



WV DNR Photo

One of the state's newest shooting ranges at Chief Logan Wildlife Management Area.

Two Shooting Ranges Dedicated

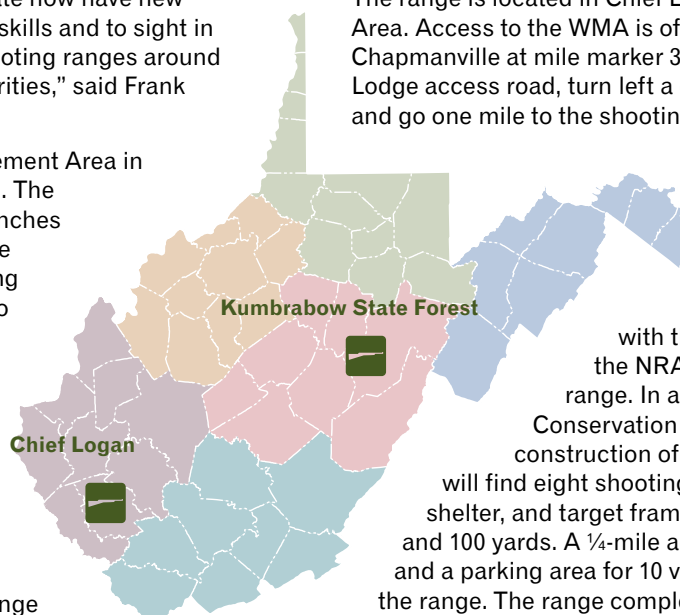
Hunters in two different areas of the state now have new shooting ranges to hone their shooting skills and to sight in their firearms. "The development of shooting ranges around the state is one of our agency's top priorities," said Frank Jezioro, DNR Director.

A range at Chief Logan Wildlife Management Area in Logan County was dedicated on Sept. 8. The completed range has eight shooting benches with a covered shelter. Target frames are located at 25, 50 and 100 yards. A parking area for 10 vehicles was built adjacent to the range.

The range complex has a parking space and bench accessible for physically challenged shooters. The total cost for construction of the shooting range complex was approximately \$70,000.

The National Rifle Association of America provided a \$25,000 grant for range construction. The Logan Area Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation provided additional funding. Donation of equipment and services were provided by Mine Lifeline LLC, Jaunt Inc., Logan County Mine Service, and West Virginia Paving.

The range is located in Chief Logan Wildlife Management Area. Access to the WMA is off U.S. Route 119 south of Chapmanville at mile marker 30.5. Once on the State Park Lodge access road, turn left a quarter mile off of Route 119 and go one mile to the shooting range.



Construction of a new range at Kumbrow State Forest in Randolph County was completed in early October. As

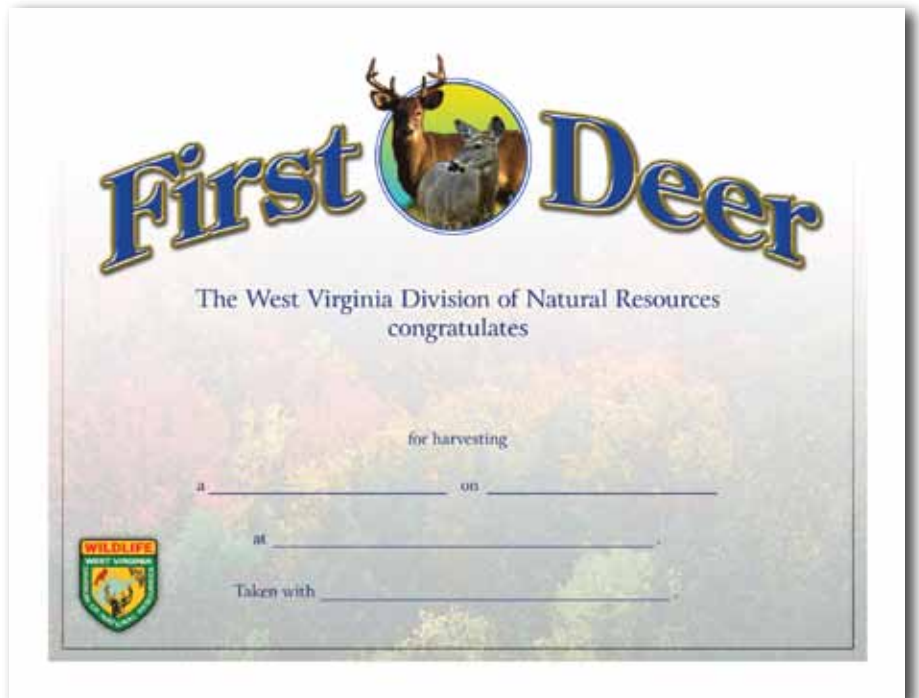
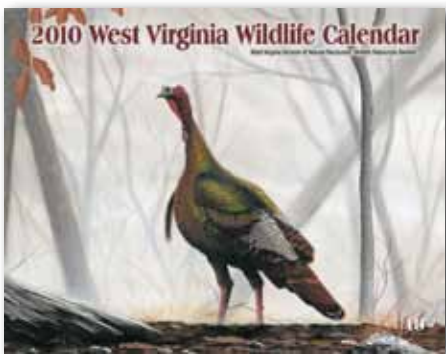
with the Chief Logan range, the NRA provided \$25,000 for the range. In addition, the Tygart Valley Conservation District assisted in the construction of the range. Range users will find eight shooting benches with a covered shelter, and target frames and backstops at 25, 50 and 100 yards. A ¼-mile access road was upgraded and a parking area for 10 vehicles was built next to the range. The range complex also has a parking space and two benches accessible for physically challenged shooters and a site for archers to shoot their bows.

