National Archery in the Schools Program

NASP®

2015 Annual Report
Mission
The National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®) promotes instruction in international-style target archery as part of in-school curriculum, to improve educational performance and participation in the shooting sports among students in grades 4-12.

Guiding Principles
1. All NASP® safety features must be followed to preserve archery’s impeccable safety record. Archery’s safety record is better than that of every ball sport taught in schools except table tennis. The set up and operation of a safe archery range is thoroughly covered in the NASP® “Basic Archery Instructor” training series.

2. NASP® lessons are oriented towards target archery. Target archery is widely accepted as a safe, wholesome, and non-controversial discipline. Founders designed the program so young people everywhere, whether urban or rural, could learn archery skills and decide on their own how and where to apply those skills.

3. NASP® lessons are presented to students in grades 4-12. Students in these grade levels are best able to use the universal-fit NASP® equipment and adhere to all NASP® safety features. The units of study were written for these grade levels as an in-school curriculum.

4. NASP® lessons are presented by NASP-trained instructors in accordance with their training. Range set-up and operation, equipment, and training methods used in NASP® are very specific and the same for every school in the program. No matter the prospective instructor’s level of archery expertise, each must graduate from the NASP® “Basic Archery Instructor” training series. Only NASP®-certified trainers may present “Basic Archery Instructor” courses.

5. NASP® lessons are presented by school faculty as part of the in-school curriculum. NASP® lessons were co-written by educators and archers. They were designed to be compliant with content standards defined by education departments. By aligning archery lessons with these standards, NASP® lessons are taught in school, during the school day, to every student. This in-school teaching emphasis provides opportunity for every student to discover their interest and aptitude for archery as opposed to attracting only existing archers to after-school-only programming.

6. Equipment used in NASP® is standard and approved by NASP®’s board of directors. NASP® uses equipment that is safe, universal fit, modern, affordable, durable, easy for the teacher and the student to learn to use and identical for every student. NASP® archery lessons focus on the development of proper process over results. When every student uses identical equipment, the tendency to blame or credit the archer’s “success” on equipment choices is eliminated.

7. Only entities approved by the NASP® board of directors may coordinate implementation of the NASP® in states, provinces, and countries. Founders believe successful implementation of NASP® requires institutionalization on a state, province, or country-wide basis. The coordinating entity must be willing to adhere to NASP® operating principles and be capable of delivering jurisdiction-wide implementation.

8. After-school archery activities for NASP® students should strive to be inclusive and suited to youth of all genders, sizes, abilities, and economic backgrounds. In-school NASP® lessons are presented to every student. Every aspect of the NASP® experience is suited to a large number and variety of students. Most NASP® students want to participate in after-school archery activities. Many new archers would be discouraged to encounter methods or equipment in an after-school program that made it difficult for them to participate.

9. NASP® competitions should replicate, as closely as possible, the inclusive format used in the NASP® National tournament.

10. Funding partners and sponsors of the NASP® and its participating schools and events should be appropriate for youth programming.
This fall of 2015 marks the 15th anniversary of the beginning and end of a 6-month planning effort to create what became the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®). Our work began in August of 2001 and NASP® was launched in 21 schools on March 3, 2002.

Many of you know NASP® was initiated by the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources to boost participation in the shooting sports, for the sake of wildlife conservation. The Kentucky Department of Education joined the effort to better engage the classroom student. A few in the archery industry joined the effort such as; Mathews Archery, Easton Technical Products, Morrell Targets, and Field Logic, to increase the archery market. Together we hoped to make shooting “cool” and education “fun”.

As with many programs whether they be wildlife reintroductions, habitat initiatives, or recruitment efforts, we did not know if NASP® would even get off the drawing board. We identified potential barriers and fortunately, were able to address them.

President’s Message

Our Top 11 Reasons to be Proud of NASP®

1. 47 NASP® States, 8 Provinces, & 11 Countries (DE, RI, VT missing)
2. 13,350 Schools – up 59% last 5 years
3. 2.3 million students last year – up 120% last 5 years
4. World’s largest bullseye tournament @12,045 students (up 79% since 2011)
5. World’s largest 3D tournament @ 2,841 students (up 42% in 2 years)
6. U.S. archer numbers up from 7 million before NASP® to 18 million by 2012
7. 27% of NASP® students report buying hunting licenses (2013 NASP® National Tournament participants)
8. 65% of NASP students committed to being lifetime archers
9. 50-81% of NASP® students buy archery equipment
10. NASP® improves students’ motivation, concentration, behavior, & self-esteem
11. $246,000 in CASH SCHOLARSHIPS at NASP® tournaments

NASP® works for wildlife conservation. Each year NASP® conducts a "NASP® Coordinator Conference. At this conference representatives from the states, provinces, and countries share information about their implementation of NASP®. Coordinators share strategies to recruit schools, follow-up with schools, tournament information, and how they market other important agency outreach efforts to NASP® students. In many jurisdictions the pool of NASP® students is larger than any other group of youth they have access too.

One of the conference highlights is a recognition banquet where deserving coordinators are presented achievement awards. States and provinces are recognized for having reached another “Century” or 100 unit level of schools (100, 200, 300, etc. #s of schools). Programs that have added the largest number of schools or have achieved the greatest percentage increase in their school numbers are presented gold, silver, or bronze plaques.
Century Awards
- 1,000 Texas
- 700 Ohio
- 700 Virginia
- 600 Kentucky
- 600 Wisconsin
- 500 Missouri
- 400 Minnesota
- 300 Mississippi
- 300 South Carolina
- 300 Tennessee
- 200 South Africa
- 100 Louisiana

Most NASP® Schools Added
- Gold Texas 138 Schools
- Silver Kentucky 130 Schools
- Bronze Mississippi 97 Schools

Greatest Percent Increase in School Numbers
- Gold South Africa 90%
- Silver Louisiana 35%
- Bronze Mississippi 34%

NASP® works for education. In every survey conducted about NASP®, students tell us NASP® is a great way to connect to their school and make new friendships. Due to the personal success they experience, they don’t want to miss school on days archery is taught.

This is our first hard-copy annual report. Within these pages you will find standard information about a 501c(3) non-profit such as NASP®. You will also find highlights provided by the NASP® Coordinator from each of our jurisdictions. We intend this report to become an annual production in an effort to better share your and our success in NASP® with all those who care about students, wildlife conservation, and archery.

Sincerely,
Roy Grimes
CEO/President, NASP®
### 2015 Financial Summary

#### Income

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#### Expenses

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The International Bowhunting Organization (IBO) and the National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®) joined forces to plan and implement an exciting additional shooting activity for NASP® students. Together we launched the “NASP® IBO 3D Challenge” in May 2014.

In every survey conducted among NASP® students over the past 12 years, kids just want to have as much fun as possible in archery. They report shooting arrows is the most fun but practicing and competing with their new archery friends is just as important. The students also report in these surveys that they’d like to know more about bowhunting. Foam replications of animals (3D targets) have been provided at many state and national NASP® tournaments for fun shooting for several years. At some of these events more than 1,800 kids have enjoyed shooting make believe bear, dinosaurs, mosquitos, and other beasts.

The NASP®/IBO 3D Challenge is truly a “next step” for student archers. To participate in the “challenge” the NASP® student uses the same bow and arrows and shoots at the same 10-15 meter distances they are already familiar with. In fact, the 6 challenge targets; turkey, coyote, bear, pronghorn, whitetail deer, and sheep have specially designed scoring rings. The 10 and 9 rings on these animal targets are the exact same size as the corresponding rings on the NASP® bulls-eye target. So, it is but a tiny step from the bulls-eye to 3D for the NASP®/IBO Challenge participant. We have also maintained the socially popular team aspects of NASP® in the “challenge” and the co-gender requirement must also be met.

The creation of the NASP®/IBO 3D Challenge does not change anything about NASP®. The 3D targets are not recommended for the in-school program, our teacher training remains the same, and our tournaments continue to use the international (FITA) 80 cm multi-colored bulls-eye target face. The “3D challenge” is simply an expanded opportunity addressing the desires of our student archers.

In just two years the new format has proven itself very popular. In 2014 at the NASP® Nationals, 2004 students participated in the “3D Challenge”. In 2015 this number grew to 2,841 archers which is almost 400 more archers than have EVER participated in a 3D tournament anywhere in the world! While the NASP® bulls-eye tournament is growing at 15% per year, the 3D Challenge is growing at 42%.

