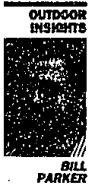


Proposed changes would affect hunting

Some of the most radical changes in years to Michigan's deer hunting regulations could be approved this week when the Michigan Natural Resource Commission meets on Wednesday and Thursday at the Lansing Center.

Some of the changes suggested by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources include establishing a stand-alone antlerless deer permit in certain areas of the state that would be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. A hunter would be able to purchase these permits at a rate of one per day until that specific



BULL PARKER

Deer Management Unit's quota is reached.

The traditional antlerless permit lottery would continue, but the application deadline would be moved up from Sept. 24 to August 1 so the stand-alone permits could be used during the early archery season.

Boundaries of some of the state's Deer Management Units may also be changed to allow more antlerless permits in areas of high deer density.

Most of the proposed changes are in an effort to reduce Michigan's flourishing deer herd from 2 million to approximately 1.3 million.

There is also a possibility that the NRC will adopt a buck management strategy that would limit the second-buck tag for use exclusively on a buck with no less than four points on one side of his rack. This strategy is an

attempt to enable more bucks to reach the second and third year of their development.

Stay tuned on this issue.

Salmon Stakes success

Saturday's 19th annual River Crab Salmon Stakes charity fishing tournament was a huge success. Not only did the tournament raise \$100,910 to fight child abuse and neglect and aid family counseling services statewide, but there was also a record catch of 1,375.13 pounds of salmon and brown trout.

The tournament, based at the River Crab Restaurant in St. Clair and held on the southern waters of Lake Huron, has now raised over \$900,000 to aid family service agencies across the state. The late Chuck Muer and his friend Al Tyrell started the tournament in 1985.

The biggest catch of the day

was a 16.70-pound King salmon. The largest steelhead weighed 6.55 pounds, the biggest Brown trout weighed 9.6 pounds and the largest Coho salmon weighed 3.4 pounds.

Volunteers needed

Friends of Pontiac Lake Recreation Area and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources are looking for volunteers to help spruce up the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area on "Spring-Clear." Our State Park Day, Saturday, May 18. The park is located north of M-59 of Gale Road in Waterford Twp.

The event, which will run 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., will help remove household debris, auto parts and other trash from the perimeter of the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area.

Scouting groups, nature and sporting clubs, businesses,

church groups, individuals and families are invited.

"Last year we cleaned out more than 30 tons, an engine block, and sofas and chairs from our woods," said Fred Tyzack, supervisor at the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area. "It's sad that people use our park to dump their trash. Now we need help from the community to clean it up."

Volunteers should bring their own gloves, rakes and shovels. A free lunch will be provided to all who help and Clarkston Disposal will provide a dumpster for the collected trash.

Call (810) 668-1020 for more information.

Fish ladder dedicated

If you've ever had dreams of catching steelhead on the Huron River upstream from the Flat Rock Dam those dreams can now

turn to reality.

Thanks to a combined effort of concerned citizens, the Huron River Fishing Association, and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, a fish ladder has been built and is operating at the Flat Rock Dam. The structure, the largest volunteer-built fish ladder in Michigan, will allow steelhead and other fish to pass over the dam and continue upstream as far as the Belleville Dam, opening miles of the river to quality fishing.

The Flat Rock Fish Ladder will officially be dedicated at 1 p.m. Saturday in Flat Rock.

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (810) 644-1314 or call Bill Barker at (810) 901-2575.

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

CLASSES

CANOE TRIP PREPARATIONS

A representative from Canada South Outdoors will give a presentation on preparing for a canoe trip beginning at 1 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at Recreational Equipment Inc. in the Northville Center (Six Mile and Haggerty). Call (810) 347-2100 for more information.

CAMPING AND TRAVELING

Bob Taylor, a certified instructor with the American Canoe Association will present a slide presentation on camping and traveling with a sea kayak beginning at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at Recreational Equipment Inc. in the Northville Center (Six Mile and Haggerty). Call (810) 347-2100 for more information.

PROPER PADDLING

Recreational Equipment Inc.'s Bob Taylor and his daughter Jessica will demonstrate the basic canoe and kayak paddling strokes and show how to properly carry a boat beginning at 2 p.m. and again at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 31, at Recreational Equipment Inc. in the Northville Center (Six Mile and Haggerty). Call (810) 347-2100 for more information.

SEASONS/DATES

WALLEYE, SAUGER, PIKE

The regular season for northern pike, walleye and sauger began Saturday, April 26, on inland waters in the Lower Peninsula; starts Thursday, May 15, on Upper Peninsula inland lakes and Great Lakes waters and the St. Mary's River. The season is open all year on Lower Peninsula Great Lakes waters and Lake St. Clair, the St. Clair River and

the Detroit River.

