

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS
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Coming Events

- APC Meeting.....December 8, 2011
 APC Meeting.....January 12, 2012
 Multi-Club Hunt.....January 21, 2012
- Monthly APC meetings are held at the
 Mesa FOP Hall, 1450 E. Main Street, Mesa,
 from 7:00 pm until ??



PREDATOR'S PRIDE



ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

December 2011 APC P.O. Box 1172 Mesa, AZ 85211-1172

The President's Message
 by **Scott Francom, APC President**



With the cooler weather upon us, many predator hunters begin to think about trying to call in bobcats. The beginning of February is the ATA Fur Auction. Gray fox and bobcat pelts can put some cash back into your pocket to purchase a new rifle, shotgun, or just pay for the gasoline you spend throughout the hunting season. Did you know several AZ bobcat pelts were auctioned off at \$650? That's not chump change. With the price of fur climbing many predator hunters wanting bobcats are venturing into trapping.

What is great about a trap is it is working for you while you are sleeping, are at work, and while you drive around town Christmas shopping. Due to regulations we are only allowed to use confinement traps (cage traps) on public land in AZ. Our state is covered with public land so basically the entire state is available to trap. Reading the AZ Game and Fish regulation on trapping to familiarize yourself with all the rules and regulations is a must. Ignorance is no excuse and the AZG&F agent will not hesitate to cite you if you are breaking the law with a trap.

Anyone interested in trapping with a cage trap is in luck. One of the best cage builders in the United States is located in Carefree, AZ. Bob Small of Briarpatch Cages (www.BriarpatchCages.com) is an avid trapper himself and spends many months during winter and spring chasing bobcats throughout our state. One of his cages costs about \$100 and will easily pay for itself with the first bobcat you catch. With some quick pointers from Bob you will soon be out in the Arizona desert trapping bobcats.

Last year I averaged 1 bobcat every 3 days with 12 cages set up in various spots. I started late in the trapping season and by the end I had amassed 25 bobcats. After putting in extra time skinning, fleshing, stretching, and finally preparing the fur for the fur auction I had in about an hour and a half per pelt. I averaged around \$200 per pelt. That's \$5,000 for doing something I really enjoyed. I found the excitement of driving up and seeing the cage door shut on one of my cage traps about the same as when I called in a bobcat predator calling.

This season I am trapping with 30 cages. After work at 3:30PM I head out to my trapping route and check the cages each day. AZ state

continued on page 2

Membership Report

Thanks to the following members for renewing their memberships:

**Skip Bargman
Joe Cottrell
Steve Carter**

We would like to welcome new members:

Jeffrey Ross of Gilbert
Gary Schvaneveldt of Mesa
and John Arterburn of Scottsdale
to the Arizona Predator Callers.

Please renew your APC membership before it expires. You don't want to miss a single issue of Predator Pride. The membership form is available on the last page of the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Account Balance	
Beginning Balance 11-01-11.....	\$928.25
Check#1808 Legend Express..(\$ 37.56)	
Check#1809 Jeff Heinze - Lock..(12.73)	
Deposit	\$445.00
11/30/11 end balance.....	\$1,322.96
Petty Cash Beginning Balance....	\$85.41
Merchandise.....	\$10.00
Dues Received.....	\$150.00
Raffles Received.....	\$109.50
Deposit to Checking.....(\$280.00)	
Petty Cash Ending Balance.....	\$74.91
Total cash.....	\$1,397.87
Total Inventory of Goods.....	\$2,117.75
Total Assets.....	\$3,515.62

December Meeting Program

“Politics, Guns and America’s Future”

The location for our December meeting will change. **Jeff Serdy** from AJI Sporting Goods will be giving us a presentation titled “Politics, Guns and America’s Future. See the full page announcement on Page 7 of this newsletter. **Bring your own chair to set on.**

The Arizona Predator Callers meeting is on **Thursday, December 8, 2011 at 7:00 PM.**

The meeting will be held at AJI Sporting Goods, 10444 E. Apache Trail, Apache Junction, AZ 85120. Just East of the Loop 202 on Apache Trail between Crismon Road and Signal Butte Road. North side of the street.

The meeting is free to APC members and students under 18, and \$5 for non-members. Refreshments and door prizes are included in the admission price.

Please contact Mike Burris, APC Vice-President, at (480) 654-1411 if you have any questions.