Many NASP® schools are buying the 3D challenge target kit to practice for their state, National, World and Outdoor 3D challenge tournaments. The ultimate goal is for local 3D clubs to pick up the format and invite local schools to visit their ranges. Good news for the aging clubs and NASP®s millions of new archers.

For more information:
http://www.ibo.net/
http://www.naspschools.org
The Role of NASP® in the National Hunting and Shooting Sports R3 Plan

By: Jeff Rawlinson
Nebraska Games & Parks Commission & NASP® Board Member

Overview

The National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®) has been a phenomenal success for state fish and wildlife agencies, schools, youth and the archery industry. It has successfully introduced several million youth to the sport of archery through curriculum based scholastic education utilizing professional educators from schools across the world.

In 2014, the hunting and shooting sports industry began collaboration on a hunting and shooting sports recruitment, retention and reactivation plan. The plan highlights four key direct threats to hunting and shooting sports, along with 26 indirect threats that must be addressed in order to increase hunting and shooting sports participation in the United States.

Role of NASP®

When viewed on the Recreational Recruitment Model for hunting, the role of NASP® is clearly to bring thousands of youth to the interest stage and begin moving them to the trial stage. While this is fairly early in the recruitment process, it is a critical series of steps along the natural pathway to recruitment. When viewing the role of NASP® in recruiting into the shooting sports, it is clear NASP® is able to move thousands of youth to the Trial/Decision to Continue stages. In developing the many actions necessary to achieve midterm and ultimate outcomes, it is interesting to note how NASP® becomes evident as an important strategy that will help all partners address specific indirect threats. These include:

Lack of Cultural Relevance/Non-Traditional Audiences
- NASP® reaches over 2.3 million youth annually
- Nearly 50/50 boy/girl split
- 13,500 schools
- Spreading archery across the globe
- 14+ million kids to date

Lack of Instructors, Coaches and Mentors Throughout the Hunting and Shooting Adoption Process
- NASP® has provided the shooting sports community with over 60,000 well trained professional instructors
- NASP® instructors are professional educators in schools and they are motivated
- The great number of NASP® certified instructors has motivated thousands more archery proponents to support archery education in after school and club type programs
Lack of Social Acceptance
- NASP® is making archery socially acceptable and cool across the world with 10+ million kids taking part in a two-week or longer curriculum with their friends
- NASP® has broken the barrier to making shootings sports socially acceptable in schools with a quality program that is both safe, effective in meeting the goals of schools, youth and a large hunting and shooting sports industry

Lack of Awareness of Where to Find Information About Shooting Sports
- NASP® has placed quality curriculum in the hands of thousands of professional educators across the Nation
- NASP® has become the entry-level archery training resource for schools, archery clubs and education centers across the world
- Lack of Acceptance from Administrative, Regulator and Education Entities
- NASP® has received acceptance and support from thousands of schools around the world
- NASP® has spawned countless other archery education programs both in and after school
- NASP® boasts a safety record from which other shooting sports can rely on for support

Lack of Access To Equipment
- The Genesis bow has become the standard in introductory archery education and has provided instructional equipment and resources to schools, clubs and facilities across the world
- Following the demand created by NASP®, archery has made its way into recreation centers, camps, hunter education, church groups and countless other facilities all over the world
- 35% of NASP® kids purchase their own equipment

Lack of Shooting Sports Training Facilities
- NASP® has provided the shooting sports industry with over 13,000 new archery training facilities since its inception
- From NASP®, countless after school programs have developed
- Current Media Representation of Hunting and Shooting Sports
- NASP® has provided us with one of the most positive shooting sports programs in the world
- Media representation of NASP® shooting events has been positive with large events including teachers and youth spanning across the world
- Meeting High Demand for Shooting Sports
- NASP® has reached over 10 million kids
- NASP® has been proven to actually help drive shooting sports demand and fulfill shooting sports needs of youth
- More introductory equipment and archery training facilities are available now than ever before

NASP® has proven to be and will continue to be a very positive tool for the hunting and shooting sports industry. When combined with other efforts that help to fulfill natural pathways to recruitment, NASP® is a powerful influence on finding and captivating the interest of youth from across the world.
We are excited about the continued growth of Alabama’s NASP program. Last year we held seven regional NASP tournaments and ended up adding several days to most in order to meet the demand from schools! Over 3500 students participated in regional events, and that was about 40% of the schools in the program. This year we will host nine regional events. In addition, we have 12 archery parks throughout the state that help to peak even more interest in the program and also give students a place to shoot after school. Between NASP, the archery parks, and Park and Recreation programs conducting archery programs, archery is certainly becoming a community activity in many areas throughout the state.

As of fall 2015, there are 165 schools participating in NASP throughout Alaska with over 6500 kids participating. On average, there are around 20 new schools added to the list each year. Almost every school that picks up the program receives some sort of financial assistance either from the NASP/EASTON grant foundation or through the Outdoor Heritage Foundation of Alaska (OHFA). OHFA is the official conservation partner program for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. OHFA collects donations from various conservation programs around Alaska and purchases on average 10 kits per year and makes those kits available at greatly reduced pricing so that they can assist as many schools as possible that need equipment. We are looking to add an additional 20 schools for the 2015-16 school year.

This past year, Arizona was one of the first states to pilot the NASP IBO 3D Challenge. We hosted the 3D tournaments in conjunction with three of our local fun shoots. At the first local fun shoot we introduced the 3D targets at; we had 83 students participate in the 3D shoot out of 117 total students, that’s a 71% participation in a new program. The interest continued to grow leading to almost half of the participants at the State tournament participating in both the 3D Challenge and the Bullseye shoot. Our participation numbers were slightly lower this year due to date conflicts, however we had six new schools participate in the State tournament that have never participated at that level before. Arizona also brought more students to the National tournament in Louisville, KY than we have in past years. This was all accomplished in spite of the delayed hire of a new coordinator.

Arkansas had a pilot program from 2005-2008. Then in October of 2008 we began a full-fledged effort with a coordinator and structured program. There was a small group of about 20 schools that were not doing much with their archery equipment in October of 2008. We started by adding about 50 schools the first 5 months of the program and held our first State Tournament in March of 2009 with just over 750 students participating. Since then we have grown to over 550 schools and over 57,000 students a year participating in archery. Also, we now have 11 Regional Tournaments to qualify the 2,000 students/teams to attend The State Tournament. These Regionals generate over $30,000 a year for the host schools to share. It has turned out to be one of the most popular fund-raiser a school can have in Arkansas.
California NASP® – California is not only known for its wildlife diversity, but it is also known for its diversity of people. With that diversity come the challenges of serving and communicating with people that are sorely disconnected from our agency. In some urban cities in California, only one in five people has a car – let alone the means to participate in outdoor recreational activities. However, through our archery program, we have reached into some of the deepest inner-city schools in the state and these students are learning an outdoor skill. For example, Oakland, California, a city plagued with one of the highest violent crime rates in the United States. Students there are participating in NASP® during physical education classes and the program is successful.

California #35
School #: 85  Student Participation: 10,148

Colorado launched the program in 2005. During the 2014-2015 year, Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff were excited to award $24,500 in grant funding to schools, including the $6,750 contribution by NASP®. These grants helped 14 schools maintain their existing archery programs by providing matching funds for maintenance. New program grants started programs at 9 schools around the state, bringing our total to 125 active schools. 2014-2015 also brought our first successful virtual tournament and the first few Colorado participants at the national tournament in Kentucky.

Colorado #36
School #: 138  Student Participation: 21,000
In April, 2009 Connecticut became the 46th state in the U.S. to adopt NASP®. At the time it was one of the largest and most enthusiastic launches we had seen. Unfortunately the lead agency, Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) underwent some internal changes over the years and the coordination of NASP® in CT declined. The bright side of that story though is that teacher and student interest in NASP® in CT continues to grow.

