

United Northern Sportmen's News

Conservation Pledge: I give my pledge as an American to save and faithfully to defend from waste, the natural resources of my country - its' air, soil and minerals, its' forests, waters and wildlife.

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Club Calendar

Oct. 30, 31	Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range
Nov. 1-5	Fall Sight-In, Rifle Range
Nov. 3	UNS Board Meeting 6:30pm, Zoom Meeting
Nov. 5	Fall Fundraiser Drawings
Nov. 6	Deer Season Opens
Nov. 8	Ranges Closed, Maintenance
Nov. 15	Ranges Closed, Maintenance
Nov. 22	Ranges Closed, Maintenance
Nov. 27	Muzzleloader Deer Season Begins
Nov. 29	Ranges Closed, Maintenance
Dec. 1	UNS Board Meeting 6:00pm, Zoom Meeting
Dec. 6	Ranges Closed, Maintenance
Dec. 8	UNS Annual Meeting 6:00pm, Zoom Meeting

All members are encouraged to attend. Please RSVP cody@ckpriv.com. If the meeting is at the clubhouse and is full a Zoom Meeting Connection will be provided. If the meeting is via Zoom a connection will be provided when you RSVP.

SHOOTING HOURS

Range hours are 8am to 30 minutes before sunset. All ranges are closed on Mondays. Range opening and closing times are posted on the ranges and the bulletin board on the Retreat Bldg. Please obey the rules or you may lose your shooting privileges.

RANGE USE CALENDAR

may be found on our Website:

www.unitednorthernsportmen.org

2021 UNS ANNUAL MEETING

The UNS Annual Business Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8th, at 6 pm via Zoom. The order of business will consist of approval of the 2022 annual budget, the elections of eight officers including president, secretary, sergeant-at-arms and five members of the board of directors, as well as any other business conducted for the good of the order. The meeting will be held virtually. Instructions on how to attend will be in the December newsletter.

2021 UNS ELECTIONS AT THE DECEMBER ANNUAL MEETING

The Nominating Committee will propose a slate of candidates at the November BOD meeting and elections will be held at the Annual Meeting on December 8th. All members nominated must be in good standing for a minimum of one year by the December Annual Meeting.

John Bathke, Nominating Committee Chair

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN 2021 FALL FUNDRAISER

The Annual Fall Fundraiser and the Fall Sight-In are what gives us the needed funds for kid's events, conservation efforts, and the maintenance of our facility. If every member commits to buying and/or selling these tickets, we will be able to fund our events that so many people have come to enjoy and expect.

Our 2021 Fall Fundraiser will again consist of raffling off \$1,500 of gift certificates from our local businesses. Each ticket will be a \$5.00 donation. If you haven't already received any or need more to sell to family, friends, coworkers or by buying them for yourself please contact Deanna Dodge by phone: (218) 721-3979, or email pddodge2014@hotmail.com.

Our drawings will be held on Friday, November 5th at the close of the Fall Sight-In. You do not need to be present to win. Thank you for your continued support in our club.

THE FALL SIGHT-IN IS GOING ON NOW!

The Minnesota deer hunting season begins on Nov. 6th. The UNS Sight-In fundraiser will continue on Nov. 1-5. The range will open at 8am and close 1/2 hour before sunset. The fee will be \$5.00 per gun for everyone. This event is open to the public, you do not have to be a member. Remember to bring eye and ear protection and a case for your gun.

UNS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 6, 2021

Call to Order: by President Tom Wasbotten at 6:05 pm., Conservation Pledge.

Elected Officers Present: Tina Sund, Tom Wasbotten, Lance Haavisto, Jeff Jarvela, Lance Parthe, Vickie Jensen, Gene Shaw and Cody Privette.

Members Present: Ron Cretens, Bob Kuettel, Sara Taylor and Robert Spindler.

Excused Officers: John Bathke, Duane Lasley.

Correspondence: SLC Rescue Squad Thank You, Gnesen Newsletter.

Agenda additions: Motion to approve the agenda (M/S/C).

Reading of Minutes: Motion to approve the September BOD minutes (M/S/C).

Treasurer's Report: Tina Sund as of 9/30/21: Motion made to approve the report and pay bills (M/S/C).

Membership Secretary's Report: Tina Sund as of 9/30/21: Current membership is 1733 with 63 individual memberships & 19 family memberships renewed and with 51 - 2nd notices mailed.

Committee Reports:

Webmaster – Eric Hansen: Made updates to the UNS website and Facebook page.

Newsletter Committee: Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave an overview of eliminating this as a recurring report.

Facilities Committee – Lance Parthe: Non-member shooters are becoming an issue. We will pull in the docks and replace the mats on the rifle range. Biffies have been an ongoing issue. There has been an issue with flies. No report back from the Appleseed program. Lance gave an overview of the new trespassing signs.