Hunt Report

by Dusty Mosier, Hunt Chairman



Last months novice hunt was somewhat disappointing as no animals were brought in. There were about a dozen total people at the check in site with lots of good food, drink and a nice campfire. Jeff Heinze and myself stayed till 9, just in case there were some late arrivals. Jeff helped me pack up and get out of there, thank you Jeff.

We are planning our next novice hunt to coincide with the multi-club hunt in January. If you are interested in going as a novice or taking one out, please see Scott or me at the next meeting. For those of you that are hunting and having some success, please keep filling out your hunt records.

Merry Christmas and remember to: Be Safe, Have Fun, Shoot to Kill !
DUSTY

Kudos

John, Scott and Dusty,

Good job on the newsletters. I send them to friends of mind around the country, and they help me as I am coming up to speed in the club. I made the first hunt but could not make the second so I have been going out on my own to make up for missing the second one. I am making plans to attend the Wikieup hunt so the newsletter is what I fall back on as far as what and where.

The last meeting was great. The amount of information the presenter gave was fantastic. I sat next to Paul Melching and he shared some info on a shot gun he uses which was much appreciated.

I know how much effort it takes for you guys to do what you do, because I do for all the Ace Hardwares retailers in town. Like you, I do for free because somebody has to, so I really do appreciate your effort and how great it turns out.

Thanks,

John Arterburn

APC Video Library

The following individuals have videos checked out. Please return in a timely manner so others may view also.

- 11/10/11 Jared Tompkinson.....Best of the Quest
- 9/9/10 Bob Allen.....Calling Coyotes
- 1/13/11 Seraphim Moreira.....Coyote Behavior
- 1/13/11 Christian Ensley.....Deer Processing II
- 1/13/11 Seraphim Moreira.....Eyes Front 3
- 5/12/11 Travis Bradford..Free Grass & No Fences
- 9/25/11 John Albin.....Fooling with Foxes
- 10/14/10 Greg Malenfant.....Mastering Predator
- 11/10/11 Jared Tompkinson.....Predators #1
- 1/13/11 Ruben Fuentes.....The Best of the West

Thanks *Jerry*

Hunt and Events Calender

- General Meeting of APC.....December 8, 2011
- General Meeting of APC.....January 12, 2012
- Multi-Club Hunt / Novice Hunt #3.....January 21, 2012**
- General Meeting of APC.....February 9, 2012
- Antelope Eaters Hunt.....March 3-4, 2012**
- General Meeting of APC.....March 8, 2012
- Save-A-Fawn APC Club Hunt.....March 31, 2012**
- General Meeting of APC.....April 12, 2012
- General Meeting & Awards Presentations.....May 10, 2012

Please get these dates and events onto your calendar.
Club hunting events are in red type.
Dates and events are subject to change.

All APC Board meetings are held on the last Monday of each month. Any APC member is welcome to attend.

The word "coyote" is derived from the Nahuatl (a people found in central Mexico) word "coyotl." The coyote's scientific name, *Canis latrans*, means "barking dog."



If you have a picture of your hunt, please share it with fellow APC members by sending it to the Predator Pride editor. Send to: johnalbin1@msn.com

Sierra Golf Works

Dave Warren
 Certified "Class A" Clubmaker

5846 E. McKellips Road #101
 Mesa, AZ 85215
 480-324-8144

Name Brand Clubs <- Custom Clubs
 Accessories <- Giftware <- Apparel
 On-Site Club Repair

Stan Schepers has an open invitation to APC members or prospective members for one-on-one training on skinning and preparing your fur for sale. Stan can be reached at 480-461-8730 or by cell phone at 602-499-0505.

