

GRANT AGREEMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT

TO: U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
DIVISION OF FEDERAL AID
HADLEY, MA

FROM: MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
ANNAPOLIS, MD

GRANT AGREEMENT: W-65-S-17

GRANT TITLE: HUNTER EDUCATION

TOTAL COSTS: \$923,719

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 600

Job Title: Hunter Education Administration

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To provide administrative leadership for all work units for hunter education as mandated by natural resource law and the voluntary bow hunter and muzzle loading and wing shooting education programs and provide regional reporting and documentation of progress.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 601

Job Title: Hunter Education Student Training

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To provide basic and advanced hunter education training to residents of Maryland as required by Natural Resources Article, Title 10 Section 301.1. To assure that each year 200 classes are offered and 7000 students instructed with a corresponding percentage increase coupled to any respective increase in license sales.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 602

Job Title: Hunter Education Instructor Training

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To recruit, train and maintain a staff of qualified instructors to be used to teach the student classes sufficient to train approximately 7000 students with at least two classes in each county annually.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 603

Job Title: Hunter Education Information and Education

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To inform the public of the need for hunter education, the problems associated with the sport of hunting and the availability of hunter education training.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 604

Job Title: Hunter Education Conference and Seminars

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To provide administrative leadership to the program through the education of staff and selected volunteers. Conference and seminars on hunter education allow staff/volunteers to exchange information and learn latest techniques/trends in hunter education.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 605

Job Title: Alternative Forms of Hunter Education Delivery

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To continue the implementation of the Independent Study Hunter education program, and to design and implement an Internet Hunter education Course.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 606

Job Title: Hunter Education Bow Hunting Student Training

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To provide basic bowhunting education training to residents of Maryland on a voluntary basis.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 607

Job Title: Bow Hunting Instructor Education

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To recruit, train and maintain a staff of qualified instructors to be used to teach the student classes throughout the state with the goal to reduce hunting accidents while bow hunting and increase hunting success harvesting the resource.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Recommend continuation of the job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 608

Job Title: Hunter Education Muzzleloader Education

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To provide education in use of muzzle loaders to students and instructors in an advanced course.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Continue job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 609

Job Title: Hunter Education Wingshooting "First Shot" Training

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To provide advanced youth shotgun shooting education training to hunters on a voluntary basis. To recruit, train and maintain a staff of qualified instructors to be used to teach the student course throughout the State with the goal of improving basic shotgun shooting skills and reduce the wounding loss of migratory and upland game birds in the State.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Continue job.

JOB PERFORMANCE REPORT

State: Maryland

Project Title: Hunter Education

Job No.: 610

Job Title: Trapper Education

Principal Investigator: Walbeck

Job Objective:

To implement a statewide program of Trapper Education as mandated by recently enacted regulations requiring certain persons engaged in trapping furbearers to complete an approved trapper education program prior to purchasing a Furbearer Permit.

Activities/Findings:

See Appendix 1.

Reasons for deviations (if any):

None.

Recommendations for the continuance of job:

Continue job.

Appendix I

Hunter Education

The Natural Resources Police, Safety Education Division, administers the mandated Hunter Education Program. The Division staff is directly responsible for the coordination of 784 volunteer instructors who team-teach the Maryland Hunter Education Course. The 10-hour course provides instruction on the principles of safe hunting practices, hunter ethics and wildlife management to first time hunters.

The Maryland Hunter Education Program is 75% federally funded through the Pittman-Robertson Funds. In FY 2007, 7,848 students attended 247 public hunter education classes at various locations such as sportsman's clubs, 4-H programs, State Parks, community centers and fire departments (break down by county included in the appendix). All classes have a live firing component and require students to have practical exercises with students demonstrating to the instructor their ability to safely handle a firearm. The practical exercises also give the students an opportunity to experience simulated hunting through shoot/no shoot situations.

Thirteen new instructor-training programs were offered throughout the State with 67 new instructors brought into the program in FY 2007. In addition to the basic instructor workshops, the staff will go to any new team's location and provide training for new teaching teams. Seven new teaching teams were created in Harford, Worcester, Somerset, Washington, Allegany, Calvert and Garrett counties.

There were 21 instructor updates held in FY 2007 with 357 instructors in attendance. Topics of instruction included: Regional Issues, Completion of Financial Statements, Federal Audit, Range Grants, Program Firearm Issues, Reorganization of First Shot Program, Online BEP and Hunter Ed, future teaching team development for Independent Study and Online courses, Time Management and other teaching skills.

There were 6 Range Officer Training Programs held with approximately 45 instructors attending. The Range Officer program is the NRA Range Safety Officer Program. All coordinators are certified as NRA Chief Range Safety Officers to teach the course.

