henges**

**July 9 : Denny Dennis**

**Aug 13 : NO MEETING**

**Sept 10 : Waterfowl Outlook**

**Oct 8 : TBD**

**Nov 12 : NO MEETING**

**Dec 10 : Holiday Party**

### General Information

This newsletter is distributed to our active members. For non-active members check the website for the current newsletter. We have our general meeting the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM and our Board of Directors' Meeting every fourth Monday at 7 PM. Members meetings are held at Borgettis Bar & Grill 1667 South Old Hwy 141 Fenton MO. Board Meetings are held at various locations, contact Jerry Mercurio at 314-603-6548 for this month's location. In case of bad weather call Ken Liebel at 314-822-8030 or Jerry Mercurio at 314-603-6548.

Visit YOUR web site at <https://mvdha.com> to get the most recent news, events and updates. There you will find this newsletter and other helpful information concerning conservation and the great outdoors that we love. If you would like to be added to the email listing of important news and updates you can do that through the web site through the contact us link, fill out the form and make sure you add your email address.

Any comments or suggestions concerning the newsletter or the website can be sent to [mvdha@mvdha.com](mailto:mvdha@mvdha.com). I am always looking forwards to suggestions concerning content and what you would like to see or be presented in these publications.

Next members meeting: April 12, 2025

Next Board Meeting: April 24, 2025

Members are invited to the Board Meeting

Member's meeting start at 7:30, Board meeting starts at 7:00

### MISSISSIPPI VALLEY DUCK HUNTERS ASSN. INC.

*"A Nonprofit Association of, by, and for the Duck Hunters"*

"ST. LOUIS' NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION"

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