A.J.I. Sporting Goods

Buy, Sell & Trade

Firearms * Knives * Ammo

Jeff Serdy, APC Member

10444 E. Apache Trail 480-984-8616
 Apache Jcnctn, AZ 85220 Fax 480-984-8630

email: ajisports@msn.com
 www.ajisports.com

Trading Post Taxidermy

Eric Loeffler, Wildlife Artist

Gilbert, Arizona

APC Member

10% Discount to all APC Members

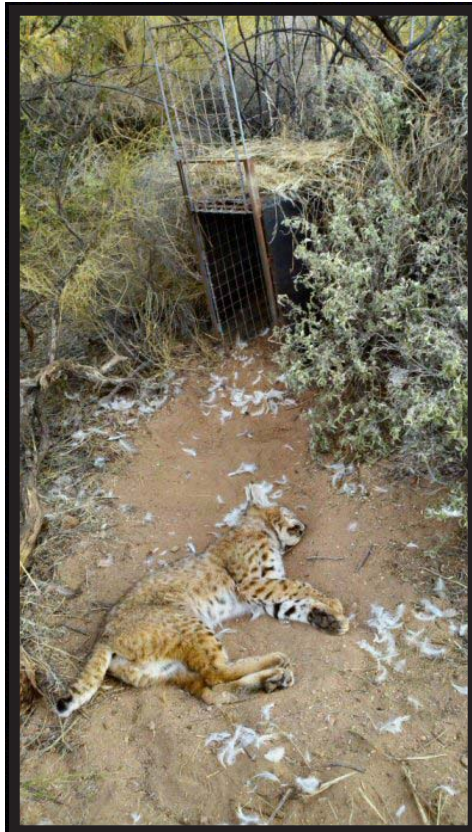
480-813-8625 480-363-5084 cell
 email: tradingposttaxidermy@msn.com
 Visit our website at:
 www.tradingposttaxidermy.com

President's Message continued:



Scott's garage and his many cage traps.

Scott's bobcat after removal from the cage. Note the cage location, wedged back into brush.



Scott's bobcat after skinning.



President's Message cont'd

regulations requires a 24 hour trap check. That means once every 24 hours you are required to look at the cage and either release or kill the animal inside the trap. My trapping route takes me about 3 hours to complete. I drive from trap to trap and look through my binoculars at the trap door. If the door is up, I continue down the road to the next trap. If it is closed, I park, get out my trapping supplies and go to investigate.

Non-target animals get into cages many times. Skunks, domestic dogs, javalina, rabbit are just a few of the animals you will want to release. One needs to also practice proper trapping husbandry by releasing smaller bobcats and females if you have taken other females in the area. It is a short-sighted trapper who kills every single bobcat caught in his trap. He might have a high bobcat count at the end of the season and make some money but next year his once fertile trapping area is now vacant of bobcats to reproduce and continue providing him a source of money for many years to come.

As the trapping season unfolds I will give updates in the President's Message as to how my trapping is coming along. If you are interested in learning more about trapping find me at an APC meeting or shoot me an e-mail.

Scott



Arizona Game and Fish Department unveils HabiMapT Arizona

Nov. 30, 2011

Web-based tool helps proactively plan for Arizona's wildlife

PHOENIX - The Arizona Game and Fish Department has launched an innovative new tool that utilizes the latest mapping technology to put wildlife data at your fingertips.

HabiMapT Arizona is a user-friendly, web-based data viewer that allows users to visually explore the distribution of the state's wildlife, wildlife conservation potential, and stressors to wildlife.

"This is a great example of how technology can be used to assist in transparent wildlife conservation

and project planning," said Arizona Game and Fish Department Director Larry Voyles. "We're excited to offer a tool that not only allows the department to better manage wildlife at a statewide scale, but also can be used to help address the growth needs of our state."

Information available through HabiMapT Arizona is non-regulatory and may be useful in making decisions about our state's future growth by considering wildlife early in the planning process. Tools such as HabiMapT Arizona can help ensure that current and future generations are able to experience Arizona's rich wildlife heritage.

"I can't think of a better way for the Arizona Game and Fish Department to proactively plan for the future of Arizona's wildlife," said Jonny Fugate, Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club.

"Arizona will continue to grow, so the question is not if but how we grow. HabiMapT Arizona is a tool that can help us have both a healthy economy and healthy wildlife populations," said Rob Marshall, The Nature Conservancy Director, Center for Science & Public Policy. "We appreciate the department's investment in developing tools with the capacity to expand and grow as our state changes."

HabiMapT Arizona is a component of the department's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP), which provides a framework for helping to set the state's wildlife conservation priorities. HabiMapT Arizona provides a visual representation of the Species and Habitat Conservation Guide, which includes more than 300 layers of wildlife data and other information to identify the conservation potential at a statewide level.

Through aggressive protection, management and educational programs, the Arizona Game and Fish Department conserves, enhances, and restores Arizona's diverse wildlife resources. The department also provides information and suggestions on how you can enjoy and appreciate Arizona's wildlife. Learn more about the department at www.azgfd.gov.

To learn more about HabiMapT Arizona, please visit www.habimap.org.



ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

MANAGING TODAY FOR WILDLIFE TOMORROW

www.azgfd.gov



Arizona Game and Fish Commission takes a cautious and surgical approach to implementing night hunting legislation

Dec. 3, 2011

PHOENIX - The Arizona Game and Fish Commission on Dec. 2 approved rules and commission orders to implement new short-term strategic tools that will allow hunters to help reduce predator numbers to aid struggling pronghorn antelope and bighorn sheep populations in specific game management units. Both votes were passed by a 3-1 margin with one commissioner absent. Arizona now joins 41 other states that allow night hunting of predators.

