

The Whistle Call™



Newsletter for the Chapters and Members of
Quail and Upland Wildlife Federation, Inc™

Volume 9 – August 2010

From Virginia to California, "It's All About Wildlife"©, and QUWF is going to emerge as the leader in quail and upland wildlife habitat restoration! Why? Because we have the respect, passion and honesty to ensure our lifestyle of conservation is the main point.

National News:

Remington Becomes Founding Corporate Sponsor

"There can be no doubt that when you are working on wildlife restoration and the preservation of the American hunting tradition, great companies step up and help shape the future. That is what Remington has done," announces Craig A. Alderman. "They not only are a significant Founding Corporate Sponsor of this nation's first multi-species focus, but will drive new initiatives with private land owners to allow access to well maintained fields and forests, assist with the "Future of America"™ QUWF Youth and Young Adult outreach programs and help build a better future of upland conservation," explains Craig. The Remington Founding Corporate Sponsorship also provides immediate national chapter programs to assist in the raising of critical habitat project funds for local work in upland wildlife habitat and population recovery. "Our sponsors have to activate at the chapter level like never before as well as the national level or it just won't work. Remington stepped up to both with the historical drive from a brand that is truly an American icon and all our members respect and honor that," said Alderman.

"Great news, that's my favorite firearm company!"

* QUWF Member

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OF THE
GAME,
SINCE 1816.

FOR 191 YEARS
REMINGTON AND
THE AMERICAN
SPORTSMAN
HAVE SEEN IT ALL
TOGETHER.

Remington
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"We certainly see the need for "Turning-The- Dirt"[™] for upland wildlife habitat on private and public lands, it is the sole key to providing our sportsmen and women a place to hunt and enjoy the great outdoors. The QUWF foresight and initiatives are a new direction for conservation organizations to maximize every conservation dollar for as many species as we can as the work is done," states Barry Bond, Conservation Manager for Remington.

"The landowners and members of QUWF have a sole focus and that is upland habitat restoration, and Remington will put our hands on the tractors, sprayers and chain saws of QUWF members with our support. We look forward to a long and successful relationship. Our wildlife and hunting tradition depends on it," concludes Bond.

"They're my favorite American made firearm and they use lots of Missouri walnut."

* MDC Employee

Another portion of the Remington Founding Sponsorship will support the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Teams of QUWF. These teams of volunteers provide assistance to landowners in restoring upland wildlife habitat on their lands based on professionally developed and customized management plans which may provide cost share funding at the local, state and federal level.

Support Our Troops



Veterans Appreciation page on quwf.net

QUWF wants to proudly display the names of our members who have sacrificed so much for our freedom. If you're a Veteran let us know! Send your first and last name, the branch you served with, short job description and chapter information to admin@quwf.net.

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Audubon MISSOURI


ALWAYS SHOOTING FOR MORE
PROUD MEMBER


MISSOURI


National Bobwhite
Technical Committee


**MISSOURI BIRD
CONSERVATION
INITIATIVE**


NBCI
National Bobwhite
Conservation Initiative


CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI
EST. 1936
CONSERVE & RESTORE


TEAMING WITH WILDLIFE
a natural investment

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QUWF Attends The National Bobwhite Technical Committee Meetings

QUWF National's sent Craig A. Alderman, Executive Director, and Nick Prough, Director of Chapter Development, to the four day National Bobwhite Technical Committee (NBTC) conference in Wichita, Kansas.



The NBTC includes over 100 wildlife professionals from state and federal agencies, universities and private organizations. The mission of the NBTC is to provide leadership and technical guidance for the National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative (NBCI). The annual meeting provides updates on quail management and research efforts along with giving committee members the opportunity to actively develop and take action on various quail issues. QUWF is a partner with NBTC.



QUWF was a gold level sponsor of the conference and sponsored the Habitat Tour Luncheon for all attendees.

The habitat tour was given of the Flint Hills, the largest remaining tract of Tall Grass Prairie in the United States.

QUWF MAKES A HUGE IMPACT

Our latest 2010 Chapter Impact Survey results are in and truly astounding. Our chapter members spend **\$14,988,198 in their local communities** and our members represent **152,883 acres**.

These results are from January through August and only from chapters that participated in the survey thus far. More results to come by the end of the year as surveys are turned in.

