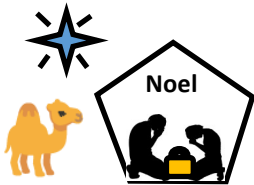


# The Quiver

Michigan United Conservation Clubs Region 7 Monthly Newsletter

December 2023 Vol. 29



*Merry Christmas*



*Happy New Year  
2024*

## Bipartisan bill introduced to provide hunter's safety in schools

By Justin Tomi November 10, 2023

Bipartisan legislation was introduced in both chambers of the legislature this week that would create an elective program for Michigan school districts to host hunter and firearms safety programs within their schools.

Senate Bill 664, sponsored by Sen. Jon Bumstead (R-North Muskegon), and House Bill 5334, sponsored by Rep. Curt Vanderwall (R-Ludington) are both supported by the Michigan DNR and Department of Education (MDE).

Getting consensus from the DNR and MDE was crucial to moving this important legislation forward, said Sen. Bumstead in a statement.

"My office and I have worked very hard to ensure that both MDE and DNR approved of this language and support this effort," said Bumstead. "If schools choose to implement this instruction, it will offer kids a wonderful opportunity to learn more about hunting and Michigan's outdoors. I hope these classes would be especially valuable to students who might not grow up in families with hunting traditions."

Hunters and firearms safety programs are vital in creating the next generation of conservationists, said Amy Trotter, Chief Executive Officer of Michigan United Conservation Clubs.

"Hunters and firearms safety programs provide safe, controlled introductions to Michigan's outdoor heritage and create the next generation of conservationists," said Trotter. "MUCC applauds Senator Bumstead, Representative Vanderwall, and their bipartisan slate of colleagues for this chance to introduce these critical education opportunities to Michigan's students."

The legislature has adjourned for the remainder of 2023 and will return in 2024. MUCC will be supporting this legislation as it moves through the legislature.

To ensure our natural resources remain protected and managed thoughtfully and our outdoor heritage defended, join Michigan United Conservation Clubs today: <http://bit.ly/JoinMUCC>.

## **Duck Stamp Modernization Act**

The bill provides U.S. waterfowlers with the flexibility of possessing a physical federal duck stamp or an electronic stamp on their smart phones while hunting ducks and geese.

In July, the House bill's Senate-companion legislation (S. 788) passed unanimously.

The Duck Stamp Modernization Act (H.R. 2872) has passed the U.S. House of Representatives by voice vote on September 20th. As far as I can see the bill now should be on its way to President's desk for signing.

Since 1934, sales of Federal Duck Stamps have raised more than \$1.2 billion while conserving more than 6 million acres of wetland habitat for birds and other wildlife within the National Wildlife Refuge system. The efficient program invests an estimated 98 cents per dollar directly into conservation. Purchase of the \$25 Duck Stamp, which today generates more than \$37.5 million annually, is required for U.S. waterfowl hunters age 16 and older.

### **TRACKS FACTS**



#### **Bobcats**

Bobcats have 28 teeth, including four canine teeth / The largest bobcat on record weighed 76 pounds and lived in Maine/ Bobcats are often nocturnal hunters because of the element of surprise/ A bobcat can leap 1-8 feet in between steps./ Bobcats live throughout North America — from southern Canada to central Mexico.

#### **Laughing Tracks**

Q: What is a Bobcat's favorite cereal? A: Mice Crispies!

Tracks Magazine. MUCC's Nationally Recognized youth magazine. Subscribe today. \$20/year. A Great Christmas gift to a child. Call 517-371-1041

# MUCC-led commercial guiding legislation heads to the governor's desk

By Justin Tomei November 9 2023

The Michigan Senate concurred on stakeholder-led commercial guiding legislation today, after passage in the house late last night.

The legislation now heads to Gov. Whitmer's desk.

Commercial guiding in Michigan is woefully unregulated – nothing currently exists in statute to prevent serial poachers from posing as legitimate guides.

The bipartisan package, sponsored by Senators John Cherry (D-Flint), Sean McCann (D-Kalamazoo), and Kevin Daley (R-Lum), aims to address that and provide crucial biological data for Michigan's world-class biologists.

During the 2021-2022 legislative session, MUCC authored a detailed breakdown of similar legislation found here: <https://mucc.org/regulation-of-commercial-guiding-industry-long-overdue-in-michigan/>

MUCC has joined many affiliates, notably the Michigan Hunting Dog Federation and Michigan Steelhead and Salmon Fishermen's Association, and existing guides in pushing for and refining this proposal over many years.

