

Report on
Arkansas Deer Management Plan
Public Input Workshops

Conducted From
June 9 through June 22, 2007

Compiled and Summarized by
Tommy Shropshire & Spencer Amend
Dynamic Solutions Group, LLC

Table of Contents

	Page
Introduction and Purpose of Workshops	1
Description of Workshop(s) Process	1
Region 1 Summary	2
Region 2 Summary	3
Region 3 Summary	4
Facilitator's Notes	5
Region 1 Workshop Reports	
Batesville	6
Harrison	7
Little Rock	10
Ozark	11
Mt. Ida	12
Region 2 Workshop Reports	
Camden	13
Hope	15
Region 3 Workshop Reports	
Brinkley	16
Jonesboro	17
McGehee	18

Introduction and Purpose of Workshops:

The Arkansas Game & Fish Department (AGFC) is interested in doing the best job possible of managing white-tailed deer in Arkansas. In doing its job of deer management, the Wildlife Division wants to involve the stakeholders and users of the deer resource in discussions leading to management decisions. To that end, AGFC contracted with the Dynamic Solutions Group for assistance in involving the public and in managing that involvement. This process is on-going. Thus far, AGFC has established three public Advisory Groups (one for each of three regions) that will be involved in (a) helping complete the Deer Management Plan, (b) helping implement the deer management plan, (c) helping evaluate the deer management plan, and (d) helping make needed modifications to the deer management plan. Membership on the Advisory Groups will evolve over the several years of their existence.

In addition to the Advisory Groups, AGFC wants the broadest possible contact with stakeholders and users of white-tailed deer in Arkansas. This report is based on information provided from ten public workshops [in Batesville, Harrison, Little Rock, Ozark, Mt. Ida, Camden, Hope, Brinkley, Jonesboro, and McGehee during June 9 – 22, 2007]. The metaphor for these workshops was, “We are going to prepare a deer management plan for Arkansas; we need your help.” Nothing had been pre-determined prior to these workshops.

Based on these workshop reports, the deer management team (AGFC staff) will prepare a draft deer management plan. The draft deer management plan will be available to the public by the end of August 2007. In September, public workshops will be held with the following metaphor: “We tried to listen and make this draft reflect your wishes; did we get it right?” On September 29, a Deer Summit will be held in Little Rock to celebrate the first review of the draft plan, and to seek input and develop partnerships for the implementation of the plan. Following the workshop, Summit, and additional interactions with the Advisory Groups, the final draft management plan will be submitted to the Commission for their approval. Implementation will then begin.

Description of Workshop(s) Process:

Each table was an independent work group of usually 5-8 people per table. To begin with, participants were asked to identify a person to write the group’s ideas on the flip chart paper provided at each table. Next, they were asked to identify someone who would serve as a spokesperson for each group/table.

Participants were asked to provide 2 different types of information:

- A. issues or concerns or problems about deer and deer management in Arkansas, and
- B. advice, recommendations, or suggestions concerning actions that should be taken regarding deer management in Arkansas

After listing issues and advice on separate sheets of flip chart paper, participants were asked to decide the single most significant idea identified at each table. When finished, a person at each table gave a verbal report on that table’s single most significant idea. Then after a few brief closing remarks, on the way out, participants were asked to put sticky dots on those items that they, as individuals, thought most important.

Summary by Region:

A grand total of 238 citizens participated in all 3 regional workshops. The following summary groups comments into Very, Very Important Items and Very Important Items but the items listed within those groupings are not ranked by priority.

Region 1 Ozarks, Arkansas River Valley, Ouachita Mountains (Harrison, Ozark, Mount Ida, Batesville, Little Rock) = 144 total participants for region 1

Very, very important items:

1. Regulations:
 - a. Eliminate 3-point rule
 - b. Stop baiting 2 weeks prior to opening season
 - c. October open for archery only
 - d. Allow more days for hunting deer with dogs
 - e. Reduce gun season length and move season later – make zone specific
 - f. Allow at least one doe during muzzleloader season or during modern gun season in zone 3
2. Federal and State owned lands:
 - a. Allow use of ATVs to retrieve deer and to install stands
 - b. Allow no antler management
 - c. Allow hunting deer with dogs
3. Private lands:
 - a. Allow hunting deer with dogs
4. Deer Management Units and Zones:
 - a. Create smaller DMUs
 - b. Zones are too large
5. Enforcement:
 - a. Hire more officers
 - b. More enforcement to control poaching
 - c. Make sure youth and not adults are taking advantage of youth hunts
6. Deer herd management:
 - a. Chaffee – falling populations
7. Recruitment:
 - a. Continue youth hunts
 - b. Increase youth hunt opportunities
 - c. Give youth have choice for any first buck