The 2 Internet web sites developed by the staff to provide information to the public on the Hunter Education Program and to provide communications with instructors continue to be very successful. Many students register for courses through email. In addition, material orders by instructors are placed through email. Forms and other documents including Hunting Incident Reports and newsletters are now posted for instructors to use and view at their convenience. The public Web site continues to be popular, with most students indicating that they found out about the class from the Internet. Two instructor teams now do student registration on the Internet.

Improved communications is an ongoing initiative. The 3 coordinators have improved communications, providing a smoother running program with fewer crises to deal with by

the staff. Newsletters are providing instructors with updated information on program changes and events. The staff continues to use the database of instructor information on Access for more detailed sorting of instructor information to allow for more targeted mailings as needed.

Donnie Simmons and Rick Morris attended the IHEA Administrator's Academy and the IHEA Conference in Baton Rouge, LA in FY 2007. Vic Maccallum and Captain Baker attended the Region V U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Administrator's Conference in Mystic, CT.

In cooperation with the Izaak Walton League, 2 seminars in Hunter Ethics were offered in Western Maryland with approximately 40 instructors attending. This excellent program was led by experts from throughout the country in hunter education and ethics. Instructors provided outstanding reviews of the program and we hope the Izaak Walton League will offer the program again next year.

Additional funding from Section 10 monies had a significant positive impact on the Maryland Hunter Education Program. These monies fund the Western Region Coordinator position and his vehicle. The Instructor Academy and the new Trapper Education program are funded by Section 10 funds. Numerous purchases were also made in training materials, supplies and teaching aids for instructors.

In the summer of 2004, the Hunter Education Staff attended an International Hunter Education Wingshooting clinic as a pilot program designed to promote improved shotgun skills. From this program evolved Maryland's "First Shot" Wingshooting program for youngsters ages 12-17. The program was designed as a 2-day workshop that introduces hunter education graduates to basic shotgunning skills, distance estimation, shotgun patterning and responsible wingshooting. A workshop was held in FY 2006 to train additional instructors and grow the program. Twelve instructors were certified and several programs were set up. Due to a variety of setbacks, the program was put on hold until the spring of 2007 when it was redeveloped by the new Wingshooting Coordinator. The program was designed as a 1-day program, but again, few participants signed up. The program will be redesigned as an element of youth hunter days and youth programs offered by conservation organizations. In addition, the First Shot trailer will be converted into a mobile hunter education workshop trailer to haul the tree stand display and hunter education program display, as well as the First Shot equipment. Section 10 monies fund this program.

The Hunter Education and the Wildlife and Heritage Service staff jointly developed a statewide program of Trapper Education as mandated by recently enacted regulations requiring certain persons to complete an approved trapper education course prior to trapping. The staff developed a Policy and Procedures Manual, a final examination, modified a student manual and workbook and completed all the details necessary to implement the program. Two instructor workshops were held to certify instructors and plan the program. Thirty three instructors were certified and 6 teaching teams were created throughout the State to teach the 1-day course. Students have 2 options to

complete the course. They first must obtain a textbook and workbook from DNR and complete the workbook. They can attend either a challenge test, which will be offered at Natural Resources Police Offices by the NRP Reserve Officer Coordinators, or take a class offered by the volunteer instructors. The program was developed in FY 2007 and will be implemented in early FY 2008

A Hunter Education Display was created 2 years ago to promote the program at public events throughout the State. The display is very professional, has been used at numerous activities and is very popular. This year we developed a Tree Stand Safety Awareness display for use at large events. The display demonstrates the different types of tree stands and accessories.

The staff continues to replace approximately 2,200 Hunter Education cards each year. A 1-day turn around is the norm for most requests for replacement cards. While the process has been computerized, a tremendous amount of staff time is required to deal with researching and processing the cards as well as dealing with persons requesting replacement cards—especially persons for whom we have no record of taking the course.

The Bowhunter Education Program was completely reorganized utilizing the Internet Bowhunter course combined with a field day. A 1-day training seminar was offered to all bowhunter instructors with 65 in attendance. Teams were formed statewide utilizing those instructors who wished to be a part of the program. About 20 classes were set up for the spring and summer statewide. In the fiscal year, 79 students participated in 9 classes. These numbers represent primarily the classroom BEP program.

The Muzzleloading program had 5 courses with 27 students. The new Muzzleloading book was created by several volunteers and staff and is now being used for the program and is popular with the instructors.

The Independent Study Hunter Education Program continues to grow slowly. The staff worked with an instructor to create our own Independent Study workbook, which is now being used for the course.

