



Yuma Valley Rod & Gun Club

"Conserving Arizona's Land and Wildlife Since 1936"

April
2007



Monthly Newsletter

Fall Big Game Hunt Results Are Out! Check To See If You Were Drawn!

April Events:

- Fair Booth
April 3-8, 2007
- IRS Bass Derby
April 15, 2007
- Father/Child Fish Derby
April 29, 2007

Next Club Meeting:

Date:

April 4, 2007

Location:

American Legion Post #19
2575 South Virginia Drive
Yuma, Arizona 85364

Time:

6:30 pm

VISIT US ONLINE:

YVRGC.COM

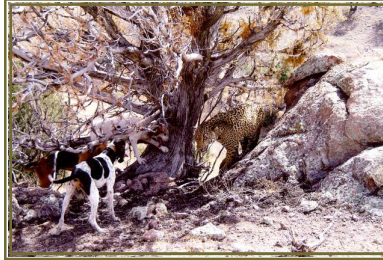


~This 2007 monster pig weighed in at 64lbs at about five years old. Taken the last day of the hunt at 4:30 pm on march 1st 2007 tracking took six hours and ten min. shot at 10:20 am recovered at 4:30 pm. Hunter: Kevin K Wilson

Website:

~Don't forget, the newsletter is always posted on the website before it gets printed and mailed. No excuses....

~ My appologies for getting the newsletter out late this month. It has been a month unlike any other. However, if any of you complain about this delay, please feel free to give me a call and take over the duties of the newsletter. I would just hate to upset the club!! Also, for those of you smart enough to operate a computer, the newsletter is always posted on the website before each club meeting.



Fair Booth

~Come out this year and help support the clubs largest fund raiser. We need members to work the booth every day of the fair, Tuesday through Sunday. Large numbers of members working in the booth shows the public our strength and club support. For information call

Paul Williams 928 343 9099. Also, for those of you who have committed to selling the booth raffle tickets, time is running out. Please get with Paul ASAP. If you were unable to sell the tickets, please arrange getting them to the fair so the club has the opportunity to sell the remainder.

New Member Drive

Harold Wah is leading the new membership drive Gun Raffle with 10 new members signed up so far this year. At this pace, he would have approximately 40 members by year end. Can anyone top that?

KOFA Lion Update:

~ February started out without much lion sign in the KOFA Mountains, though tracks and a reported deer carcass in Unit 41 suggest that there was lion activity to the east of the refuge. Later in the month we found tracks in the KOFAs suggesting a female and a small male were in the area. No carcasses or cache sites were found on the refuge this month, although several scat samples were collected during capture attempts. We have collected about a third of the 37 scat samples we need to perform DNA analysis. There were no photos taken of lions in February. We will be taking a short break from capture efforts so Ron Thompson can assist another researcher but we hope to resume efforts in late April or May.

March Bass Derby

~Results of March 11, 2007 Open Bass Derby at Mitty Lake: Total Weight 1st Place Dean Edwards & Eddie Strom 16.22 lbs. 2nd Place Mike Gaither & Jon Fugate 15.14 lbs. 3rd Place Riley Peel & Ed Pettis 11.53 lbs. Big Fish 1st Place Frankie Ferguson 6.35 lbs, 2nd Place Michael Underhill & Steve Plaisance 5.50 lbs, 3rd Place Dean Edwards & Eddie Strom 4.73 lbs.

Hunting Questions & Answers

QUESTION: I missed my one yearly shot at a deer because my scope-base screws were loose, and it's not going to happen again. Can you recommend something that will freeze them in place permanently?

ANSWER: Simply degreasing the screw holes and threads with lighter fluid will usually do the trick. If you want to go a step further, degrease and then put a small dab of Blue (No. 242) Loctite on each screw. The most powerful agent is aged tomcat urine. But obtaining it is a problem as aged tomcats often object to being squeezed.

QUESTION: A friend of mine tells me that you can get infections from mule deer blood when you're gutting a carcass. I've never heard of this happening with whitetails. Is it true?

ANSWER: I believe it is. I've seen cut fingers, particularly cut cuticles, become badly infected after contact with mule deer blood. It's a good idea to wear surgeons' gloves when doing this kind of work whether your hands are intact or not.