This legislation is necessary to protect Michigan's natural resources from bad actors, said MUCC Chief Executive Officer Amy Trotter.

"The need for this legislation has been on MUCC's radar since the late 1990s," Trotter said, "We must weed out serial poachers posing as legitimate guides. This legislation checks all the boxes, ensures the integrity of Michigan's commercial guiding industry, and collects important information to manage our natural resources scientifically."

The legislative package will set a low barrier to entry for an individual looking to participate as a guide. These requirements include a \$150 fee for a three-year license, no violations of certain game laws within the last three years, no felonies and the guide must hold a base license or fishing license. There are also common sense exemptions as to who would need a license such as hunting on private land, friends voluntarily sharing expenses, or a non-profit engaging in a recruitment event.

Conservationists have been waiting for this, said Amy Trotter, MUCC chief executive officer.

"2023 is the year we finally cross the finish line. We are capping off more than a decade of work that spans multiple legislative sessions and gubernatorial administrations," Trotter said. "The legislation has always enjoyed broad stakeholder consensus and bipartisan support, with all sides clearly understanding the need for this legislation."

To ensure our natural resources remain protected and managed thoughtfully and our outdoor heritage defended, join Michigan United Conservation Clubs today at:

<http://bit.ly/JoinMUCC>.

Update  
The Governor has now signed  
This Legislation



Hats off Team!

The next NRC meeting is Thursday, December 14, 2023, at Lansing Community College West Campus. Watch committee as a whole live on MUCC'S Facebook page.



### Looking back in time

#### 1972 Amounts & Prices

Average Income \$11,859.00

New Car \$3,690.00

Gallon of Gas .52

Gold per oz. \$161.49

Average price of a home 27,600.00

Leisure Suit \$22.98

#### Gun Prices in 1972

**Krieghoff Model 32 O/U: \$272**

**Remington 1100 \$185**

**Winchester 1400: \$189**

**Mossberg 500 \$ 95**

**Stevens 311 \$110**

**Winchester 21 \$1250**

**A&F Perazzi O/U: \$875**

**Beretta BL-3 O/U: \$295**

**Franchi Falconet O/U: \$295**

**Browning Superposed: \$445**

**Browning A-5 \$205**

**Winchester 1400: \$189**

**Beretta BL-1 O/U: \$225**

Today you can buy a Winchester 21 on Gun Broker for \$27,000.00

# November 2023 NRC Recap

By Justin Tomei

Commissioners adopted an amended version of the Nyberg Amendment, changing the bag limit for steelhead on 11 streams across Michigan.

In addition to lowering the bag limit on certain streams, the adopted amendment to Fisheries Order 200.23A clarified boundaries to streams in the amendment and removed immediate effect. The amended order, as passed, will now take effect April 1, 2024.

MUCC's executive board passed an emergency resolution opposing the Nyberg Amendment at its November meeting. In MUCC's preview of the November NRC meeting.

MUCC Policy Assistant Justin Tomei said changing bag limits so soon after the 2021 amendments is inappropriate.

"Lowering the steelhead bag limit immediately after sunseting the 2021 regulation does not give biologists time to measure the impacts to the fishery. Allowing the existing sunset to continue, and reassessing as it approaches is a more prudent course of action," Tomei said. "The biologists we trust to make these decisions have said this proposed regulation change will have a minimal, if any, impact on population decline due to high levels of catch and release fishing already taking place."

The Nyberg amendment to Fisheries Order 200.23A was adopted on a unanimous vote, and the full order was adopted unanimously.

MUCC remains committed to the sound scientific management of all its species and will continue its work to ensure the NRC follows its charge, said Tomei.

"While MUCC feels this move was not a prudent course of action at this time, we will continue to fight for the sound scientific management of all of Michigan's species," said Tomei. "Our work marches on, and we will continue to monitor the effects of this new regulation and pursue improvements as required."

There were three Land Use Orders of the Director approved:

Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 5: Management of boating access site, issues with motorized vehicles without trailers using parking intended for vehicles with trailers.

Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 6: Metal detecting in the context of protecting historic resources.

Land Use Order of the Director Amendment No. 7: Camping in the Ortonville Recreation Area, opening equestrian-only campground to non-equestrian campers during summer months to encourage more mixed use of the facility.