The new shooting and archery range is located in Kumbrow State Forest off county Route 45 (Turkey Bone Road) on the Rich Mountain Trail.

DNR Wildlife Calendar Wins Award

The 2010 West Virginia Wildlife Calendar has been recognized for excellence by receiving the 2010 Silver Award in a national calendar contest. The contest, sponsored by the Calendar Marketing Association, featured hundreds of calendars from all over the country competing in a variety of categories. Awards were based on the superiority of the artwork, readability and information quality and originality. The DNR calendar received a Silver Award in the "most informative wall calendar — retail division."

The annual wildlife calendar, which features original paintings of animals found in West Virginia, has been published since 1985. It can be purchased at DNR district offices and various stores throughout the state. An order form and a sample of paintings can be seen on the inside back cover of this magazine.



First Deer Certificate Available Online

To commemorate a hunter's accomplishment in harvesting his or her first deer, the Division of Natural Resources has created an online First Deer Certificate to memorialize the special occasion, according to Curtis I. Taylor, Chief of the Wildlife Resources Section of DNR.

The colorful certificate, which is suitable for framing, is a great way to mark this special deer hunting experience and provide the successful hunter with a permanent reminder of the memorable day. The certificate is easy to complete and is designed to include the hunter's name and other important information. Hunters can even include a photo of themselves with their first deer. Because it's online, the certificate can be printed free at home. The First Deer Certificate can be found online on the DNR's website at www.wvdnr.gov.

"West Virginia is very fortunate to have a strong hunting heritage and the DNR is working hard to maintain this interest by providing parents with opportunities to take kids afield," said Taylor. "We're hoping parents take advantage of the special antlerless deer seasons and introduce their kids to the joys of hunting. Although the certificate was developed primarily for our youth hunters, we also recognize that individuals can be introduced to hunting at any age. I would like to encourage anyone who takes his or her first deer this fall to print a certificate as a way to remember this special occasion."

www.wvdnr.gov

Fregonara Named to IWLA Honor Roll

The Izaak Walton League of America, a national leader in community based conservation, has presented DNR Wildlife Biologist Jim Fregonara of the Elkins Operation Center with its prestigious Honor Roll Award. Fregonara received the award at the league's July annual convention in recognition of his outstanding contributions to public education and the conservation of America's natural and renewable resources.

Fregonara has spent countless hours working directly with

youth groups to engage children in outdoor education. He regularly volunteers for activities at the IWLA's Mountaineer Chapter, including the fifth grade science class field day, as well as many other local and state youth-oriented outdoor learning activities.

"Mr. Fregonara exemplifies the commitment to conservation and youth education that the Izaak Walton League is all about," said Jim Madsen, the IWLA's national president.

Calendar of Events

DECEMBER

- 18 **39th Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count**
Pipestem Resort State Park
Contact Jim Phillips, Park Naturalist, 304-466-1800.

JANUARY

- 8 **Sixth Annual Eagle Survey**
Pipestem Resort State Park
Contact Jim Phillips, Park Naturalist, 304-466-1800.

- 22 **Winter Walk**
Kanawha State Forest
Explore the forest during the winter on a guided hike. Minimal fee charged. Contact Kanawha State Forest, 304-558-3500.

- 21-23 **West Virginia Hunting and Fishing Show**
Charleston Civic Center
For more information, log on to www.wvtrophyhunters.com.

FEBRUARY

- 18-20 **Great Backyard Bird Count**
Pipestem Resort State Park
Contact Jim Phillips, Park Naturalist, 304-466-1800.

- 18-20 **Great Backyard Bird Count**
Cacapon Resort State Park
Contact Kelly Smith, Park Naturalist, 304-258-1022 X5209.

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James Brooks of Hinton shows off his record striped bass.

State Record Striped Bass Caught at Bluestone Lake

James Brooks, of Hinton, West Virginia, now has a big fish story to tell; but it's not about the one that got away. He and his wife were fishing on Bluestone Lake on Sept. 3 when he caught a striped bass that smashed the previous state length and weight records.

Using a spinner bait, Brooks caught the striper after a 40-minute battle on 8-pound test line. The fish weighed 45.7 pounds and measured 47.16

inches in length. This surpassed the existing length record by more than six inches and the existing weight record by more than 16 pounds. Both of these fish also had been caught in Bluestone Lake, a 2,040-acre lake in southern West Virginia.

DNR personnel have stocked striped bass in Bluestone Lake in the past, but most of the stripers inhabiting the lake have migrated down the New River from Virginia.

IW DNR Photo

New Eastern Panhandle Fishing Guide Available

Anglers wishing to fish the streams of the state's Eastern Panhandle now have a valuable guide to help them plan their trip. The free guide to public fishing and boating access sites and trout-stocked waters was produced by the DNR Wildlife Resources Section.

The large, color brochure features a map showing fishing and boating access sites on public lakes, rivers and streams. An icon at each site identifies whether the site has a boat ramp, carry-down boat access, or is just a fishing access site. Sections of streams stocked with trout are highlighted. Tables provide valuable information on each access site, including GPS coordinates, type of access and

parking area, and handicapped accessibility. Lists of float trips on the Cacapon and South Branch rivers are included, and trout stocking information is detailed.

The District 1 and District 3 guides are on the drawing board now with a planned completion date of spring 2011. The District 2 Fishing Guide is free and available at DNR district offices, the DNR Elkins office, and the DNR main office in South Charleston. Stop by and pick one up or call and have one sent to your house. To find your nearest district office, check the Hunting or Fishing Regulations brochure, or go to www.wvdnr.gov.