On going discussions between NASP® and CT DEEP has demonstrated a desire by the agency to continue as the lead for CT NASP®. The NASP® program leader in Maryland is working closely with CT personnel to revitalize CT’s program. The following basic goals have been established for the 2015-2016 school year: 1) Establish contact with current CT NASP® schools, 2) Offer 1-4 single day BAI trainings per year to meet demand for entry in the program, 3) Offer $6,000 in grant dollars to support 6 new CT schools per year, and 4) Offer a live CT NASP® state tournament to energize the students, promote the program, and eventually raise funds for administration.

In February of 2005, the hunter safety staff for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission received their certifications as Basic Archery Instructor Trainers (BAIT’s) from Olympic gold medalist Rod White. At the conclusion of this workshop, the first Basic Archery Instructor (BAI) workshop in our state was held at Deerlake Middle School in Leon County. Thus Florida became the 24th state to offer the National Archery in the Schools Program in the physical education curriculum. The first Florida NASP® State Tournament in was conducted in 2008, an entirely virtual format. Shooting took place at the individual school facilities, both indoors and out. Score were mailed to the FWC office where winners were identified and awards were presented. In 2010, Florida NASP® added a live component to the tournament, for a combined total of approximately 700 student archers. Two thirds of the schools continued to shoot virtually.

The 9th Annual Florida NASP® State Tournament will take place on February 27, 2016, again with live and virtual components. A change of venue will take the live tournament to Bartow (central FL) where it could triple in size. A NASP®/IBO 3-D tournament has been added to the competition. Active around the Polk County area such as bass fishing with the Lakeland Bassmasters, LegoLand, a municipal golf course right next door, and much more to be enjoyed by the attendees.
Georgia had over 2,000 NASP® kids shoot in regional tournaments in 2015, which maxed out some regional sites. In order to improve the quality of competition at regional tournaments and give schools more opportunities to shoot in a competitive venue, Georgia's NASP® will be requiring schools to shoot a qualifying score at a district tournament in 2015-16 to qualify for regional events.

Georgia's Wildlife Resources Division held its first NASP® 3-D tournament in late August prior to bowhunting season. More than 125 student archers registered for the event. In addition to shooting the NASP® 3-D setup, archers were also given the opportunity to shoot a 3-D trail for score to learn about ASA/IBO scoring and 3-D trail tournaments.

Georgia DNR and the NASP® partnered in 2015 to offer $5,000 scholarships to the top male and female at the state tournament. Emmanuel College's head coach also scouted the tournament and offered six archers college scholarships to compete on the NCAA D-II level.

Idaho NASP® has certified 126 teachers, parents, and archery enthusiasts since its inception. The next school to join the program will be Conner Academy Charter School in Chubbuck, Idaho. Conner Academy faculty were learned of NASP® from a parent who had attended a sports show in Utah. Conner borrowed equipment from Grace Lutheran School and the Physical Education teacher was oriented by an IDGF Conservation Officer. After the school's PTO witnessed a demonstration by Conner students, faculty began securing grants to buy their own NASP® equipment. Conner Academy is now poised to offer NASP® lessons to 268, 4-8th grade students twice a week, during the school year.

Illinois' NASP® – coordinated by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) – was one of the first 10 state programs to register with the National Archery in the Schools Program. The IDNR launched the Illinois NASP® in 2004, and thanks to the support of school administrators, coaches, parents and youth participants, the program has seen growth annually in the number of schools and participants in the program. During the 2015 program year, the Illinois NASP® State Tournament – held in the state capital city Springfield – had 950 archers representing 34 teams. For comparison purposes, the state tournament in 2014 had 873 archers, with 700 archers in 2013, and 400 archers in 2012. That nearly 140% increase in participation in the state finals in just the last three years is evidence of the commitment of the IDNR and participating schools toward growing NASP® in Illinois. The IDNR has grant funds available for new schools instituting a NASP for their students, helping cover some of the initial costs of equipment and training.
The National Archery in the Schools Program originated in Indiana on January 31, 2005 and is housed in the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Law Enforcement Division, Outdoor Education Section. From the program’s humble beginning, with ten schools trained, we have continued our mission of slow steady growth. We currently have over 350 participating schools, including the Indianapolis Public School system. We are growing at a rate of 45 – 70 schools per year. Over 1,500 teachers and volunteers have been trained over the past ten years. Recent surveys of all NASP® schools in Indiana indicate we are touching the lives of approximately 60,000 youth each year. Most of our schools are teaching archery at least ten days per school year and many teach it more. We have numerous schools adding a before or after school program or club to their in-school curriculum. Indiana offers a unique grant program to assist our schools to overcome financial barriers. We have just completed our ninth tournament season with Indiana archers performing extremely well in the local, state, national and world arenas. Over 2,000 competed in our state tournament, nearly 1,250 in the national and over 900 in the world tournament. We have coaches who are expanding our archer’s horizons by giving them avenues of exploring other types of archery, such as the NASP®/IBO 3D Challenge. Indiana plans to continue its philosophy of slow, steady growth and Changing Lives, One Arrow at a Time.

The Iowa Department of Natural Resources NASP® program is on target to certify over 1,200 instructors since the inception of the Iowa Archery in the School Program in 2006. During this past year, we can estimate 44,600 students received NASP® instruction during school hours. Through our competitive league season we reached over 2,100 unique archers from 43 different schools. For the past few years, the Iowa State Archery Tournament was held in-conjunction with the Iowa Deer Classic. This year our attendance rate was 100% with 792 archers. The past year was our first year asking certificated instructors and adult volunteers to track their volunteer hours, for both practice and competition, during the competitive league season. We received around 183 forms with volunteers averaging 75 hours per person during the 11 week season. This upcoming year we look forward to moving our tournament location to the state fair grounds to accommodate additional archers. We will also be promoting the 3D NASP® Challenge program and aim to host a 3D State Tournament in-conjunction with our NASP® bullseyes tournament. An Iowa NASP® Advisory board was assembled in 2014. This advisory board is made up of 2 representatives from each of the 4 Iowa NASP Region and coaches were nominated and voted upon by their peers. The purpose of this advisory board is to seek out feedback and support on rules and policies governing the Iowa NASP® League and state tournament prior to sending out to all coaches. Feedback is also solicited from these individuals regarding statewide coach meeting/training topics.
In Kansas we are training students in colleges as pre-teachers to prepare for NASP® programs in schools or to get one started in their first Job. Fort Hays University is the lead in this training. We are also focusing some of our training on the Job Corps volunteers that we have throughout the State Parks and teaching them NASP® to help them and to allow them to run archery ranges in the State Parks. We are also making partnerships with local and state hunting sport and outdoor groups in our state to help fund kits and make partnerships with the schools around them. We also have three trailers throughout the state that are dedicated to NASP® trainings and to partner with the Bow Hunters Education and we are looking at purchasing a fourth trailer. We are working at and incorporating Centershoot trainings.

Kentucky NASP® has grown by 230 schools in the past three years, about 18% per year. We continue to stay in contact with our NASP® schools answering questions, providing advice, and conducting occasional surveys to determine impacts. During this past year all schools (336) that participate in regional tournaments were queried to determine how many were abiding the requirement that NASP® be taught in school. Of these, 327 (97.3%) reported they were meeting this requirement.

In the last two years KY has started NASP® in 10 counties where the program has not been adopted. Based upon a recent survey 1/3 of the more than 660 KY NASP® schools report teaching NASP® archery more than 10 days per school year.

NASP® in Louisiana has seen unprecedented growth over the last few years. This past year we ranked as the state with the greatest percent increase in school numbers. Not only is our program growing quickly, but the shooters in Louisiana have been putting up some impressive scores and bringing home some accolades from NASP® tournaments. Louisiana is currently home to the World Champion Elementary and Middle School teams from Benton, LA along with a World Champion female elementary school archer in Emma Bunch from Benton, LA. Louisiana’s program has surpassed 100 schools and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries now hosts two regional tournaments as well as a state tournament to accommodate growing interest. LDWF along with a great group of sponsors made it possible to give away $7,500.00 in scholarships at the 2015 state tournament and hope to see that number increase again this year. LDWF is in its third year of offering equipment grants to 20 new schools each year that get involved in NASP®; offering each school approximately half the equipment necessary to get the program started at no cost.
NASP® has had a terrific impact on several schools throughout Maine, especially in northern Maine communities. One of our biggest champions in northern Maine has been Tom Gerard of Madawaska High School who has taken the program beyond his school to other schools in the area; as well as, providing an archery program during the summer months to some local communities. In southern Maine we have been fortunate to have Deb Thibodeau from Georgetown Central Elementary School that has helped spread NASP® to other nearby schools plus started an annual competition with other nearby elementary school in southern Maine. One of my biggest impressions with the competition was the discipline that each student displayed from each school. The dedication and mutual respect shown by everyone was tremendous. It proved to me that the NASP instructors were doing a great job of coaching these kids. We have been very fortunate to have the NASP® equipment grants to help some of our rural areas. With school budgets being squeezed, the grants have made a big difference in getting teachers to swing the school administrators to support the program. Starting in 2008, NASP® was taken into many of the Maine sportsman’s shows in places like Augusta, Orono, Presque Isle, and Brewer to introduce kids and adults to the program. We have been asked by the United States Sportsman’s Alliance as part of their Trail Blazer Program to attend events where we again introduced kids and adults to archery with NASP®.

