



NEWS RELEASE

GREAT LAKES/ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ducks Unlimited Names Rusty Harvey, *Delaware Volunteer Conservationist of the Year*

ODESSA, Del. – May 1, 2007 – Ducks Unlimited (DU) volunteer Rusty Harvey was honored as Delaware Volunteer Conservationist of the Year on April 23, during the **Delaware Wild Lands Board Meeting** in Odessa, Del. Each year the award is presented by the DU Great Lakes/Atlantic Regional Office to recognize and show appreciation for exceptional conservation and fundraising efforts on the part of a Delaware DU volunteer.

Harvey has served as executive director of Delaware Wild Lands since 1978, overseeing daily operations of the organization and its important work to acquire and preserve unspoiled tracts of land on the Delmarva Peninsula. Throughout the past several years, Harvey has worked with DU as a valuable partner on the restoration of Wild Lands properties that were previously planted with beans and corn, but were producing low crop yields due to wetland soils.

Harvey's passion for Delaware's wildlife and natural resources is more than simply a profession. A New Castle County native and a Delaware DU Diamond Life Sponsor, Harvey attends DU events through Delaware and has generously donated hand-carved decoys to past DU auctions. Harvey also is an avid waterfowler and pursues several species of ducks and geese attracted to the Delaware Bay wetlands each fall. Outside his involvement with DU and his time spent hunting local waterfowl, Harvey teaches decoy carving, collects award-winning antique decoys and carves his own custom decoys under the name, "Rusty Harvey Decoys." He has won more than 550 awards for his carving, including 38 best-in-shows.

With more than a million supporters, Ducks Unlimited is the world's largest and most effective wetland and waterfowl conservation organization, with almost 12 million acres conserved. The United States has lost more than half of its original wetlands—nature's most productive ecosystem—and continues to lose more than 80,000 acres each year.

Preserving our waterfowling tradition through habitat conservation!

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Look for Ducks Unlimited on the
World Wide Web at www.ducks.org.

Tune into "The World of Ducks Unlimited" Radio Network
and watch "Ducks Unlimited Television" and "Ducks Unlimited WaterDog" on the Versus network.