

RGS SKYLANDS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER---njgrouse.com

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12 Drummers Drumming, That is how many Male drumming grouse were counted in the World series of Birding last spring by a group led by Scott Angus in Sussex County. Scott, a biologist, childhood friend of mine, and avid bird watcher told me last week that he originally had concerns about locating grouse for there list of birds during the annual event last May. He said he was surprised by how many drumming grouse were heard during the one day event last spring. He didn't have the numbers from the previous year (2006) but I believe the number was less than half that. Scott will be getting the locations where the drummers were located, and giving them to me. I don't know if any are on public land where we could do any habitat projects or not, but its always good news to hear from someone of Scotts standing in the Bird watching community that grouse were plentiful during there annual event. I would like to thank everyone for the great turn outs we have been having at our work days lately. Our first project at The Delaware Water Gap is about done with just a few trees remaining to be cut, we are in the process of putting together our next project and it may actually be in partnership with a local chapter of the Turkey Federation. This is not definite yet but it is a possibility. Our next workday however, will be at The Wallkill River NWR That will be Sunday March 2nd we will meet at the Office on rte 565 at 8:30 AM and this will be removing invasive species on the side of the mountain on lake Pochung road. We will be cutting and stump spraying our old nemesis The Tree of Heaven so that the forest can continue to grow in with native plants. Our next meeting will be Thursday March 13th at 7:00 PM at the Lafayette house in Lafayette. All are welcome to attend. Lastly I would like to wish The Pine Barrens Chapter in south jersey good luck in there upcoming banquet. I hope yours is as successful as ours was last month
Jim