We have worked special events such as Camp POSTCARD that is sponsored by the Maine Sheriff’s Association for at-risk kids. Two years in a row we worked with one young girl that was blind, yet we were able to teach her to shoot a bow and hit the target consistently! NASP® made a huge impact on these kids by bring them out of their “shell” and opening up to new adventures, and creating more self confidence.

Maryland  #33
School #: 88  Student Participation: 12,320

NASP® was introduced in MD in October of 2005. At that time the MD DNR appointed a state coordinator to oversee the program but in 2010 budget restrictions dictated the need to eliminate the position. Fortunately the program had developed a strong enough foothold that the MD Bowhunters’ Society, which had been the driving force behind the MD NASP® initiative, stepped up and provided volunteer support to help conduct trainings and coordinate growing the program. The MD DNR continued to support the program with technical support in the form of a MD DNR web page and phone referrals of interested schools. That relationship evolved into a three way partnership between MD DNR, MD Bowhunters’ Society and NASP®. This partnership has provided the mechanism to allow MD NASP® to not only survive but grow. Funding, as in many states, is a major problem. Unlike other states that might have access to Title 10 money, MD NASP® has no access to those funds and our partner, MD DNR is unable to assist in providing any access to those funds at this time. This makes MD NASP® ever more dependent on the generosity of civic organizations, sportsman's organizations, businesses and individuals for the support to provide equipment grant money as well as scholarship funds. MD NASP® continues to grow at about 10% growth each year and we will hope to reach our 100th school in early 2016 or sooner.
Massachusetts #47
School #: 43  Student Participation: 7,750

Massachusetts is a small state with an extremely small NASP® program, which is why I am proudest of my increase in participating schools. The program was started in 2010 with 10 pilot schools. At the beginning of the 2014/2015 school year we had 27 schools participating in NASP®, and at the end of the school year we had 43 schools participating, which almost doubled our number of participating schools. There was also an additional 15 schools trained in the spring that will be starting up this fall which will bring our total to 58 schools. This jump is in large part due to the agency purchasing loaner kits for each of our districts, as well as presentations at two major events: The Massachusetts Superintendents conference and the Massachusetts Physical Education conference. We also held our first state tournament (although there were only two schools there, it is a start!). I am hoping that we have a larger turn out this year for a tournament.

Michigan #11
School #: 585  Student Participation: 79,840

Michigan has over 1100 certified BAIs and over 600 schools in NASP®. We switched from virtual tournaments to live in 2014. Our 2nd live tournament was conducted in 2015 with an increase of 33% participation. In addition to bringing schools on board directly, we attend outdoor events where we promote NASP® to families who may have never experienced archery. We average 3 post-event contacts requesting more information on the program which has been successful in the growth of NASP® in Michigan. Two of those contacts have been with the Michigan School of the Deaf and the Michigan School of the Blind. We are working closely with them and look forward to bringing them into the program in the near future.

Minnesota School program has been adding 15 to 17 new schools per year for the last two years. The archery in the Parks program through our State Park system continues to be one of the best attended programs parks have to offer as such we plan to expand this program in the current fiscal year. There has been a dramatic increase in 3-D NASP® after Nationals, the State is hoping to offer up to 10 to 12 kits statewide to help this program take off as well.

We have not conducted a BAIT Training now for a couple of years as we feel the current BAIT’s are covering the State effectively. Our State Tournament continues to grow in number and a new location has been selected for the upcoming State Shoot, we are hopeful to draw additional schools to the tournament by moving the location around the State exposing new schools to the State Shoot. Minnesota is continuing the Grant program with 50% of the packages cost covered by the DNR.
Mississippi adopted NASP® in May 2005. The foundation for the Mississippi Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks sponsored the initial 10 pilot schools. Being a state that emphasized the “ball” sports, I am surprised NASP® has grown to more than 400 MS schools as quickly as it has. Each time I receive a letter from a parent, school administrator, or coach, expressing thanks for “keeping a student in school” I am reminded of the original values and goals our program was founded on. This is the only sport in Mississippi that is really “for the kids.” As our yearly numbers approach 70,000, we truly realize the positive impact of NASP®. I am constantly reminded of improved student grades and behavior due to NASP®.

A story comes to mind about a student from a small school near the Mississippi River. The school’s athletic director was setting up his PE archery range one morning. “Wow, this curtain sure is heavy!” As the coach was loading quivers with arrows, he looked up and saw Tommy. Tommy was a tall slender kid who hung around the campus, rarely attending all his classes, simply waiting for the chance to drop out of school and go to work. The rack full of bright colored bows caught Tommy’s attention. “Hey coach, do you mind if I shoot a few arrows?” After he shot about 3 quivers full of arrows, the coach explained to him how he could be a part of the school’s team and shoot every day in the P.E. class IF he would raise his grades and attend all his classes. In January of Tommy’s junior year, his report card verified his eligibility to participate. Tommy participated in the first “Mississippi NASP® state championship” in Jackson.

Tommy finished high school and went to a community college to earn a degree in nursing. Tommy called me one day just before he took his nursing final exams. He wanted to know what kind of bow he needed to hunt with. After a long discussion on the subject of bow hunting, he went to a pro shop and purchased his “graduation present.” In late 2012, a slender gentleman in his early seventies walked in my office and asked for me (Waldo) by name. I introduced myself and he introduced himself as Tommy’s grandfather. He went on to thank me for such a wonderful program that was the reason his grandson had made it through school. I explained to Tommy’s grandfather about the program and the wide range of positive results I have witnessed. “I’m not surprised, but I can tell you that program kept my grandbaby in school and now he has started his own family. Without the archery program I don’t believe it would have happened, Thanks again” he calmly stated as he walked out of the Archery Center’s door.

What a wonderful ending to a great story I thought. But the story was not over. Tommy called me a couple weeks ago and wanted to know where he could buy a mini Genesis bow for his five year old son. I told him that was pretty young to start shooting a bow. “Yes coach I agree, but I’m sure he will grow into it” he replied.

It’s amazing to me that all three angles of this story were so identical. I heard from his coach, his grandfather, and straight from Tommy. I guess NASP®’s motto, “Changing lives one arrow at a time” really hits home with MS-NASP®!
In the 2014-2015 there were 86 new schools that joined MoNASP®, putting the total number of schools in the state participating in the National Archery in the Schools Program to over 500. The Missouri Department of Conservation certified 407 new Basic Archery Instructors (BAIs) in the 2014/15 school year. Missouri hosted a total of 70 NASP® tournaments in the state with over 12,000 students participating in those tournaments. Most impressive to us is that in Missouri alone there were over 140,000 kids that participated in NASP® as part of their in school curriculum in the 2014-2015 school year.

Montana involves approximately 50 schools in NASP® and an additional cadre of 21st Century after school programs. With a state the size of Montana, NASP® competitions are held on regional basis. The top state shooters are selected from these competitions. Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks with FWP Shooting Range Grant funding constructed an indoor archery range at the state conservation education center, Montana WILD. Students and teachers from across Montana receive archery training during their visits to the center.

Nebraska NASP® continues to grow. Participating schools have increased by 43.7% in the last few years, while the annual state tournament has experienced a growth of 52% in the same time period. Current efforts are underway to expand ‘continuing-education’ refresher courses to active BAI’s in all districts of the state, while meeting the demand for new BAI workshops. Also under development are Pipelines for NASP® students and instructors to not only continue shooting archery beyond the classroom, but further explore other outdoor recreational pursuits available in Nebraska.