Below are the results from our chapters, members and partners participation in our QUWF 2010 National Seed Program. Each acre and bag of seed planted makes a huge impact for both game and non-game wildlife. Currently, **\$359,149 value of seed has been planted on 13,077 acres in 9 different states.**



QUWF.net Update

Now in the “Tool Shed”

- Section 5 of the Chapter Operations Notebook is now on the web site in the “Tool Shed” under the “Chapter Admin” section
- Habitat Seed Wish List now in the “Tool Shed” under the “Tool Box” section

Not sure how to use the “Tool Shed?” Here’s what you need to know.

1. All chapter chairman, officers and committee members should obtain your login and password. The login is your chapter number and password is the last four digits of the chapter’s EIN number. Why is the “Tool Shed” a secure location? Here we provide exclusive information for chapter use only!
2. The “Tool Shed” is divided up into four sections:
 - **Chapter Admin** – here you can find sections of the Chapter Operations Notebook and general chapter information including QUWF letterhead, event flyer template, banquet ticket template, QUWF talking points and banquet items. *We continuously add items to this section, so check here often!*
 - **VDP Vendors**- here you can find all the products offered to QUWF members from our Vendors for banquet and event planning. Our Vendors have worked hard to provide the best prices for our chapters. This is a very important section when planning banquets!
 - **PDF Files**
 - **Tool Box**- here you can find state Custom Rates and the form for Habitat Reports.

The purpose of the “Tool Shed” is to provide the necessary tools for chapter success. We want information to be readily available for our members and that’s why we continuously update the “Tool Shed.”

 **VISIT QUWF.NET TO VOTE ON OUR LATEST POLL** 

QUWF Sponsors Shooting Station

QUWF sponsored a shooting station at the Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) Pull for Conservation Shoot at the River Hills Sporting Clays course in Boonville, Missouri held August 14. Out of the past four years the 2010 CFM Sporting Clays Classic brought in the largest crowds. The event hosted 55 shooting teams, including a QUWF shooting team, and 50 individual shooters participating in the single shooter course.



QUWF members assisted shooters at various stations, helped keep score and simply talked about wildlife habitat with attendees. “Despite the intense heat, many groups showed up to participate and shoot. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed fellowship amongst CFM supporters and shooters,” said Nick Prough, Director of Chapter Development. “QUWF is a proud partner of CFM and we look forward to continued joint partnership in the future to benefit wildlife resources and conservation efforts,” continues Nick.

It's Banquet Season! Don't Forget Our Vendors!

Let our VDP programs make your chapter banquet or event a step above the rest. We have worked hard to have products available to QUWF members from exceptional companies. So if you are looking for auction items or gifts, be sure to check out the VDP Vendors section under the “Tool Shed” on our web site www.quwf.net.



Chapter News & Events:

QUWF wants to ensure that we know about your chapter's involvement so we can share your achievements with other chapters across the nation. Send banquet and event dates and event follow-ups and photos to Lynzee at admin@quwf.net.

A picture's worth a 1,000 words! Submit your chapter's photos for the web site!

Memorial Fun Shoot And Barbeque

The Santa Clarita Valley chapter held a Memorial Fun Shoot and BBQ at the Oak Tree Gun Club in Newhall, California to honor their long-time friends and family members who shared a passion for quail hunting and participated in many projects dedicated to "Turnin'-The-Dirt."™

Fifty six members gathered with friends to enjoy a round or two of trap or skeet shooting in the morning followed by an exquisite spread of BBQ dove appetizers, BBQ tri-tip, pulled pork mini-sandwiches, "John Nelson's special beans," salads, garlic bread and a variety of cobblers. As bellies were filled stories and laughter filled the entire picnic area as stories of old times told and old acquaintances rekindled their relationships.

The chapter sponsored 10 youth member's shooting costs. The chapter plans on making this an annual event to remember their lost friends and family members. "We are sure that they are all smiling down on us as we continue to do the work they so dearly loved doing for upland birds and wildlife," said Jeff Carley, Santa Clarita Valley Chairman.



Truly A Multi-Species Project

This is truly what it's all about; "Making a Difference for Multiple Species, One Guzzler at a Time." In late July the Santa Clarita Valley Chapter in California surveyed 35 water guzzlers, recorded GPS locations and scheduled maintenance and repairs. Twenty two volunteers and 2,637 miles made a huge impact on quail, dove, rabbits, squirrels, deer, coyotes, turkey, fox, bobcats and rams. Check out these pictures from a game cam set up at one of the guzzler water sites! The complete habitat report and more pictures of this project will be posted in the "Turnin'-The-Dirt"[™] section on quwf.net.