The commission approved rulemaking to allow the use of artificial lights at night for taking coyotes and mountain lions, as allowed by new laws enacted by the legislature last session.

"The rules will enable implementation of these new management tools within game management units or smaller portions thereof," explained Game Chief Brian Wakeling. "In order to help struggling pronghorn antelope populations, we will use night hunting using white light for coyotes in specific hunt units at critical times of year during the spring fawning period (typically April, May and June)."

"Research studies and our own survey data demonstrate that if we can strategically reduce coyote predation during the critical spring fawning period, especially during the first six weeks of life when the fawns are most vulnerable, then we can increase fawn survivability and pronghorn population size. Carefully timed coyote removal on the fawning grounds has proven effective at reducing predation," Wakeling said.

The orders that the commission approved will allow shotguns shooting shot for coyotes as a safety measure, with limited range firearms.

The commission adopted short-term night hunting seasons for coyotes in hunt management units 4A, 10, 13A and 35A to augment the department's ongoing enhancement efforts, and in units 2A, 17A, 17B, 31, 32, 34B, 35B and 36B to assist pronghorn where recruitment is less than 15 fawns per 100 does. "It only makes sense to use one of our most viable and valuable wildlife management tools, the hunter, to help us achieve increased fawn survivability," Wakeling said.

The rules and orders adopted will allow a similar approach for achieving temporary, local mountain lion population reductions to help struggling desert bighorn sheep populations. Mountain lions have expanded their range and populations are currently robust and increasing in Arizona.

"With mountain lions, strategic night hunting is now a tool to be used only in those hunt management units where we have instituted multiple bag limits for mountain lions in an effort to assist struggling desert bighorn sheep populations," Wakeling said.

Wakeling added that since the implementation of sound scientific wildlife management back in the 1940s, hunting has been one of the most effective wildlife management tools available to biologists and to the Game and Fish Commission.

"Keep in mind that through the decades, hunters have not only been instrumental in wildlife management, but they have also paid for most wildlife conservation efforts in Arizona and nationwide," Wakeling said. "The support and contributions by hunters and shooting sports enthusiasts have funded conservation efforts that benefit not just hunted species, but all wildlife species that Arizonans enjoy." He added that most people may not realize it, but America has the most successful and envied wildlife management approach in the world.

**Notice of December 2011 Meeting
Location Change**

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS

ARE TEAMING UP WITH

AJI SPORTING GOODS

FOR A NIGHT OF DISCUSSION ON

**POLITICS, GUNS, AND
AMERICA'S FUTURE**



A.J.I. SPORTING GOODS IS
LOCATED JUST EAST OF THE
LOOP 202 ON APACHE TRAIL
BETWEEN CRISMON RD AND
SIGNAL BUTTE ROAD ON THE
NORTH SIDE OF THE STREET.

AJI SPORTING GOODS
10444 EAST APACHE TRAIL
APACHE JUNCTION AZ 85120
480 984 8616

**DEC. 8
7:00PM**

**ALL APC MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE A 5 PERCENT
DISCOUNT ON ALL GUN PURCHASES AND A 10
PERCENT DISCOUNT ON AMMUNITION AND ACCESSORIES**

Arizona Predator Callers - Membership Application

Name: _____ Hm Phone: _____ Wk Phone: _____
Address: _____ Fax #: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ DOB: _____
email address: _____

ARIZONA PREDATOR CALLERS LIABILITY RELEASE: by signing below I understand that I will not hold APC and/or APC board of directors, officers, committee Members, Judges, Members, and volunteers responsible in any way for accidents, losses, judgments, or any Act of God that may happen while participating in any APC sponsored or co-sponsored meeting or event. APC policy is to promptly report to law enforcement all suspected abuse and sexual molestation. Have you been convicted of a Crime? ____ Yes ____ No.

Signature: _____

Additional Family Members

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____
Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____
Name: _____ Relationship: _____ DOB: _____

Primary Annual Membership.....\$30.00
Family Membership add \$5.00.....\$35.00
Lifetime Individual Membership.....\$350.00

New Membership
 Renewal

Send To:
Arizona Predator Callers
P.O. Box 1172
Mesa, AZ 85211-1172

Amount Enclosed _____

Arizona Predator Callers
P.O. Box 1172
Mesa, AZ 85211-1172



Address Correction Requested