There were 16 hunting accidents in Maryland in FY 2007. A copy of the accident report is attached and the information is provided to all instructors for use in their classes.

Another year of positive changes occurred in Maryland's Hunter Education Program in FY 2007. We will continue to improve the Hunter Education program through the following initiatives in FY 2008:

- Continue with the Instructor Leadership Academy, reformatting the program.
- Hold at least 15 Instructor updates throughout the State in the spring of 2008.
- Recruit and train new instructors and instructor teams in areas of need. The staff has changed its recruitment policy of accepting anyone who meets the requirements. Now there must be a need for the person either on a team in the area or as part of a new team. This has reduced the number of unattached

- instructors going through the training process and becoming certified with no place to teach.
- Continue our “Back to Basics” management of the Hunter Education Program.
 - Hold a multi-day Hunter Education Planning meeting for the Hunter Education staff to develop and plan the above initiatives.
 - Re-implement the First Shot Wingshooting Program as a part of youth programs offered by conservation organizations.
 - Implement an Internet based Hunter Education Program as an alternative form of delivery for the Hunter Education Program.
 - Work with the Wildlife & Heritage Service to continue the implementation of the Trapper Education Program and ensure that classes and testing options are available for those who require trapper education.

Our effort to update the hunter education database and allow instructors to register courses and provide student data in an electronic format has been nixed by IT. This project was in our 5 year plan and we hoped to have a significant start on it this year. As our database program continues to function as it did when it was designed 20 years ago, and is not broken, IT will not upgrade the program. In addition, IT has failed miserably (request made over 11 months ago) in providing updates to the program to add the Trapper Education Course and Instructor information. Officers in the field are unable to query a database to determine if a person has taken a trapper education class as the records are maintained in a file folder in the Hunter Education Office.

Hunter Education Performance Codes
Maryland FY 2007

1511	Student Training-number of students and cost	7,848	68,817
1513	Student live firing-number of students and cost	7,848	8,000
1515	Advanced student training-number of students and training	106	10,000
1521	Volunteer hours of service: total hours of all volunteer effort and total in-kind value	19,022	475,170
1523	Volunteers trained- both new and in-service and cost	606	32,374
1561	New Ranges constructed with 4-C funds	0	0
1562	Ranges operated and maintained with 4-C Funds	0	0
1563	Educational Facilities: total number of capital projects funded with 4-C funds	0	0
1571	New Ranges constructed with Section 10 funds	0	0
1572	Ranges operated and maintained with Section 10 funds	0	0
1573	Other Section 10 enhancements: total number of non-range related enhancements using section 10 funds	6	0
1581	HE Administration, coordination and indirect costs		329,358
	Total		923,719



Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Natural Resources Police
Hunting Incident Report
FY 2007



Age (shooter or responsible person)	Two Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Under 10 years				
10-19 yrs.		1		3
20-29 yrs.		1		
30-39 yrs.			1	4
40-49 yrs.				
50-59 yrs.		2		1
60 + yrs.		1		2
unknown				
Totals	0	5	1	10

Causes	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Careless handling				2
Fall from tree stand			1	7
Victim out of site of shooter		1		
Victim mistaken for game		2		
Game flew between victim and shooter		2		
Ammunition malfunction				1
Totals	0	5	1	10

Distance From Victim to Shooter	Two-Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
0-10 yds.		
11-50 yds.		2
51 yds. & over		3
Totals	0	5

Victim Wearing Hunter Orange	Two -Party	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Yes		2
No		2
Unknown		1
Totals	0	5

Weather	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Clear		3		2
Rainy				1
Cloudy		1		
Overcast		1		
Windy			1	
Unknown				7
Totals	0	5	1	10

Species Hunted	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Deer		3	1	9
Turkey		1		
Quail		1		
Squirrel				1
Totals	0	5	1	10

Hunting Device Used	Two-Party		Self-Inflicted	
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Non-Fatal
Rifle				3
Muzzleloader		1	1	3
Shotgun		4		1
Bow				3
Totals	0	5	1	10