The Habitat Clock:

Plant cool-season grasses such as timothy, redtop and orchard grass now through October 1. Little bluestem begins to bloom now through September. Illinois bundleflower seeds provide excellent protein for wildlife and livestock. Burning grasses when they are in bloom will reduce next year's regrowth. Start preparing firelines for fall and spring prescribed burns. Disk, burn or mow mature wheat fields to attract doves. Consider leaving some wheat standing adjacent to escape cover for quail.

Bobwhite nesting persists and a second peak in hatching occurs in August. On August 28, 2007 the bobwhite quail was officially designated as Missouri's state game bird.



Notes From The Dashboard:

As you look at some of the phenomenal progress QUWF has made because of our chapters, all of us at National say "Thank You". The bulk seed program year to date results show we are hitting on all cylinders with \$359,000 worth of seed shipped to 9 different states that has or will be actually planted on 13,000 acres plus. These are tractor trailer loads so it is a tribute to you, our members and partners that the focus of "Turnin'-The-Dirt"[™] is being realized in the light of political turmoil in our country and just

plain pressures on your family and mine. We only want your organization to grow to the point we always serve our members who are bustin' soil, edge feathering trees and planting good habitat. We will not be the biggest, we don't want that, but we will be the one that turns the most dirt for wildlife through our chapters. Get others to join with us. It is working.

As we go about the country we have completed 8 full Impact Studies, with *just 8 chapters* and these numbers need to grab us all right by the britches. They scream: *we are important and can make a difference*. With 8 full chapters completed here are the numbers;

- Disposable Income spent in the local communities: \$15, 000,000 (yes that is MILLION)
- Acres owned by our members: 153,000 acres
- Community Organizations Supported: 2,201
- Our 8 surveyed chapters have 905 registered voters.

We have chapters working on ruff grouse, high desert big game (check out the rams in this newsletter at a guzzler maintained by our Santa Clarita chapter), quail, deer, rabbits, pheasant, turkey and ducks. Many of these species at the same time on their lands, and that is what we are all about. Keep those habitat reports coming in, with pictures please. This is your story and we want to tell it for you.

We are sending you a new bulk seed wish list for our chapters, tell us what you are looking for in seed needs and we will work with our suppliers for you.

Take a look at our web site homepage, look at some of the conservation partners we are working with and there are more about to come on. We don't need to re-invent the wheel just work with the experts that are all ready there for you and I to use. We want these resources to give you the access to the latest research, data and recommendations where you live, using your dollars raised in your community.

It is quite an undertaking, this QUWF multi-specie focus is exploding as a message and a direction. Quail based habitat in many regions is the key to recovery of most edge species, guzzlers in the west support any and all wildlife and when we get our families and friends outside, it is a triple bonus. Yes, far away from video games, hand held's and blackberry's they just might enjoy it and learn a bit more about what nature is all about. Only you can answer the question of how much we can get done together with your memberships and donations, you are the driving force, as it should be.

Another note;

Please welcome Remington Arms Company as our Founding Corporate Sponsor, their chapter support program is, well, darn good! They are visiting several banquets this season just to stop by and say hello, let them know how much we appreciate their support of our conservation work if they pop into yours. We will try and give you a heads up if we know.

As fall approaches, we asked our friends at Whitetail Institute for some words on fall deer plots and planning, check out the article and their map, good stuff!!!

Catch you across the creek,



Craig

ADVERTISING IN THE WHISTLE CALL IS NOW AVAILABLE.

Reserve your space now and prove that your company, product or service is dedicated to wildlife recovery.

Contact Lynzee at admin@quwf.net for more information.

Winter Nutrition is About Survival

Written by Matt Harper

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The winter of 2007-08 was long, cold and plagued with ice storms and heavy snowfall. In fact, the snowfall in some parts of the country hit record levels. Power outages, treacherous roads and furnaces that never seemed to shut off characterized six months — and even more in some parts of the country. To say that cabin fever was running rampant would be an understatement; a better description would be epidemic. Even with all the bad weather, most of us had the blessing of a warm home and food to eat.