BASS

Smallmouth and largemouth bass season opens statewide on Saturday, May 24, with the exception of the Detroit and St. Clair rivers and Lake St. Clair. Bass season opens Saturday, June 21, on Lake St. Clair, and the St. Clair and Detroit rivers.

TOURNAMENTS

OAKLAND BASS MASTERS

Oakland Bassmasters of Michigan will host its season-opening tournament on Sunday, May 25, on Kent Lake. The two-person team open bass tournament begins with registration at 6:30 a.m. at the west boat launch at Kensington Metropark. Call Roy Randolph at (810) 642-5254 for more information.

MOREL COUNTRY DERBY

The Morel Country Fishing Derby, featuring cash prizes for the longest steelhead, walleye and brown trout, will be held Saturday, May 10, in all lakes, rivers and streams in Charlevoix County. Call (810) 635-2227 or (810) 682-6222 for information.

FISHING CLUBS

FISHING BUDDYS

Fishing Buddys Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (810) 656-0555 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at Garden City High School. Call (313) 420-4481 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club

meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Maplewood Center in Garden City. The guest speaker for the May 7 meeting is Diane Wayne, who will discuss the various aspects of tournament fishing. Call Sam Pilato at (313) 420-0521 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 678-2863 for more information.

ARCHERY

FIELD AND HUNTER LEAGUES

*A morning (10 a.m.) and afternoon (4 p.m.) outdoor field and hunter target league begins today at the Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

*A 14-week outdoor field and hunter target league begins Tuesday, May 13, at Royal Oak Archers in Lake Orion. Call (810) 693-9799 or (810) 589-2480 for more information.

MAA TARGET LEAGUE

An outdoor MAA target league begins at 10 a.m. Monday, May 5, at the Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston. Call (810) 623-0444 for information.

3D LEAGUES

Outdoor 3D leagues begin at 10 a.m. Tuesday, May 6, 4 p.m. Tuesday, May 6, and 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, at the Oak-

land County Sportsman Club in Clarkston. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

3D SHOOT

The Oakland County Sportsman Club will hold a 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, May 11, on its walk-through course in Clarkston. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information. A pancake breakfast begins at 8 a.m.

3D SHOOT

Royal Oak Archers will hold a 3D shoot beginning at 8 a.m. Sunday, May 18, on its walk-through range in Lake Orion. Call (810) 693-9799 or (810) 589-2480 for more information.

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

The Oakland County Sportsman Club in Clarkston offers a Junior Olympic Archery Development Program beginning at 1 p.m. on Sundays. Call (810) 623-0444 for more information.

INDOOR LEAGUES

Several indoor leagues are forming at Red Oaks Archery in Metamora. Red Oaks features a Dart Tunnel, an indoor 3D range with a moving buck, and a standard target range. Call (810) 628-1661 for more information.

SHOOTING RANGES

BAID MOUNTAIN

Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun, rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to sunset, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenfield Rd. (three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills). Call (810) 814-9193 for more information.

PONTIAC LAKE

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area in Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, shotgun and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Pontiac Lake Recreation Area is located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (810) 668-1020 for more information.

ORTONVILLE RECREATION

Ortonville Recreation Area in Ortonville has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The Ortonville Recreation Area is located at 5779 Hadley Rd. Call (810) 693-6767 for more information.

POINTE MOULLEE

Pointe Moullée State Game Area in Rockwood has rifle, pistol and shotgun shooting facilities. Range hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Pointe Moullée State Game Area is located at 37205 Moullée Road. Call (313) 378-3820 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor-vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7758; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

WILDLIFE EXCURSION

A two-hour, naturalist-led hike around Wildwing Lake begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

EARLY BIRDS

Search for tiny warblers and tiny woodland wildflowers that make their annual but brief springtime appearances in the area during this program, which begins at 2

p.m. Sunday at Stony Creek.

OAKLAND PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

TIMBERWOOD TROT

An evening hike to observe the aerial acrobatics of the American woodcock during this program, which begins at 7:30 p.m. at Independence Oaks.

MIGRATION MYSTERIES

Learn how and why birds, snakes, bats and other kinds of creatures migrate during this program, which begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, May 10, at Independence Oaks.

STATE PARKS

STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS

Maybury State Park, Proud Lake Recreation Area, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, Highland Recreation Area and Island Lake Recreation Area offer nature interpretive programs throughout the year. A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and additional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 449-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-6767. For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433.

FARM STORIES

Children will hear stories about baby animals, then enjoy some short activities during this program, which begins at 3 p.m. Sunday at Maybury State Park.

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