



THE GAMEBIRD FOUNDATION

Promoting habitat protection and responsible wildlife management

Dear Game Board Foundation Members,

2020 has been a busy year, since I took over the supplies for the birds, feed, picking up birds and distributing all of the above. This freed up Jim's time to do other things and spend more time with his wife. I foresee 2021 to be just as busy, if not more so, since our goal is to raise more birds. I love doing all of this since I had a poultry business in Kodiak, AK, before I moved to Idaho.

I had a poultry business named Bells Flats Poultry. I raised chickens, geese, ducks, guineas, turkeys and peacocks for over 16 years. I can now add pheasants and Red Leg Partridge to that list. My husband and I released about 450 pheasants and about 55 Red Legs. We plan on releasing at least as much in the coming years from our property.

In Kodiak, I was bringing in 400-600 baby birds into Kodiak every year, selling eggs, hatching out eggs, and importing all the poultry supplies and feed into Kodiak since it is an island. I gained much knowledge over these years and loved sharing what I learned in raising these birds. I love hearing the success stories of raising pheasants and Red Legs from the other Foundation members and have shared what works with others.

In 2019, five members raised 2000 chicks; in 2020, 50+ members raised over 8000 chicks. With the Covid pandemic this year we had a short fall in funds for the chick feed, The Gamebird chick feed bill was over \$4500. This coming year there will be some changes from what was done in the past. We are working on acquiring donations to at least cover the cost of the chick feed bill for the same amount of birds for 2021. At this time, we are asking for a suggested \$25 donation per 50 lb bag of the chick feed. For the maintenance feed, donations are appreciated to help cover the costs of transportation fees.

Pheasants will be available to be raised from May 1st to June 30th. This may vary depending on how the hatching goes for the dates and I will keep everyone informed. There will be approximately 800-1200 birds available for distribution each week. You will need to contact me ASAP after January 1st which week you want to raise the pheasants and how many you





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like to raise at one time. Please give me your 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice weeks and I will accommodate to the dates and amounts the best I can. Red Legs raising dates will be determined once the eggs go in the incubator. It will most likely be after the last hatch date for the pheasants.

Please contact me to pick up brooders, soft release/flight pens, other supplies needed to raise the pheasants or just to get more information about raising birds. If I don't answer the phone, please leave a message and I will get back to you as soon as I can. I look forward to another productive year of raising pheasants and Red Legs with the Game Bird Foundation.

Thanks,

Chris Ford

Bird and Supplies Coordinator

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