Nebraska NASP® Anecdote: “I was watching the south side of the shooting line during the tournament and noticed a young man that appeared to have special needs? He was shooting next to a young lady from one of our champion teams, Mater Dei Academy. The young lady noticed he was struggling, especially with scoring. She helped him with scoring as he would generally assume his points were less than they actually were. During his shoot, I saw what was apparently his mother kneeling on the edge of the waiting line watching him shoot. The scene was a bit more heartwarming that I am able to suggest but on the last round, the young lady from Mater Dei Academy, after waiting at the shooting line for the young man to finish shooting his last arrow, she turned to him and gave him a big high five! It was cool. He began grinning from ear to ear and yelling yay! I turned back toward his mom who was in tears, kneeling on the waiting line, yelling “way to go” back to him too. The scene reminded me for a quick moment why we are doing this program (as if I need a reminder). For a brief moment, that young man was the team captain, catching the winning pass, scoring the winning touchdown. Yes the program creates archers, but more importantly, it creates citizens of this great country building upon the very ethics we were founded upon.”

Jeff Rawlinson
Currently we have 15 schools that are actively participating in the NASP® program. During the 2015 school year 650-750 students participated in the program. We plan to add 3-5 schools for the 2015 year. For 2015 we do not have a grant program set up. We have purchased a trailer that will have multiple uses but will be available for NASP® and archery education in NH. This will allow us to move our equipment more efficiently when we provide trainings.

New Jersey NASP® was launched in 2005 with 10 pilot schools. In 2012, two full-time NASP® Coordinators were hired and since then, NJ NASP® enrollment has quadrupled in the state to over 200 schools and organizations now trained to run NASP®. New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife provides free short-term equipment loans to schools, allowing NASP® to be implemented completely free of cost.

New NJ NASP® Co-Coordinator, Katie Ischinger is a “NASP® Graduate” and reports the following: “I’m Katie Ischinger, a recent graduate from NC State University with a degree in Biological Sciences. I have done archery since participating in the NASP® program in middle school, and have found it to be such a relaxing and fun sport and skill. Hunting has been a large part of my life, as my father is a huge lover of the outdoors. As a child, my brother and sister and I would wait patiently for our dad to get home from hunting so that we could watch him clean his trophies and explain the body parts to us. My father taught us what responsible hunting is, and why he participates. His target archery practice on weekends inspired curiosity about the sport in my brother and I. My brother has Cerebral Palsy, and despite this, he began taking archery lessons. It was amazing that a boy who had such a hard time controlling his muscles could do something like archery, which requires so much concentration and precision. In my 7th grade year at Oxford Central School, archery was incorporated into the curriculum, which was one of the greatest things to happen to me in my middle school career. In 8th grade, we were able to compete in the NASP® tournament in Kentucky, where I placed 3rd in the Middle School Female division. My younger sister Jenna has also competed in Kentucky, placing 3rd in the country, as well as being the top female archer in New Jersey in 2013. Archery has taught me about focus, dedication and responsibility, and has had an extremely positive influence on my life. I’m looking forward to working with DEP and spreading archery joy throughout NJ!”

New Hampshire #41
School #: 15   Student Participation: 750

Currently we have 15 schools that are actively participating in the NASP® program. During the 2015 school year 650-750 students participated in the program. We plan to add 3-5 schools for the 2015 year. For 2015 we do not have a grant program set up. We have purchased a trailer that will have multiple uses but will be available for NASP® and archery education in NH. This will allow us to move our equipment more efficiently when we provide trainings.
During this past year we maintained program standards at the 120 schools already participating in National Archery in the Schools Program (NASP®). We grew NM NASP® by an additional 40 schools to provide safe, lifelong shooting skill development. The NASP® program contracted with NASP® Certified Trainers to teach 8 courses (5 in Albuquerque and 3 in Las Cruces). 20 Basic Archery Instructor Courses were taught and 80 additional Basic Archery Instructors were trained. New Mexico Department of Game and fish has increased Basic Archery Instructors (NASP® Certification) from 580 Basic Archery Instructors in 2014 to 660 Basic Archery Instructors. The numbers are not only reflective of the growth of the program but also the direct improvements to health and quality of life for the youth of the State of New Mexico. Approximately 25,000 students are exposed to archery in NM through NASP®.

The fourth annual land based tournament took place on February 28, 2015. The NM NASP® Tournament had 850 students registered to shoot and compete. Due to the inclement weather on February 28th (6”-8” of snow) the tournament held 282 competitive archers. The incorporation of the NASP® Pro Software scoring system into the 2015 NM State Archery Tournament was implemented and 3 New Mexico Department of Game and Fish employees were trained using the scoring software along with 2 volunteers. The scoring system is valid, efficient and effective and available through National Archery in the Schools Program.

**New York #44**

School #: 274  Student Participation: 34,000

In 2015, NY had their first state tournament where all 332 participants were together in one high school gym. Previously, they shot at their own school and sent scores in to the state coordinator. The 2016 state tournament is scheduled to be held at a college field house.

**North Carolina #28**

School #: 36  Student Participation: 4,248

During the 2014-2015 school year, North Carolina began a NASP program with Oak Ridge Military Academy (ORMA). ORMA is the oldest military academy in the United States. This program is taught during the Valor Program offered during the school day which focuses on leadership and discipline.

As an agency, the NC Wildlife Resources Commission went through a reorganization of the agency this past year, and re-established an education division. The new Wildlife Education Division now houses the NASP program, which is coordinated by the new Shooting Sports Coordinator Tim Lemon. Currently, the NC NASP program is under review for some updates for our program.
Ohio #10  
School #: 780  
Student Participation: 114,660

Over the course of 2015 Ohio’s NASP® has been very active. Ohio has:
- Offered 27 BAI courses to schools and volunteers statewide.
- Trained 195 new Basic archery instructors
- Certified 33 new schools as NASP schools
- Provided over $75,000.00 in grant dollars for equipment kits
- Reached 750 schools trained in 2015

In addition, we had great success during our tournaments. In 2015:
- First year for virtual qualifiers 1656 archers shot
- State tournament March of 2015 – 1153 archers shot
- Awarded 6000.00 in scholarships

North Dakota #27  
School #: 150  
Student Participation: 17,700

After a few years of slow but steady growth, the 2014/2015 school year emerged as stronger growth year for NASP in North Dakota. This uptick resulted in hitting another milestone of 150 NASP schools. North Dakota has just under 450 schools including public, private, BIA and state institution schools which means one-third of our schools have now initiated NASP. More important than the number of schools that implemented in the 2014/2015 was the location of and number within specific districts. Williston North Dakota a city that has undergone unprecedented growth due to the oil boom added NASP to 6 schools in their district.

During the 2014/2015 school year we completed a project several years in the making called the Archery Fun Zone. The project includes an enclosed trailer containing floor quivers, arrow nets and bow racks, Mini-Genesis, Mission Rally and PSE Snake bows, over a dozen miscellaneous Rinehart 3-D targets and other equipment. The original mission of the project was to provide opportunities for NASP schools to easily engage in “next step” type of archery activities with their students by providing the equipment and a way to conveniently get it to their school. However, with the appearance of the new NASP/IBO 3-D program we decided to refocus the mission of the trailer to growing the 3-D program specifically. As such, we added 6 sets of NASP/IBO 3-D targets and will be adding frames for the nets, indoor target stands and possibly even scoring machines. The first school has reserved the trailer this fall for their first ever NASP/IBO 3-D tournament. The original equipment will still be available upon request and depending on popularity could result in the addition of another trailer to the project.
The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) launched OKNASP® in 2004. The program has been on a continual upward trend since it was launched. This last year, ODWC provided equipment kits to 50 new schools bringing the total schools involved in OKNASP® to 426. The annual participation surveys shows that Oklahoma schools spend an average of 8 weeks teaching OKNASP® as part of their in school curriculum. Around 10% (5,500) of the total students (55,000) that participated in OKNASP® last year also competed at inter-school shoots that were used to determine which schools qualified for the six regional shoots conducted by ODWC. Nearly 3,600 students participated in the regionals and the top 1,200 went on to participate in the state shoot that was held in Tulsa.

