WIND

(Reading it and taking it into account)

Wind **is probably the** ***environmental*** **that will be your biggest obstacle in shooting. Wind usually does not hold any consistency and changes frequently. Being able to read wind is almost an art form. While wind meters help, they only tell you what is happening at the place you are standing. You may encounter different winds at different distances between you and the target. There may be many crosswinds between you and the target. Sometimes they can be going in different directions.**

Wind Values

For our purposes in hunting, we really only need to know 3 wind values. Wind values are the direction of the wind and the effect it has on our bullet. Full value, half value and no value are the 3 that we need to know.

<u>Full Value Wind-</u>

A cross wind that is moving right to left or left to right at or about 90 degrees from our position.

<u>Half Value Winds-</u>

A wind that is moving at about a 45-degree angle from our position. This could be blowing from right to left or left to right.

I may also be moving away or toward you. Either way it's a half value wind.

No Value Winds-

This is a wind that is blowing directly away or towards us. This wind is not calculated into our equation. This wind will have a bigger affect on the bullets flight time than it will moving the bullet left or right from our position.

Using your ballistic app is the best way to find your right or left wind hold for this calculation. All or most ballistic apps have an entry for this info. You will find that you likely won't need to adjust your windage knob on your scope for wind. Most tactical shooting scopes have a reticle that has 10 or 12 M.O.A. built into and visible in the reticle. This makes it easy to hold for wind instead of adjusting for it with the turret. This shortens the time it takes to place a good shot on target.

Reading Wind

There are many ways to read wind. It takes practice and patience to learn any type of wind reading. The two most popular are reading environmental effects and reading mirage.

Environmental-

Environmental effects would be watching leaves on trees or grass swaying or observing a flag waving in the wind. These items are evident everywhere in nature. This is where a wind meter can help you learn what is happening at different wind speeds. Grass and leaves won't move at all until a minimum of 3 mph and stay the same up to 5 mph. At 5 to 8 mph grass will lean, maybe up to 30 degrees and small branches that leaves are

attached will move slightly. 8 to 12 mph grass will move to a 45-degree angle, leaves will lay almost flat and tree branches sway. These are just a few things you can watch. If you see this at the place you are standing, compare them to what is happening at your target. In addition, be sure to check to see what is happening halfway between you the target. Sometimes you will find a wind totally different between you and the target. I can even be going in the opposite direction.