MUCC reviews land transactions exceeding 80 acres, of which there was one. Land Transaction Case #20230060 is an acquisition of 120 acres currently surrounded by state-owned land. There were no new orders up for the commission.

The next meeting is Thursday, December 14, 2023, at Lansing Community College West Campus.

To ensure our natural resources remain protected and managed thoughtfully and our outdoor heritage defended, join Michigan United Conservation Clubs today: <http://bit.ly/JoinMUCC>.



## 2024 Convention

Where: Sault Ste. Marie

When: March 8th—10th

It's  
U.P.  
Time

### Next Region 7 Meeting

December 10th 2023 Lunch 11:30 Meeting at 12:15

Hamilton Rod and Gun Club

3252 50th St Hamilton Michigan 49419

Guest Speaker is Dean Hall from Sportsman Against Hunger



Mark you calendar for Region 7 Meeting

February 4th 2024 at Jackson County Outdoor Club

For our last Region 7 Meeting before convention and  
1st Region meeting in 2024

Don't Forget about HAP



Michigan's Hunting Access Program (HAP) was originally created in 1977 to increase public hunting opportunities in southern Michigan where 97 percent of the land base is privately owned. It has now expanded to include the Northeast Lower and Eastern Upper Peninsulas. HAP is one of the oldest dedicated private lands public access programs in the nation.



HAP provides access to quality private hunting lands with a focus in agricultural regions and disease management areas. Providing more hunting opportunity is critical for attracting new and retaining current hunters and supporting Michigan's strong hunting tradition.

HAP provides financial incentives to private landowners who allow hunters access to their lands. Using funds from a USDA/VPA-HIP federal grant, the DNR has significantly expanded the number of acres and properties available within the HAP program. <https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/things-to-do/hunting/where/hap/hunters>



# Happenings Around the Region

## Open to the Public Events December 2023 around our region

**Grand Valley Cap & Ballers :** Not much for December. Just Club Shoots & Meetings.

**Fennville Rod and Gun Club:** Basic CPL Class Dec. 24th 8am-5pm Class contact Skip Coryell 269-835-5586. or skip-coryell@hotmail.com Trap and Skeet shooting Dec 1st 1PM-4PM 16th,11:30—12:30, 23rd 12-5 pm , 30th 12-5 all days \$4

**Grass Lake Sportsman Club:** go to Facebook for updates.

**Hillsdale County Conservation Club:** Every Thursday Consecutive Thursdays January 5th-March 16th 30 3-D target shoots. Warm-up @ 6PM Starts at 7PM All Open to Public \$5 per person. 10am-1pm Public.

**New Buffalo Rod and Gun Club:** December Wed. nights trap practice 6PM shoot 6:30 pm and Sunday Trap practice 10am to 1pm. NON-MEMBERS are welcome to attend all upcoming events! Dec . 16th. IDPA 9AM. 9th,CPL Class 8-5pm call 269-469-5990

**Dowagiac Conservation Club:** Hunters Rendezvous February 10th 2024 Don't Miss this one. It's a big deal ! CPL Dec. 9th 8-5 Jan. 13th 8-5 call Ron at 269-224-1032 for more info.

**Bend of the River Conservation Club:** Every Wed. in December 12PM-4PM Basic Pistol Training \$5. Contact Sunne Beaty 312-618-3588. Dec. 30th Club House oprn for sales Shirts, Sweaters, Hats, Target Stands, Silhouette Targets and **Apply for membership**

**Paw Paw Conservation Club** Trap Shooting every Monday year round 4:30– 10:00pm \$4 for 25 birds. Free round for anyone who shoots a perfect round (25) For info call (269) 657-8949 after 4:30 on Monday's Phone # 269-657-8949

**Edwardsburg Conservation Club :** Year round Trap shooting event Games on Saturdays 10-1PM. Jan. 20th Guns 101 Basic Gun Class 1-4 \$25 Call Kelly Adams 269-783-6570

**Hamilton Rod and Gun** Region 7 meeting Dec. 10th more to follow.

**Jackson County Outdoor Club:** Trap Shooting Starts again 1st Wed. 2024. FYI Jackson County Conservation District Annual spring tree sale fundraiser will be April 12-13 at Keely Park. This is a pre-order event For more information go to <http://www.jacksoncd.org> / February 4th 2024 Region 7 meeting. Lunch 11:30 Meeting 12:15– 3:30

**Bellevue Conservation Club:** Open Trap, Skeet and 5-Stand shooting every Sunday 2-6pm and Wednesday 6-10pm. We have 3 Trap/Skeet combo fields with lights. Indoor Archery League will start in January 8484 Greenfield Highway, Bellevue, Michigan 49021.