I have received money to help with traveling to schools and clubs for training. I have a equipment trailer that is equipped with a training bow kit to us for BAI classes, this would not be possible for me to do as a state volunteer coordinator.

With our grant money I have 2 new schools that I have been working with this new school year for training and equipment. This year (2015) I will be contacting some of my local hunting chapters for more support with our schools. Oregon’s 2016 state meet is scheduled for March 12 in Grants Pass Oregon at Fruitdale Elementary school.

The Pennsylvania Game Commission started the NASP program in 2010. In the first few years the program was slow to catch on and held less than 40 schools. In the last 5 years the program has blossomed and continued to grow across the state. Today there are over 200 schools teaching the NASP curriculum in class. This means that roughly 60,000 students are given the opportunity to learn to shoot a bow each year in Pennsylvania. Many schools have reported an increase in class participation, attendance and overall attitude during NASP instruction. Each year the state championship is held in Penn State and thousands of dollars are awarded in scholarships. The Pennsylvania Game Commission is a proud supporter of the NASP program and looks forward to continued growth of the program in our state.
South Carolina #20

School #: 319  Student Participation: 42,000

During the past year South Carolina NASP® changed from virtual tournaments to regional tournaments. We held four regional’s across the state that 1675 kids participated in and then had 685 attend our State Tournament. With help of sponsors we were able to award $4000.00 in scholarships to graduating seniors during the awards ceremony at our State Tournament. We also held our first NASP®IBO 3D Challenge that was sponsored by Bass Pro in Myrtle Beach and was a great success. South Carolina was recognized by NASP® during the coordinators conference in Nashville for achieving over 300 schools. We are very proud of the growth of NASP® in South Carolina. One highlight of the year was our State T-Shirt contest. We opened up the contest for any school age kid to design our State T-Shirt and the winner received a Chrome book. The winner of the contest was Alex Richardson a High School Senior on one of our High School NASP® teams. He design really shows what NASP® is all about!

South Dakota #42

School #: 262  Student Participation: 19,650

South Dakota NASP® is sponsored in the state by the South Dakota Dept. of Game, Fish & Parks. Since the program’s inception in Feb. of 2007, NASP® has currently grown to 262 trained and equipped schools with approximately 19,650 students participating each year. In the past three years, South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks has trained 215 instructors and has introduced the program to 49 schools within the state. GFP continues to support NASP® by providing both target and 3D archery equipment, new instructor training and refresher courses to existing schools. Numerous tournaments are held across the state (both target and 3D) and school archery leagues have been formed in southwest SD. After-school and community based programs have begun across the state because of the NASP® experience as an in-school curriculum.

Tennessee #17

School #: 312  Student Participation: 38,000

Tennessee was the 17th state to join the National Archery in the School Program (NASP®). We began the program in October 2004 with 12 pilot schools and as of today we have over 300 schools in the program. We continue to see good growth both in the number of new schools joining NASP® and our state tournament. This coming year, 2016 will be our 10th state tournament and it continues to grow by about 15% - 20% each year. The number of new schools joining NASP® continues to increase by approximately 10%- 15% each year. One great side note I think is the number of parents that get BAI certified so they can help coach their school’s team and/or assist with the program when taught at school during school hours and afterschool clubs. This is making archery a family affair and a life long sport they can do together for many years. We are very proud that we have all of the high and middle schools from the Metro Nashville Public Schools system participating in NASP®. Since the beginning of NASP® in Tennessee we have been fortunate to be able to offer a $1,000 grant to new schools that join the program. Also this year we have added over 100 new BAI certified instructors through approximately 20 BAI courses and have greatly expanded the knowledge of NASP® and archery across Tennessee.
The Texas-National Archery in the Schools Program has seen steady growth since beginning in September 2004 with addition of more than 100 schools each year since the 2008-2009 school-year. The year of greatest growth was the 2011-2012 school-year with the addition of 155 new NASP® schools. With over 1100 NASP® schools currently in Texas, there are many “shining stars,” here are a few:

- Arlington Independent School District which serves more than 63,000 students has a newly designated archery facility for the district which opens in October of this year and the district has designated a fulltime staff to be their “District Archery Coordinator.” All six of the district's high schools conduct NASP archery.
- Northside Independent School District in San Antonio has two staff serving as NASP Trainers to conduct their own in-house certification courses. Northside's twenty Middle School campuses all offer NASP® archery along with several of their High schools and Elementary campuses.
- The capacity of NASP® in the Dallas –Ft Worth area, approximately 1/3 of the entire Texas-NASP® schools, has helped to facilitate the inception of a large new archery park facility with the City of Grapevine to be built on City property on Grapevine Lake. Texas Parks & Wildlife Hunter Education, Angler Education and Archery Education staff will be housed at the new facility.

FROM THE TPWD DIRECTOR

The Texas-National Archery in the Schools Program has grown at an amazing pace since it's adoption by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in September 2004. Adding more than 100 new schools each of the last seven years, the program has amassed more than 4,200 certified instructors. More than half of the certified instructors are classroom educators representing more than 1,150 schools across Texas. The sheer capacity of the TX-NASP® has led to inter-division “cross-pollination” within our agency. State Parks, the largest of the TPWD divisions now has more than 120 staff certified as NASP® archery instructors and has begun incorporating more archery programming within the parks system in areas such as day camps, weekend skill workshops and the Texas Outdoor Family program.

“The popularity of our NASP® program has grown exponentially, and it has allowed us to introduce thousands of young Texans to the exciting world of archery,” said Carter Smith, TPWD Executive Director. “Programs like these bring to our school children those outdoor experiences that are so vital to human health and quality of life. The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department is honored to be the official sponsor of NASP® in Texas, and we look forward to continuing our partnership towards introducing more kids to their natural world outside.”

Texas-NASP® has experienced exceptional support from agency administrators - including the hiring of an Archery Coordinator in 2007. TPWD’s progressive vision and intense understanding of how important this diverse, highly inclusive and safe, school-based shooting sport sets the stage to sustain a conservation-minded citizen base for generations to come.
Virginia launched its BAI-BAIT training August 2005 in Falls Church, VA. Virginia NASP® offered the first Basic Archery Instructor training to schools in 2006. The program has really gained momentum and has steadily grown in the number of schools participating in NASP® over the last six years. 12 new counties around the state have added NASP® to their in-school PE program in the past year! Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries offers assigned loaner equipment sets to schools that meet the requirement for obtaining a loaner set of equipment and are in need of assistance in starting the archery program. There has been an increasing number of NASP® schools that offer afterschool archery clubs due to the high interest of the students that want to continue developing their archery skills. This increased interest in archery and the desire to compete in archery has resulted in Virginia offering Regional qualifiers for their annual State Tournament. Virginia has offered the Basic Archery Instructor certification training with over 1800 educators successfully completing the training from over 740 schools.

In addition to the bullseye archery, many of the schools in the Commonwealth are offering the NASP®-IBO 3 D archery. 2015 proved very successful for the Ronald Regan Middle School in Virginia in the 3D NASP® –IBO tournaments, resulting in them capturing first place in the 3 Star Challenge.

Washington kicked off our NASP® program in August 2005 as state # 30 to adopt the program. We had 13 schools in our initial group, and also included several core “staff” in the BAIT class. Washington is one of the few states where the program is administered by a non-governmental organization, in our case it is Washington State Archery Association. We receive funds from our Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to help new schools buy their equipment setup. We recruited fifteen new NASP® schools this year, and currently have 133 active NASP® schools in Washington. Each year WSAA hosts the NASP® State Championship. Each event, from 2006, has been a single-site competition. 2015, our 10th anniversary year, set several records, with the greatest ever attendance (856 archers), more teams (50) and more schools represented (36). We offer a NASP® equipment category in the indoor all-ages tournaments conducted by WSAA. The result was a great exposure for the NASP® archers to the greater world of competition archery. For the Indoor Multi-Color, the number of participants in the NASP® division was over one-half of the TOTAL archers at that event (198 of 360 total)!