QUESTION: I'm a game biologist, and I've noticed that unlike deer, antelope will not stay rooted to a spot when you shine a bright light at them at night. Any idea why?

ANSWER: This is a guess, and only a guess: Unlike deer, which rely heavily on their senses of smell and hearing, antelope seem to depend almost entirely on their eyesight, and if anything interferes with it—such as a spotlight—they are going to get away from it as fast as they can.

Our Mission includes, but is not limited to:

The conservation of wildlife, habitat and natural resources. Education of the public to include conservation issues and firearm safety. To support and defend the second amendment of the United States Constitution. Provide recreation and organized activities to members and the public and participate in charitable and other community service activities especially those related to conservation and sportsmanship.

For The Fisherman:

River Flow:

Colorado River

Below Powell: 9,728 CFS
 Below Havasu: 10,056 CFS
 Below Mead: 20,867 CFS
 At Yuma: 816 CFS
 Below Mohave: 14,272 CFS

~ For those of you who think they have caught the biggest fish, to the right is a list obtained from the AZ Game & Fish website of those who have weighed in or measured their fish caught in Arizona. I would imagine that our anglers in Yuma could easily surpass those listed with largemouth bass.

2007 Entries - Updated March 30, 2007

Species Name	Size, Location, Angler, and Date
Black Crappie	2 lb. 4.96 oz. 15.5 in., Roosevelt Lake Marc S. Anderson, 03/25/07
Smallmouth Bass	2 lb. 6.08 oz. 17.13 in., Gila Gravity Canal Mike Fredrick, 03/18/07
Striped Bass	6 lb. 5.44 oz. 24 in., Lake Pleasant Charlie Prince, 03/10/07
White Bass	1 lb. 4.96 oz. 16.25 in., Lake Pleasant Chad Prince, 03/11/07

Catch and Release**

Northern Pike*	24 in., Upper Lake Mary Chris Bamberg, 03/19/07
Rainbow Trout*	31 in., Silver Creek Paul D. Voelker, 01/09/07

Urban Entries

Largemouth Bass	9 lb. 9.44 oz. 23.5 in., Kennedy Lake Hector Dorame, 03/19/07
Rainbow Trout	3 lb. 14.08 oz. 20.25 in., Water Ranch Lake Trevor Keaster, 03/12/07

Catch and Release**

Channel Catfish	18 in., Surprise Lake Mary Moore, 02/08/07
Hybrid Sunfish	6 in., Surprise Lake Mary Moore, 02/08/07
Largemouth Bass	14 in., Green Valley Lakes Edward S. Zalig, 03/21/07
Rainbow Trout	12 in., Surprise Lake Mary Moore, 02/08/07

Yuma Women's Reel & Rifle Club

Know Any Females who Fish, Hunt, Target Shoot???

Members of the Yuma Women's Reel & Rifle Club (YWRRC) ask if you know of any women (young and old, all ages welcome!) that might be interested in the YWRRC???? This historic club is filled with wonderful ladies who value the outdoors, enjoy fishing and hunting, and have fun throughout the year. If your wife, sister, female cousins and friends like to fish and hunt, this is the Club for them. Your daughters are also welcome and encouraged to join (those under 18 need a sponsorship from an active YWRRC member). Please have them contact President, June Wolfe (210-7770) or Vice-President, Julie Foster (376-0974) for information on this historic and FUN club. **59th Year is here!**

59th Anniversary Dinner – Special Meeting Date – Ladies of all ages welcome!

In April on Thursday, April 12th, 6:00pm at the American Legion Post #19, 2575 Virginia Drive (Ladies Auxiliary Room). Members and their family & friends join together once a year to celebrate the Club's anniversary..... tell stories; take photos of past presidents and honorary members present. Great door prizes! Exciting discussion about upcoming derbies & stories from the Yuma County Fair and the Outdoor Expo in Phoenix.

Join

Annual dues \$20 (adults), \$10 (juniors/guppies) - - Enjoy fishing, hunting, target shooting and competing with women of all ages! Share stories, get involved in the community and habitat conservation & build memories. Send dues to PO Box 1621, Yuma AZ 85366 or come to the meeting!