Incident Reports – Bob Kuettel: Report is under New Business.

Range and Grounds Calendar – Bob Kuettel & Lance Parthe: Sight-In days are listed below.

Grants Committee – Gene Shaw: The DNR is coming out with the grants program for 50/50 match. We are on the bottom of the list for approval of a grant.

Volunteer Awards Committee – Tina Sund: Nothing new to share.

Finance Committee – Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave overview of the renewal of our non-profit status.

OLD BUSINESS:

UMD Outdoor Education Field Days Update – Bob Kuettel: Bob gave an overview of the third date added for the UMD event. 10/12, 10/14, and 10/26 UMD will be here from 2:30 to 5pm on all of the ranges.

Campsite Electric Pedestal Project – Cody Privette: Cody gave an overview of the electrical project.

2022 Nominations Committee Update – Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave an overview of the Nominations Committee. Will meet soon via Zoom and will consider candidates and will report by email when we have progress.

2022 Budget Request From Committee Heads & Event Chairs – Tina Sund: Tina gave an overview of the budget request for committee and event chairs. Completed budgets are due back 11/3/21.

Ice Fishing Contest Committee Formation – Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave an overview of the need to form a committee. Motion made and seconded to host the Ice Fishing Contest in January 2022. Discussion followed (M/S/C). Motion made to say no to the ALS tournament group's involvement with the Ice Fishing Contest (M/S/C).

Fall Fund Raiser & Sight In Update – Tina Sund & Bob Kuettel: Tina gave an overview of the fall fundraiser. About \$400 in tickets so far. Gift certificates will be picked up soon for the prizes. Bob gave an overview of the event posters that are ready to be put up around town. 10/9 is the range office training.

NEW BUSINESS:

Fall Range & Ground Monitors & Compensation – Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave overview of our current financial status and the need to secure the ranges. Motion made to patrol the ranges as needed for the balance of the year for \$40 a shift. Discussion followed. The original motion was rescinded. Motion made to authorize \$400 for range monitors to patrol the ranges through the balance of the year. The President and Vice President are authorized to facilitate the payment of the independent contractors as they see fit (M/S/C). Motion made that members who volunteer to monitor the ranges during October outside of the sight-in days would earn 2X volunteer hours (M/S/C).

Plaques for Memorial Trees – Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave an overview of the plan to plant memorial trees. Vickie Jensen is looking for some plaques.

Ron Cretens End of Season Review & 2022 Recommendations – Tom Wasbotten: Tom gave an overview of Ron's first season as the camp host. Motion made to approve a \$500 appreciation gift to Ron Cretens (M/S/C).

Incident Report – Lance Parthe & Tom Wasbotten: Discussion followed about a smishing attempt to defraud the club. Tom gave an overview of the letter from a former member whose membership has been terminated. Motion made that we do not re-instate the membership of the former member. Discussion followed (M/S/C). Motion made that all incident reports remain out of the minutes when discussing club members for disciplinary actions. Discussion followed (M/S/C).

Adjournment: Motion made to adjourn at 8:25 pm (M/S/C).

Respectfully submitted by Cody Privette, Secretary

Next BOD meeting will be held on November 3rd at 6:30pm via zoom.

ICE FISHING CONTEST



The United Northern Sportsmen's 68th Annual Ice Fishing Contest will be held on Sunday, January 30, 2022 at the Sportsmen Retreat on Island Lake. Further information will be sent to all club members in November. For advance information call Tom Wasbotten (763-228-8889).

FIREARMS DEER HUNTING SEASON BEGINS NOVEMBER 6TH.

Minnesota's firearms deer season opens Saturday, Nov. 6th. Muzzleloader deer season is Saturday, Nov. 27th thru Sunday, Dec. 12th. Archery deer season began Sept. 18th and continues thru Friday, Dec. 31st. Find regulations and information on how to get deer tested for chronic wasting disease and helpful tips for new hunters, from the [DNR deer hunting page](#). DNR Managers report favorable dry conditions that can improve hunter access due low water conditions in wetlands, floodplains and small water bodies. Dry conditions also result in greater fire danger.

DNR Continues Webinars on Hunting and Fishing Skills

Anyone interested can get ready for deer seasons by joining webinars hosted by the DNR. The webinars are free, but participants are required to pre-register. Fall session topics included:

- Nov. 3 – Preparing for the firearms deer season, including last-minute tips, reminders, strategies to be successful.
- Nov. 10 – Muzzleloader hunting tips and techniques.

For details: [DNR outdoors skills webinar page](#)

BEST RIFLE CARTRIDGES FOR NEW HUNTERS

Caliber selection can be intimidating for new deer hunters. There are so many options, and every gun writer with a blog and an Internet connection has an opinion he's more than happy to share. Read the recommendations below, but first, know this: almost every rifle caliber can take down a whitetail. Some calibers offer unique advantages, but if you can find it at a sporting goods store and it's bigger than .22 caliber, you'll be fine. The important thing is to pick something and start practicing.

