



NDOW Instructor Wins Nevada Wildlife Federation Award

NDOW Southern Region Hunter Education Instructor Dwight Kirk was recently named the 2008 Hunter Educator of the Year by the Nevada Wildlife Federation. Dwight will receive his award at the NvWF annual banquet in Reno on May 31.

Dwight has been an NDOW Hunter Ed instructor since 2000, instructing a total of 64 classes, consistently averaging about eight classes a year. In addition to his regularly scheduled classes, Dwight teaches HE classes for local Boy Scout troops upon request. He has also participated in four Outdoor Education Academies,

numerous NDOW Range Days and annually represents the Department's Hunter Ed program at the Las Vegas Boy Scout Expo.

Always seeking to improve his classes and teaching techniques, Dwight incorporates the latest technologies by producing his own PowerPoint presentations and using the Laser Shot system to keep the interest of students in the course. Dwight takes special pride in his expertise in muzzle loading and will even change into buckskin clothing during some classes to illustrate how people used all

their natural resources in early times.

Recently Dwight has volunteered to undertake lengthy Line Safety Officer training and develop a new muzzle loading workshop for 2009 in anticipation of the opening of the NDOW Hunter Education Center at the Clark County Shooting Park. The workshops, which will be held twice yearly, will focus on beginning muzzle loading and provide A to Z instruction on loading, handling and ethically taking game with these specialized firearms.

Revised Hunter Education Final Exam Comments Needed

If you recall here's what I wrote to Hunter Education instructors in the March

Outdoor Instructor, We're asking for your help identifying problems with the new Hunter Ed final exam.

Please keep track of questions that seem to be missed more than others, questions that students have a hard time reading and/or understanding and any other problems or issues you feel are worth noting and pass on your

notes to me or your regional coordinator. The goal is fix any problems you all recognize after we get through the busy spring tag application class season and reprint the test this summer.

Well, we have made it through the busy spring class season and have received numerous notes, results and comments from instructors around the state on the new exam. I'd like to thank all the instructors who took the time

to call or write detailing their experiences using the exam. In addition to the all of that information, we also conducted a rather spirited workshop at the Potosi Pines Academy where the 40 or so instructors in attendance broke into groups and went over the exam question by question and offered their suggestions on revising the exam.

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Special points of interest:

- Revised Hunter Education Final Exam Draft
- Potosi Pines Photos
- IHEA Spring 2008 Journal
- NDOW Staff Contact Info

2008 Outdoor Education Academy—Potosi Pines

The 2008 Outdoor Education Academy went back to its roots this April when we visited Potosi Pines Camp outside of Las Vegas, site of one of the first ever Hunter Education academies.

Following the format that was established way back in the early 90's when academies were first conceived; festivities began mid-day Friday (4/25) and ran through Sunday morning (4/27).

Over the course of Friday afternoon NDOW



staff, instructors, families and guests arrived and were promptly registered and given their cabin assignments, with Martin Olson and Carolyn Montgomery greeting everyone with a smile and keeping things organized.

After dinner, Friday evening was topped off by Roy Keefer, Southern Region Hunter Ed

instructor, sharing a video of his successful Kodiak brown bear archery hunt on Afognak Island, Alaska.

On Saturday instructors had a wide range of training,

presentations and field trips to choose from along with a review of the draft *Aquatic Education Guidelines* manual and a workshop to revise the



Hunter Ed course Final Exam (see related article). Saturday evening ended with a small trading blanket.

After breakfast and cleanup on Sunday morning we closed out the 2008 academy and started the countdown to '09 to be held at Lamoille Canyon, May 29 -31.

Hope to see you all there!

Revised Hunter Education Final Exam Comments Needed

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Enclosed you will find the revised final exam. I used all of the input I received and the results of the workshop to come of with this **DRAFT** exam. Surprisingly, after putting all the pieces together, there

weren't huge changes. Now, I realize that some of you will be not be completely satisfied with the results, so this is your chance to once again comment and let me know what you think. I ask that you mark up the draft copy with your comments and get

them back to me by **JULY 1**. My plan is to go through one more round of edits and get you the finished product before we start back into classes this fall.



The Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW) protects, restores and manages fish and wildlife, and promotes fishing, hunting, and boating safety. The Outdoor Educator is a publication of the Nevada Department of Wildlife, Conservation Education Division.



Nevada Department of Wildlife

Outdoor Education

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