Very important items:

1. Regulations:
 - a. 4 x 4 slot statewide
 - b. Allow 1st buck to be buck of choice
 - c. Keep 3-point rule
 - d. Eliminate baiting
 - e. Split seasons – one for dogs and one without dogs
 - f. Move muzzleloader season to start in December and shorten the season to take a doe for management and to add the days back to modern gun
 - g. Bow season is too long. (a) many good bucks are killed before gun hunter has a chance. (b) bow hunter is allowed to hunt over bait
 - h. Close all deer seasons in January

- i. Keep split seasons – keep zone 11 seasons same as southern Arkansas
- 2. Federal and State owned lands:
 - a. AGFC to provide better WMA management
 - b. Intensify management on public lands
 - c. Shorten season – forest owned lands in zone 6
 - d. Not enough does on public land
- 3. Deer Management Units and Zones:
 - a. Each county to be a DMU with own regulations
 - b. Break down zones to include local densities – neighborhoods
- 4. Enforcement:
 - a. More pay for officers
 - b. DU-type course for officers
- 5. Deer herd management:
 - a. More deer in Muddy Creek WMA and all of Zone 11
- 6. Habitat:
 - a. Create a Game and Fish Coop in Ozarks
 - b. Intensify habitat management – budget allocations

Region 2: West Gulf Coastal Plain (Hope, Camden) = 48 total participants for region 2

Very, very important items:

- 1. Regulations:
 - a. 3-point rule should be changed to an “inside spread rule”
 - b. Allow dogs only during the last week of the modern gun season or not at all
 - c. Eliminate hunting deer with dogs
 - d. Shorten modern gun season
 - e. Shorten season to allow people to work with squirrel and coon dogs
- 2. Deer herd management:
 - a. Better communication between hunters and policy makers
 - b. Provide deer management education
 - c. Develop a feral hog eradication plan
 - d. Improve the buck/doe ratio

Very important items:

- 1. Regulations:
 - a. Allow 1st buck of choice
 - b. Deer limit should be set at 4 (2 bucks and 2 does) regardless of different gun/bow seasons
 - c. Earn second buck with a required doe take
 - d. Reduce gun deer season to 2 weeks (Thanksgiving hunt included in 2 weeks) in November and 1 week in December
 - e. Shorter modern gun season (4 weeks)
- 2. Private lands:
 - a. More strict trespassing laws
- 3. Deer Management Units and Zones:
 - a. Zone 12 is too big
- 4. Enforcement:
 - a. More enforcement for night hunting
- 5. Deer herd management:
 - a. Evaluate the 3-point rule

- b. Allow bonus doe tags
- 6. Recruitment:
 - a. Increase hunter education to youth, inspire more youth to get involved with outdoors – including hunting
 - b. Kids and seniors shooting first buck or buck of choice

Region 3: Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Crowley's Ridge (McGehee, Brinkley, Jonesboro) = 46 total participants for region 3

Very, very important items:

- 1. Regulations:
 - a. Commission tends to change deer regulations without biological data & full support of AGFC professional staff
 - b. 1st buck, buck of choice – 2nd buck, 4 on one side
 - c. Buck of choice for everyone on first buck and 3-point rule afterwards
 - d. Eliminate hunting deer with dogs
 - e. Longer season for muzzleloaders
 - f. Slot limit on deer: 4 or less, 7 or greater
- 2. Federal and State owned lands:
 - a. Limit overcrowding on public lands by zoning them into 5,000 acre parcels and issue permits in each zone to match carrying capacity of the animals
- 3. Enforcement:
 - a. Stiffer penalties – increased enforcement to deter poaching
- 4. Deer herd management:
 - a. Evaluate effectiveness of 3-point rule
 - b. Need more education programs for hunters on proper deer management
 - c. Be willing to fund the best management available
 - d. Control predation
 - e. Manage for better buck/doe ratio
 - f. Have independent biologist give recommendations on Arkansas data
- 5. Recruitment:
 - a. Youth focused opportunity with cooperation between AGFC and sporting groups.