If you want to make the most informed decision, however, there are a few criteria you should keep in mind.

Cost: You'll forget about cost until after you purchase the rifle and start looking for practice ammo. For a box of 20 premium hunting ammunition in most calibers, expect to pay about \$50 per box. For practice ammo, try to choose a caliber you can find for around \$20. Check out Federal's rifle cartridge offerings or go to a big online dealer like Midway USA.

Selection: Some calibers are more popular than others, so manufacturers offer a wider variety of loads (i.e., different bullet weights and designs.) The .308 Winchester is among the most popular cartridges ever produced, and Federal makes 32 varieties. But the ammo maker only offers three options for the .280 Ackley Improved, all of which cost more than \$63 per box. If you want to be sure you'll find your deer cartridge, go with something that's relatively common.

Recoil: Every new hunter article mentions recoil, but it's something even veteran hunters take into consideration. Choosing a caliber with limited recoil allows you to practice longer, take shots from awkward positions, and most importantly, it reduces the chances of flinching. Flinching can significantly affect accuracy, especially if you don't have much experience behind the trigger. Only you can determine how much recoil you can tolerate, but generally speaking, shooters say recoil becomes uncomfortable past about 15 foot-pounds. To see the recoil energy of most rifle calibers, check out Chuck Hawks recoil table.

Range/Power: When you are thinking about choosing a rifle caliber, consider range as probably the least important criteria for new whitetail hunters. If you hit it in the vitals, it'll go down in short order. Taking a shot less than 200 yards is within the maximum effective range of most rifle calibers. It's better to choose a caliber you can grow into than something you'll have to replace in a few years. For that reason, you should also make sure the caliber you select can take deer at distances you'll be hunting for years to come. [Click here for complete article.](#)

BEGIN TO PREPARE YOUR TREES FOR WINTER

It's been a tough year for many trees with the summer drought across most of Minnesota. Trees can experience many stresses during the winter months including lack of water, sunscald, wildlife damage, and winter injury. [Read more about how to begin preparing your trees for winter.](#)

DROUGHT

Drought has improved slightly in the northern counties of the state, with a significant reduction in the amount of extreme drought coverage.

KINGSBURY BAY/GRASSY POINT PROJECT IS COMPLETE

One of Minnesota DNR's largest habitat restoration projects is complete. The three-year, \$18 million construction project in the St. Louis River estuary near Duluth has restored 230 acres of coastal wetland habitat at Kingsbury Bay and Grassy Point. Residents and visitors at the locations may see large equipment being removed from the area over the next several weeks.

Restoration of Grassy Point required the removal of approximately 130,000 yards of wood waste that was deposited into the river from two historic mills that were built on stilts over the water. The mills no longer remain at the site, but the wood debris – up to 16 feet deep in locations – remained there 120 years later and continued to impair fish and invertebrate habitat. The site restoration included removing invasive narrow-leaved cattails and creating new islands to shelter the restored wetland from wave action.

A mile and a half upstream, the Kingsbury Bay project focused on the removal of approximately 140,000 yards of excess sediment deposited by upstream erosion and the 2012 flash flood. The project restored coastal wetland habitat, created open water, and improved recreational opportunities for boaters and anglers.

The clean sediment removed from Kingsbury Bay was reused at Grassy Point to cap the new islands, which were seeded with native grasses and flowering plants. The Kingsbury Bay sediment also was used to cover areas of the Grassy Point river bottom, where wood waste was removed to re-establish healthy aquatic plant and wildlife communities.

In the spring of 2022, the new islands at Grassy Point will be planted with native trees, flowers and shrubs to restore habitat for a variety of wildlife. This separate, but related, project is being led by the Minnesota Land Trust.

A new fishing pier will be installed off the end of Indian Point, adjacent to a deeper restored fish habitat in Kingsbury Bay. The pier will be accessible from the Waabizheshikana Trail via a landing that will be constructed by the city of Duluth.

Funding for the DNR-led project comes from the Minnesota Outdoor Heritage Fund, The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative with oversight by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the St. Louis River/Interlake/Duluth Tar Superfund Site settlement.

If you wish to read more about this see: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/st-louis-river-restoration/index.html>

EMAILS WANTED: Remember, the next time you renew your membership, or even tomorrow, let us know your email address so you may receive our enhanced newsletter electronically. Emails may be sent to Duane Lasley, duanellasley@gmail.com.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE: Monthly newsletters are sent before the end of the previous month. Articles are due by the 15th of the previous month. If you have an article you would like share or photos please send to sue@b-green.us. It may be shared space permitting.

UNITED NORTHERN SPORTSMEN'S NEWS

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2021 Board of Directors

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