**St. Jo Conservation Club.** CPL Class Sat. Dec. 9th 8AM–5PM. No Trap or Skeet Dec. 24th. Winter Trap & Skeet League starts Jan. 7th– March 10th . Open Trap/Skeet will start Jan. 7th Concurrently with the league.

**All Species Conservation Club** Jan 27th Squirrel Blast. Hunt your favorite spot. Weigh-in at 2pm and fish fry at Irving farm 8650 8 mile rd. Ceresco Mi. Bring your best 5 squirrels'. \$20 for 2 man team. /Feb 13th regular meeting guest speaker Jay Wesley , DNR Lake Mich. Basin coordinator fisheries division 6:30 sure to be very informative. Travelers Pub Portage Mi.

if would like me to show up at one of your membership meeting to give you an update of what's happening in MUCC's world, email me or call [rhbhunt3@gmail.com](mailto:rhbhunt3@gmail.com) or call 269-209-1770

# What's Cooking?

## Venison Backstrap with Red Wine and Cherry Pan Sauce

6 inch section venison backstrap (whole not sliced)

### SAUCE

3 tbsp of butter , divided,

2 cups of fresh cherries, stemmed and pitted

1 Shallot, finely minced

4 sprigs fresh thyme

4 cloves of garlic, minced

1 tbsp brown sugar (see note\*)

1 tbsp Dijon mustard

2 tbsp of balsamic vinegar

1/2 cup of red wine

Salt to taste

A method of reverse searing is used in this recipe. You do this by cooking the meat in a low oven 250 deg, until the meat is 125 deg for medium. Should take about 30-35 min. Then transfer to a blazing hot skillet to quickly sear both sides. Final target temp should be 140-145 deg. For Medium. Slice into small chunks and Serve with Cherry Sauce as topping. You will be a hero with family or guests.

This method is used to not only to ensure even cooking but also results in a more tender meat due to the gradual heating process, while simultaneously offering precise temperature control and enhanced flavor development.

Try this one for  
your Christmas  
dinner main  
Entrée



\* Note: If using frozen sweetened cherries be cautious of adding sugar to your sauce. Taste as you go to ensure your flavors are well balanced

For MUCC's future in conservation and outdoor heritage  
"Plant the seed" Give one year of Tracks magazine or send  
a kid to camp or both.

Go to [mucc.org](https://mucc.org) and click on programs then Tracks or Youth Camp

**2024 Mucc's youth camp brochure go here:**

<https://www.mucccamp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2024-Brochure.pdf>

"I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us."

*Theodore Roosevelt*



# Did You Know?

**Fishing for carp and smallies on the Beaver Island flats is earning renown the world 'round.**

## **Michigan Rock Hunting Laws to Know**

Per Michigan law, an individual can't remove more than 25 pounds per year of any rock, mineral (exclusive of any gold-bearing material) or invertebrate fossil from state-owned land for personal or non-commercial hobby use. And it's illegal under federal law to remove stones from a national lakeshore.

Michigan's current record-holder? A **193-pound lake sturgeon**, caught in 1974 in Cheboygan's Mullett Lake by Joe Maka Jr. The fish was 88 inches long. No other species has a fish topping 70 pounds in the record books.

Any fish and frogs may be used as bait when legally taken and possessed, **EXCEPT** lampreys, live carp, goldfish or live gobies. Wigglers (mayfly nymphs) and other aquatic nymphs and larvae also may be used for bait, but may not be taken from any trout stream except for personal use on the same stream.

Any of the above referring to Michigan Law is a summary and should be looked into further for specific details before assuming that it is the entire law.

The Golden Bass is the rarest fish to be caught in Michigan.



Bob Golec caught this one on Portage lake near Three Rivers on May 29th 2023



**Conservationist Pledge: I give my Pledge as an American to save and faithfully defend from waste the natural resources of my country, it's Air, soil and minerals, it's forests water and wildlife**

This Publication is compiled and distributed by Ronald H. Burris Past Present, Region  
7 Director Michigan United Conservation Clubs