During this year, we conducted eleven sessions of the Basic Archery Instructor course, and taught 100 BAI, well over half are school teachers, and others are community supporters.
This has been an exciting year for DCPS and NASP®. We hosted our first state tournament which was very successful. Students from 9 schools, braving the inclement weather, came out and aimed for the best performance possible. We crowned our first ever elementary and high school state champion teams, while also recognizing the top three performers in each category with medals. Due to this inaugural tournament, we also made quite the news splash both locally and nationally. There were articles in the Capitol Hill Rag, The Washington Post, and even a spot on the morning news with NBC. We are working to continue expanding the program by adding it as a required portion of the HS physical education class and a cornerstone project where students will participate in a dual-school tournament (either live or virtual) as the culminating activity.

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources NASP® currently has 320 certified schools and 812 certified instructors. We continue to stay in contact with our NASP® schools by answering questions, holding certification trainings, providing advice, and conducting occasional surveys. During this past school year we had 949 students from 54 schools compete in the WV State Qualifying Virtual Tournament and 487 students compete in the WV State NASP® Tournament. West Virginia NASP® students also competed in the NASP® IBO 3D Challenge Nationals, NASP® Nationals, NASP®/IBO World 3D Challenge, NASP® World, and NASP®/IBO World Outdoor 3D Challenge. WV’s program has exceeded all expectations originally set when the program began 11 years ago. West Virginia will continue to expand the program with hopes of having every school in the state certified and participating in the program.

Here at Afflerbach we have started a before school archery program as well as an in class program for all 4th – 6th graders. Using the NASP® system we have created an environment where students feel comfortable to come and learn and participate in the sport of target archery shooting. We have had a lot of staff and parent support for the program and starting the second year we have had as many parents as students ask if we will be doing the before school program again. It has become an exciting and enticing part of our learning community at Afflerbach.
The last year for NASP was another very strong growth year in Alberta. The strength with NASP is in rural Alberta Schools. There are 4 rural school divisions we are working toward certifying all schools with NASP. Once this is completed we will be putting a push for NASP within the 2 largest school divisions located in Edmonton and Calgary. The SCI – Drayton Valley chapter has agreed to purchase the archery kit for all schools within the Brazeau School Division. The SCI club in Drayton Valley partnered with Brazeau Bowbenders and AHEIA to host the Provincial NASP Tournament in April 2015. Nearly 900 students participated during the 3 day tournament. The 2016 and 2017 Provincial Tournaments will also be in Drayton Valley. AHEIA partnered with the Canadian National Sportsmen Shows to host the 2015 Canadian NASP National Tournament in March at the Edmonton Boat & Sportsmen show. Nearly 1200 students from 2 Canadian Provinces participated, doubling the participants from the 2014 Canadian National NASP tournament held in Regina Saskatchewan. The Canadian National Sportsmen Show will host the 2016 and 2017 Canadian National NASP Tournaments in Edmonton. Entering our 7th year of NASP in Alberta our priority continues to grow NASP beyond 400 schools. The active NASP BAI teachers are asking for the next level of Archery coaching clinics to bring their teams and students to a level of competition with the American Schools.
Late 2012, several of my Archery co volunteers talked about the possibility of getting the NASP® to Manitoba. We talked about how we might introduce this program to our school districts and possible challenges we might encounter along the way. A few weeks after our exchanges, a vice principal from a school in North West Manitoba contacted me about NASP and was asking for my assistance in getting NASP® to his school. And that got us started. Orders were placed, agreements were signed, dates and schedules were finalized, venues were booked, and on May 19, 2013, Mr. Kevin Dixon lands at Winnipeg International Airport. We did a few errands, with the NASP® Archery equipment in tow, we started our 4 hour trip from Winnipeg to Birtle, where Manitoba was to start the first BAIT/BAI training. On the morning of May 20, 2013 we started. On the afternoon of May 22, 2013, NASP®, through Kevin Dixon, signed and awarded 5 BAIT and 8 BAI certificates. Manitoba currently has 8 schools, 23 BAI, 5 BAIT, and 1 BAIT Specialist. We have several schools who have expressed their interest to join NASP in school year 2015. Some of these interested schools have long started their work to raise some funding for this very exciting program.

New Brunswick #7

School #: 7    Student Participation: 640

New Brunswick, the most recent of Canada’s provinces to adopt NASP®, currently has 15 schools registered as NASP® schools. Each school averages approximately 200 kids who shoot during the year. We are hoping to expand but unfortunately New Brunswick is the only province that has yet to bounce back from the last recession and schools are finding it very hard to find funding. The new executives of the New Brunswick Wildlife Federation have taken it upon themselves to try to help these new schools try to find the much needed funding.

Nova Scotia #3

School #: 36    Student Participation: 4248

NASP is progressing well in Nova Scotia since AANS has partnered with the Nova Scotia Department of Education. There are now over fifty schools with NASP archery programs and more schools inquiring about getting involved. This past year I have had conversations with the Minister of Education and the School Board Association in regards to the NASP program and the outcome has been positive. In May this year we held a Skype archery tournament with school children in South Africa. The Nova Scotia team came in second, but all had fun. After the competition each archer introduced themselves to the other team. This event was held at Avon View High School. Many thanks to Greg Wile and his team for making this possible. AANS provided gold medals to each of the South African team. These medals were presented to the South African coach, Charl Rabie at the NASP conference in Nashville Tennessee by Greg Wile who attended the conference this year on behalf of AANS. At the conclusion of the Skype competition, AANS presented awards to the top school board, Avon Valley Regional School Board, the top three male archers and the top three female archers. NASP also provided $0.50 towards a scholarship and I was able to find a sponsor for the other $0.50 and we were able to present a $1,000 scholarship to the top student. We currently have over fifty schools involved in the NASP program, either in process of ordering equipment or have already received equipment. NASP has provided grants of $1,000 per school to a maximum of six schools for 2015 and they are currently all spoken for and orders are in various stages of completion. There may be more grants next year from NASP for purchase of equipment. Further, there is now a Canadian distributor for archery nets, which will save a few dollars due the current difference in the currency with the USA.
Interest in the NASP® program in Ontario is on the steady rise. With Ontario just completing its first school year, the future looks very bright for this program in our province. Multiple school boards have invited the OFAH to present the NASP® program to them, all which were received very well. The 2015/16 school year should be very busy for us. With 14 teacher trainers all over the province, we are now at the stage where we can run provincial tournaments and keep up with growing the NASP® family. With approximately 5000 schools in Ontario, the sky is the limit for this incredible program.

Two of our schools are touring other schools in their area and demonstrating NASP®. This is to introduce other schools to NASP®; and inspire them to enroll.

Ecole Evangeline is our only Acadian French School in PEI enrolled in NASP. One of our students, Kristen Arsenault came through NASP® to make our Canada Games Team and ultimately win PEI’s first medal at a National Championship.

Geographically, PEI is very small so we have the luxury of our schools working together. However, regionally, our ability to travel is limited so we’re working with Nova Scotia NASP® to do Skype tournaments.

It is our goal to add 2 schools per year to the NASP® system. Long term, we hope to have full middle/high school saturation by 2026.

We believe in the importance of archery as a way for our students to experience the values associated with learning a lifelong skill, with an emphasis on process rather than results. This is why the Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation (SWF) has been proudly running the NASP® program in Saskatchewan schools for 8 years. NASP® strives to promote a fun, safe and inclusive experience for each participant. Since 2012, the Saskatchewan provincial tournament has doubled in attendance, with over 700 students participating this year. The SWF was proud to send 126 students to represent Saskatchewan at the recent Canadian National Tournament, and ever prouder of our first and second place students!
Please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Iain Luck, and I was the Principal at a school for Koorie (Aboriginal) students aged 5-18 years when I first came in to contact with NASP. That was back around 2006/07.

At our school we were always searching for new and innovative approaches to solving the issues of poor attendance and engagement that appeared endemic in our local community. So when Neil Curtis (founding Coordinator if NASP in Australia) approached us to join a NASP® pilot program, we leapt at the chance.

Like the other nine Melbourne suburban schools involved in the Pilot Program, we raised the money quickly, purchased our Archery kits and booked ourselves in for the BAI/BAIT training sessions. All of my staff put their hands up to be trained, and what a fun few days that was.

The program got underway not long afterwards, and there was an instantly noticeable improvement in student attendance, especially on the days when Archery was included in their curriculum.

As we progressed, NASP® was coupled with student behavior and academic achievement. Remarkable improvements were noticed instantly in these areas as well. Data derived from Attitudes to School Surveys, conducted annually at every Government School in the State of Victoria, indicated significant increases in our student connectedness to school and connectedness to peers (compared with previous years and other 'like' schools). Naturally, we were well pleased!