Contests Underway & Derby Coming:

January 1st brought the beginning of the Bass, Catfish & Striped Bass Contests that are progressive throughout the year. Catfish Board has Julie Foster with a 4 lb 5 oz beauty on it! **DERBY RESULTS:** Women's Open Bass and Catfish Derby was held March 2nd–4th and Julie Foster won with a 3 lb 10 oz catfish. No bass were caught. **NEXT DERBY:** All Member Bass Derby (May 11th-13th).

Hunting Tournaments & Shooting Events

2007 Tournaments will run during legal seasons. Jean Wilson bagged a 45 lb javalina on the last day of the HAM hunt in late February. Target shooting events also to be planned!

Family Outing – Date TBD

Women's Expo – May 12th

Interested in support of habitat and wildlife locally?

Consider your individual or group involvement in the Southwest Arizona Habitat Partnership Committee (HPC). For more information, contact June or Jean.

**** FOR MEMBERSHIP FLYERS & INFORMATION Call June Wolfe ****

SONORAN PRONGHORN MONTHLY UPDATE

March 22, 2007

Captive Breeding:

North Half: All the animals are doing well. Four of the five adult females in the north half have given birth to at least 6 fawns. In addition, one yearling doe has given birth to a single fawn. This yearling was born in the pen in spring of 2005, so this is the second generation born in the pen. So far, we think there are 3 males and 2 female fawns. The other fawns are still too small to tell yet. The one remaining adult doe and the other yearling have not been seen with fawns yet. The first fawns this year were seen on March 6th, which is about 3 weeks later than last year.

Southwest Quarter: All the animals in the southwest quarter are doing well. Three of the four pregnant does in this section all have twins, resulting in 6 fawns, sex undetermined at this time. One doe still appears to be pregnant. Veterinary results on Teal do not indicate anything wrong with her, so we have been watching her more carefully to make sure she is eating well. She seems to be eating a little better lately and has put on a little weight, but she is still in poorer condition than the other animals.

Southeast Quarter: The 5 yearling males in this quarter are doing well.

We are irrigating in all sections of the pen, as it is very dry, and has been getting hot. There still has not been any appreciable rain over Sonoran pronghorn range since October 2006.

Water Projects:

We are planning to expand Granite Mountains water, with volunteer help from the Marine Corp, on April 3-6. We had hoped to expand the one remaining Sierra Pinta water on the weekend of April 6-8, but it doesn't look like we will have enough volunteers, and we will most likely postpone that project. That water is still functioning, and there are two other waters within several miles of it.

Forage Enhancements:

Nothing new to report.

Other Projects:

We are in the process of hiring a new Wildlife Specialist to work ½ time on the Air Force forage enhancement projects and ½ time at the captive breeding pen. This position should greatly increase our ability to get the work done that is needed to complete the Water Well project and expand the Granite Mountains forage plot.

Wild Pronghorn:

We did a telemetry flight on March 18. We again tried to download the 5 GPS collars, but none of them would download. We found one adult male that we collared in December on mortality signal on the southeast side of the Sierra Pintas. We retrieved the collar, but cause of death was undetermined. The collar is one of the new GPS collars, so retrieving it should help us and Telonics determine what is wrong with these collars.

We found 2 single females on the east side of the Sierra Pintas, one in the Mohawk Valley, and one on the west side of the Granites. We didn't see any fawns with these females, but based on their behavior, separating themselves from the herd, we suspect they may have, or are getting ready, to have fawns. The rest of the collared pronghorn were in the area around the southeast corner of South Tac. One group of 10 had 8 males in it, including 2 of the released yearlings. The other two released yearlings had moved over west of the Growlers, and, although separate, were in an area with lots of pronghorn nearby.

Conditions over most of the range are very dry, although there are some areas that are markedly better than others. The area that burned on South Tac in 2005 is greener than most areas, with large patches of green forage in the washes. This is also where 5 radio collars, and 18 pronghorn were seen on the telemetry flight. Some parts of the Mohawk Valley, and some areas around the Fawn Hills along the east side of the Sierra Pinta mountains are also fairly green. This is the area where the dead buck was found.



Several pronghorn in the southwest quarter; adult females orange and orange/brown, both pregnant in this photo, and a male and female fawn from last year. Photo by Mike Coffeen, 3/2/07.