Narrative
A 19 year-old Frederick County deer hunter fell approximately 30 feet after falling asleep in his tree stand. He suffered multiple lacerations, contusions and a back injury. He was not wearing a safety harness. Non-fatal.
A 39 year-old Worcester County deer hunter fell an unknown distance from his tree stand. Victim sustained a broken jaw and bruises. Victim was apparently intoxicated. Non-fatal.
A 30 year-old Garrett County Deer Hunter fell 10 feet to the ground when his tree stand slipped while climbing down. Victim sustained a broken rib and separated shoulder. Non-fatal.
A 38 year-old Dorchester County deer hunter fell 16 feet from a home made tree stand when the upper rung of the ladder came off in his hand. Victim sustained a broken leg. Non-fatal
An 81 year-old Kent County deer hunter fell 10 feet when the chair in his home made tree stand slipped between two boards. Victim received lower back and rib injuries. Non-fatal.
A 36 year-old Carroll County deer hunter, hunting in wet and very windy conditions, sustained numerous serious injuries when a tree near him fell against the tree he was hunting in and hit him. Fatal
A 52 year-old Carroll County squirrel hunter received a wound to the foot when he was seated with his firearm resting against on his foot. The firearm discharged resulting in the injury. Non-fatal.
A 15-year old Talbot County deer hunter received injuries to his thumb when he shot a volley of 3 rounds, with the second round misfiring and the third round blowing up the barrel of his shotgun. Non-fatal
A 51 year-old Caroline County quail hunter shot his hunting partner when a quail flew between them. The victim received 4 pellets to his upper body. Non-fatal.
A 54 year-old Talbot County deer hunter was shot by his hunting partner when a deer ran between them and the shooter shot at the deer. The shooter hit the deer and shrapnel from the slug hit the victim in the hand causing minor injuries. Non-fatal
A 12 year-old Allegany county deer hunter received minor injuries to his toe from a .243 when he swept the gun from right to left and the firearm discharged into his foot. Non-fatal
A 59 year-old Queen Anne's County deer hunter was shot by his hunting partner when a deer ran between them. The victim was below field level, climbing a hill out of site of the shooter. He received neck injuries. Non-fatal.
A 64 year-old Washington County deer hunter, using a branch as a step, fell 15 feet when the branch broke. The victim received a broken arm, broken leg and broken pelvis. Non-fatal.
A 38 year-old Garrett County deer hunter was shot in the shoulder by his 16 year-old hunting partner when the victim was moving through bushes and mistaken for game. Victim was not wearing fluorescent orange. Non-fatal.
A 64 year-old Charles County Turkey hunter was shot by his hunting partner when the victim started to retrieve a turkey and was mistaken for another turkey by the shooter. Victim received 4 pellet wounds to various parts of the body. Non-fatal.
A 37 year old Worcester County deer hunter fell from his tree stand sustaining serious injuries to his back. Non-fatal

Hunter Education Data by Course and County FY 2007

Number of Classes

Course Type: Archery Course

ANNE ARUNDEL	2
CHARLES	1
FREDERICK	1
HARFORD	1
HOWARD	1
PRINCE GEORGE'S	1
ST. MARY'S	1
WASHINGTON	1
<i>Course Type Total:</i>	9

Course Type: Hunting Course

ALLEGANY	15
ANNE ARUNDEL	30
BALTIMORE	19
CALVERT	4
CAROLINE	5
CARROLL	7
CECIL	8
CHARLES	9
DORCHESTER	2
FREDERICK	28
GARRETT	9
HARFORD	11
HOWARD	8
KENT	9
MONTGOMERY	9
PRINCE GEORGE'S	11
QUEEN ANNE	6
SOMERSET	3
ST. MARY'S	17
TALBOT	5
WASHINGTON	16
WICOMICO	12
WORCESTER	4

Hunter Education Data by Course and County FY 2007

	<i>Number of Classes</i>
<i>Course Type Total:</i>	247
<i>Course Type: Muzzleloading Course</i>	
ALLEGANY	1
FREDERICK	2
HARFORD	1
HOWARD	1
<i>Course Type Total:</i>	5
<i>Report Total:</i>	261

Hunter Education Data by Course and County FY 2007

Number of Students

Course Type: Archery Course

ANNE ARUNDEL	24
CHARLES	11
FREDERICK	9
HARFORD	4
HOWARD	13
PRINCE GEORGE'S	2
ST. MARY'S	6
WASHINGTON	10
<i>Course Type Total:</i>	79

Course Type: Hunting Course

ALLEGANY	477
ANNE ARUNDEL	1075
BALTIMORE	703
CALVERT	209
CAROLINE	150
CARROLL	267
CECIL	359
CHARLES	280
DORCHESTER	124
FREDERICK	784
GARRETT	272
HARFORD	237
HOWARD	254
KENT	160
MONTGOMERY	394
PRINCE GEORGE'S	220
QUEEN ANNE	180
SOMERSET	87
ST. MARY'S	538
TALBOT	213
WASHINGTON	487
WICOMICO	312
WORCESTER	66

Hunter Education Data by Course and County FY 2007

Number of Students

Course Type Total: 7848

Course Type: Muzzleloading Course

ALLEGANY 9

FREDERICK 9

HARFORD 3

HOWARD 6

Course Type Total: 27

Report Total: 7954