"Making A Difference For Wildlife, One Acre At A Time"™

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We could sit by the fire and view the winter landscape transform into an icy, snow-filled panorama. One blustery January day, I cruised around the countryside in my heated truck when I saw a group of about 20 deer picking through a harvested cornfield. They couldn't have been getting much for the effort, as the ground was covered with 12 inches of snow piled on top of about two inches of ice. Even if the deer had excavated the field surface, there would have been little corn to find. What the combine left had long since disappeared, because nearly every animal the deer shared the farm with had scavenged the field. However, the deer valiantly dug away, trying to find anything to eat to keep them from starvation.

WINTER CONDITIONS

In many parts of the country, winter is the most stressful nutritional period for deer. The reason stems from a one-two punch by Mother Nature. First, winter conditions exact a heavy demand on body condition. When temperatures plummet, deer must use large amounts of nutrients to maintain core-temperature homeostasis. Deer, however, are very well equipped for cold weather. As the thermometer begins to drop, a deer's summer hair coat is replaced with a winter coat of hollow hairs that act as body insulation. Moisture is far more damaging than temperature, whether it comes as ice, snow or rain. Ice creates a nearly impenetrable barrier over food sources, on the ground and hanging browse. Although snow might make browsing more difficult, ice can make it nearly impossible. Snow can be detrimental in several ways to deer, but one of the worst is the increase in energy needed for locomotion. Navigating through deep snow causes a tremendous increase in energy needs, further draining an already limited supply. As we know, moisture makes cold weather feel even colder, especially with windy conditions. Rain and wind mixed with cool temperatures can be far more energy draining than cold temperatures alone. The other detrimental aspect of winter is the dwindling food supply. Being a herbivore, deer rely on growing vegetation for food. As freezing temperatures stop all vegetation growth, the food supply deer use becomes limited. The choicest food sources are the first to be used, such as acorns and agricultural crops. As mentioned, these highly preferred food sources are used by many animals. From those sources, deer move progressively down the list of preferred foods until they are forced to consume foods they would normally ignore. Typically, as food source preference decreases, so does food source quality. The last food sources consumed by deer are normally low in digestibility and nutrient content. The combination of energy sapping weather combined with depreciating food sources leads to lost body weight and, in extreme conditions, even death.