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**2015 Australia Report**

| School #: 50 | Student Participation: 8,800 |

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**2015 New Zealand Report**

| School #: 11 | Student Participation: 1,298 |

We currently have 6 YMCA organizations throughout the country in both the North and South Islands. They deliver NASP® to students in their own facilities as well as taking it out to schools, including a school for students with special needs. We have 8 schools in NASP® with our 9th school waiting for their starter kit to arrive so we can book in their BAI training. All but two of the schools teach NASP® in Physical Education classes. One of these has the PE department introducing NASP® to PE classes in 2016 and the other requires new teachers to complete BAI training, which we hope to complete before the end of 2015.

To date all our NASP® schools have been in the North Island and we have our first school in the South Island joining us this year. We maintain contact with all the schools and YMCA organizations, assisting with equipment and promoting further BAI training. We hold an annual national tournament in August and have a lot of very positive feedback from teachers and parents at the event.
NASP® was introduced to Botswana and Clifton College in January 2014. This came about as a result of one of the American parents bringing Charles an article in a Bow Hunting magazine written by Wilhelm Greeff. They had been exposed to NASP® in the USA and were keen to see it introduced here.

We have had demonstrations for other schools and in June 2014 Botswana ran a BAIT and BAI course at Clifton School where we were able to get 3 candidates qualified as BAIT and 11 further candidates qualified as BAI. Three more schools were represented in this course, namely, Clifton Preparatory, Morula Primary School and Morula Secondary School. Wilhelm Greeff and Frik Birkenstock then travelled to address a Conference of Headmasters at their Annual Conference held in Kasane, Botswana. As a result of this two more schools have expressed interest. They are Matswane School and Okovango International School, both in Maun. We will be travelling up to them in the near future to present a BAI course. We are waiting on responses from some schools in Gaborone and hope to make a similar trip in the near future.

Looking ahead we aim to increase the number of competing schools both in our Private Schools and in the government schools. Our challenges are a vast country with a tiny population. Getting people involved from all the major urban areas is vital. We have no Bow shops so it is difficult getting equipment repaired so we will need to upgrade our skills to make us self-sufficient. Help in terms of making resources available (BAI manuals etc) will be invaluable and any help in terms of equipment donations or part sponsorships will assist in motivating schools to join the program. We are really only in our beginning stages but look forward to becoming an established and contributing organization.

Marja Woortman was one of the first BAIT trained by Wilhelm Greeff and Frik Birkenstock from February 22, 2011 for three days at Die Jagwinkel in Windhoek, Namibia. Being the National Archery Coach Marja wanted to know what NASP® was all about and asked Johan Grobler, the owner of The Jag Winkel to contact Wilhelm Greeff in South Africa. The first schools started in 2011, Bergop being the most active. When the Archery Association of Namibia saw the need of developing the sport at younger age, the leads were picked up again and the participation was broadened. Namibia currently has 87 Bai and BAIT Instructers and 4 BAITs.

Namibia is unique in that it is geographically a big country with only 2 million people and many different cultures and languages. There are more than 2,000 schools in Namibia of which only 11 are active in NASP®. These schools are Koës, Lüderitz, Dagbreek, Bergop, St Pauls, St Georges, Walvisbay, Otavi, Tsumeb, Windhoek International and Windhoek Gymnasium, mostly private schools with a total of only 150 students active involved with NASP®.

Namibia presents 2 Inter Schools competitons per annum and has a National (All Star) team who competed in the first ever NASP® All Star World Championship in 2013 in South Africa. The Namibia All Star Team will also compete in the first ever NASP® All Star Africa Championship on 9 to 11 October in South Africa where the won Bronz. In the 2015 All Nation All-Star Championship in the USA Namibia again took Bronze beating Canada and the UK.
NASP® was introduced to South Africa in 2008 when Wilhelm Greeff and Nic Roets received BAIT training in Illinois. Since then all nine provinces became active with more than 200 schools participating. The main purpose of NASP®-SA is to uplift the youth of South Africa’s participation in responsible outdoor activities. The programme focuses on developing life-long skills within our children by using the bow and arrow as a very effective medium. During this process the children are exposed to archery as a sport which they could pursue as an extra curriculum activity or even as an Olympic sport. Being able to reach out to the previously disadvantaged as well as remote communities, NASP®-SA acts as a catalyst for the sport by presenting the sport to the children in these communities who would otherwise never have had the opportunity to participate in archery. NASP®-SA is working with SANAA, SANIFAA and ABO and skilled children participating in NASP®-SA are identified for further development in the sport of archery, even to Olympic participation. NASP-SA is the development leg of 3Di Target South Africa who is affiliated to the Federation for Archery in South Africa. We are stiving to be able to award our national teams with Junior Protea Colours in 2016.

At the 2014 All Star Africa Tournament Zimbabwe, who are relatively new on the NASP® scene with then only one and a half years of experience showed what grit and determination a fledgling team could have. A very young team comprising of some grade 6’s and 7’s and the remainder of grade 8 and 9 put up an amazing series of scores to beat the much favoured Namibian team and come home as Africa’s 1st runner-up team. The eventual winners SA3, only beat Zimbabwe by 13 points to knock out ZIM1 in the eliminations. One year on, heading towards the continent’s biggest NASP® tournaments and nothing much has changed. Zimbabwe, under the coaching guidance of Rob Jackson will be fielding pretty much the same team with a few newbies who only started NASP® a year ago. Zimbabwe has drawn from their seven senior schools and five junior school teams, of which four are new schools for 2015. Although the growth and penetration into new schools has slowed due to financial pressures and other factors which prioritise archery as a lesser activity or choice than mainstream sports, it enjoys tremendous support from the schools, coaches, parents and kids who train weekly and field their best teams in our monthly Inter-school tournaments which are hosted on rotation at all the NASP® schools nationally. NASP® Zimbabwe is already looking forward to participating in the 2016 NASP All-World Tournament to be hosted in South Africa which will make the African NASP® countries strong contenders indeed.
Our first year has been exhilarating and memorable for Life. It will still take time and careful, constant assurance to convince schools and parents that Archery is the safest, all-including target sport they have been missing prior to NASP® coming to the UK. UK NASP® took its first Team to the 2015 World Champs and International All-Star®s in Nashville, which hugely impressed all archers, with parents and school-teachers witnessing the ongoing enthusiasm radiating from their youngsters since their return.

ACA (Adrian Caddy Archery) is the Co-ordinator of UK NASP®. ACA is a reputable Archery events and education organisation aiming to bring NASP® to as many UK schools as possible with the support of parents, public Game & Country Fairs, and local government administrators. ACA will also be making NASP® a vital part of the 2016 activities and commemorations for the 950th Anniversary of the Battle of Hastings in 1066. The Battle of Hastings was the last time Britain was invaded and conquered by a foreign power, marking the beginning of the bow as a crucial part of the country’s history. Only NASP® schools will be invited to compete and demonstrate their skills.

NASP® programs are still being implemented successfully at the schools. It was first implemented at 7 schools in South-Gobi province. Now it is going on at 11 schools in two different province and in the capital city Ulaanbaatar.

Totally 532 children double counting participated in the program between the 2014-2015 academic year. The number of children is limited because of the lack of gym and of the absence of lightweight, compact NASP target butt (90 kg straw target butt is used). Therefore we’re currently studying the possibility of buying isolon block from Russia. If this is done, we could then transfer the equipment’s and materials between schools. Additionally, we’re trying to include NASP® program in the physical training lessons at schools with the help of Ministry of Education in Mongolia.

NASP® in the British Virgin Islands become a hot topic. Once the private school market and college has been saturated then there will be a proven system to provide credibility and purpose to the Ministry of Education in the BVI. The Virgin Islands Archery Association Board is currently working on the training of more BAI candidates to address the current demand. Our community college (students ranging from age 16 and up) has committed to 1 kit now and a second kit later. We also have one after school program that has committed and has two certified BAIs. Out next training will include PE teachers from our first set of Private schools. With our Ministry of Education removing all sports from the school curriculum we have scheduled a meeting with the Head of the Ministry’s PE department to address the implementation and benefits of the NASP® program.
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