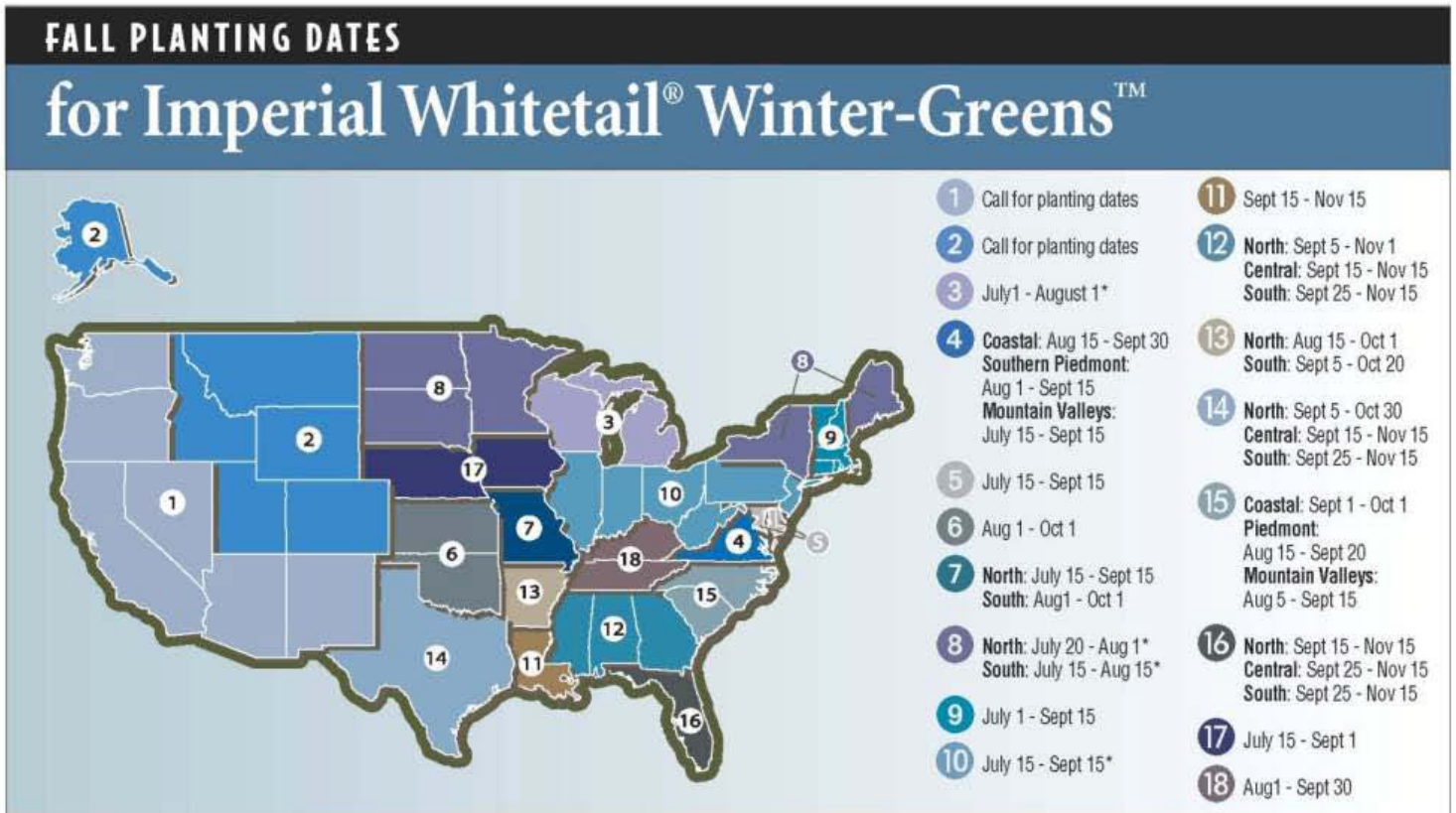
WINTER NUTRITION

When antlers harden in late summer, a buck's nutritional needs change dramatically. Protein and mineral needs decrease. That's not to say protein and minerals are not still needed; only the amounts needed decreases. Energy needs, however, remain high, as deer eat lots of carbohydrates and lipids to build fat reserves. During the rigors of the rut, bucks can lose 25 percent or more of their body weight. This weight must be regained for the deer to survive harsh winter conditions. Likewise, does undergo a change in nutrient needs. As fawns are weaned and milk production stops, protein and mineral needs decrease while energy needs remain high. Of all deer, fawns and yearlings are the most vulnerable to winter conditions. They are smaller, making travel more difficult in deep snow. Also, young deer are more susceptible to winterkill because they lack of good nutrition. Deer have a natural defense system against the trials of winter. They undergo a semi-hibernation phase during the period. In this phase, deer movement decreases dramatically as they naturally conserve energy. More important, a deer's metabolism slows dramatically, so they have lower food-volume requirements. Intake decreases dramatically during winter. The typical consumption levels of deer average three percent of their body weight but can decrease to less than two percent during winter. That's even true for deer that have unlimited access to quality food sources, such as pen-raised deer.

WINTER NUTRITION PLAN

When developing a winter nutrition program for deer, the two critical elements revolve around a dense energy food source coupled with high digestibility. A third consideration is to supply a food source that doesn't adversely affect rumen microorganisms. Food plots are normally considered spring, summer and fall nutritional management tools. However, some food plots can be used specifically as a winter food source. These food sources must produce large amounts of forage before a killing frost and should also contain lots of digestible carbohydrates. Brassicas are one plant type that provides these specific needs. Three years ago, the Whitetail Institute developed a product called Imperial WinterGreens. WinterGreens is a blend of specifically selected brassica varieties that combines dramatic growth, winter hardiness, high nutrient content and incredible attractiveness. WinterGreens is typically planted in late summer or early fall and provides high amounts of energy during winter. Several years ago, the Whitetail Institute introduced a product line called Cutting Edge Nutritional Supplements. Cutting Edge consists of three products, each designed to provide nutritional supplementation for three distinct periods. The genesis of this project was the development of a supplement designed to supply required nutrients during mid-to late-fall and winter. Cutting Edge Sustain is a supplement that contains a highly concentrated energy source designed to help supply needed carbohydrates and lipids. Further, it ensures

that this energy is supplied from sources and ratios that maintain and even enhance rumen function. In addition, Sustain contains protein, minerals, vitamins, buffering agents and microbial enhancers. As stated, deer don't need lots of protein and minerals at this time, but they still need them. Sustain helps provide all cold-weather nutritional needs.



Map provided by www.whitetailinstitute.com.