Very important items:

- 1. Regulations:
 - a. 4-point rule (2 deer limit, 1 buck) for zone 3
 - b. If aggressive or major change in regulations, use public relations to justify
 - c. Flood zones permits or quota per zone
 - d. Shorten both muzzle loader and modern gun seasons (ML no longer primitive in many cases). Or truly primitive season.
 - e. Shoot buck of choice 1st buck
- 2. Private lands:
 - a. Need buy in from timber companies on good habitat
- 3. Deer Management Units and Zones:
 - a. Zones are too large
- 4. Enforcement:
 - a. Hire more officers
 - b. Need more attention to poaching, road hunting and night hunting
- 5. Deer herd management:

- a. Pay the money to get professional deer advice or hire a top notch deer biologist. Let these people make the decision.
- b. Provide funding for deer management, habitat and research
- 6. Recruitment:
 - a. Youth summer camp (and research) funded by \$2 – \$5 stamp
- 7. Education:
 - a. Increase communication at all levels, with emphasis toward school aged, and general public, with emphasis on biological data.
 - b. Use commission magazine to explain regulations and gain support for proper management

Facilitator's Note:

When faced with a document containing such widely diverse and detailed information, it can be tempting for us to over-analyze. That is not our role and is a temptation that we have strenuously resisted in dealing with the present data set. Beyond the above summaries, all comments and statements written down in the workshops are contained in the following pages. It is probably worth the reminder of something we carefully said during our workshop facilitation: “Everyone can have their say, but everyone can not have their way.” As noted in the above summaries, and certainly in the more detailed records of individual workshops, some of the issues and advice are directly at odds with one another. Those whose task it is to develop the rationale for accepting some advice and not accepting other must carefully examine each. The above summaries highlight the more frequently mentioned items but as the categories we chose for the “Very, Very Important Items” and “Very Important Items” reflect, no statement we received should ever be thought of as “un-important”. All are important and deserving of reflection. Breaks between “Very, Very Important” and “Very Important” tiers reflected in the summaries above were somewhat subjective, but indicated by the data in each workshop individually. Having already said we will not “over-analyze”, it nonetheless seems appropriate for us to make several obvious observations: (a) people attending the workshops were both passionate and knowledgeable about deer and deer management in Arkansas, (b) people attending the workshops were willing to be quite hard on themselves in terms of restrictive regulations – if it means protecting and improving the deer herd, (c) people attending the workshops were pretty satisfied with the current deer management in Arkansas [although not specifically mentioned in the tables, below, we heard this over and over in discussions], (d) people attending the workshops – in some cases the same individuals – want the dichotomous goals of more detailed and at the same time simpler regulations; getting this balance right is going to be a challenge. Recurrent themes throughout the 10 public workshops dealt with (a) regulations, (b) enforcement, (c) youth, (d) education, and (e) private versus public land management.

Individual Workshop Reports: (Alphabetically by Region)

It should be noted that dot counts can be misleading because only the people attending each individual workshop were available to select the most important items. In other words, the reader should not compare the number of dots per comment between workshops. The comments in **bold**, in the individual workshop tables below, are those items selected by an individual work group as their most significant/important.

Batesville Workshop

Region 1: Ozarks, Arkansas River Valley, Ouachita Mountains

Thursday, June 21

Attendance 26

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Bag limit		13	One buck limit with firearms. Option of additional buck with bow/crossbow.
Advice	Deer	Bow		11	Make October bow only.
Advice	People	Youth		11	Keep youth hunt, but tighten regulations by adding age limits & having wardens checking to make sure that it is actually the youths that are hunting & shooting.
Issue	Deer	Dogs		8	Protect existing and restore the use of dogs where it has been outlawed.
Advice	Deer	Baiting		7	Stop all baiting two weeks before first season opens.
Issue	Deer	Harvest		7	Harvest pressure on antlered buck segment of herd. For example: back to back bucks with firearms (same day); excessive length of firearms seasons.
Issue	Deer	Poaching		7	Poaching.
Issue	Deer	Ratio	3	6	Zone 3 buck to doe ratio needs to be improved by allowing to take at least one doe during muzzleloading or during modern gun season.
Advice	Deer	Antlers		5	Implement a 1 st buck to be a buck of choice & then every buck after that must have 4 or more points.
Advice	Deer	Antlers		5	Soil limitations – fertility. One buck of choice. 2nd buck with restrictions (3 point)
Issue	Deer	Season		5	Moving & shorting muzzleloading season until after October.
Issue	Deer	Baiting		4	Restore sportsmanship to our deer hunting by prohibiting baiting.
Advice	Deer	Dogs		4	Split season: one for no dogs; one for dogs.
Issue	Deer	Feeders		4	No hunting over corn feeders, teaching young hunters wrong ethics and disease concerns.
Advice	Deer	Muzzleloader		4	Move muzzleloading to start in December & shorten the season, & using it to take a doe for management & add the days back to modern gun.
Advice	People	Youth		4	Father tags son's deer. Age/size limit.
Advice	Deer	Antlers		3	4 x 4 slot state wide.
Issue	Deer	Antlers		3	3 point rule high grading young bucks.
Issue	Deer	Antlers		3	Allow 1 st buck to be a buck of choice to eliminate genetically inferior deer.
Issue	Deer	Antlers		2	With existing 3 point rule, 1 ½ year old bucks with most potential are being harvested year in year out. May have served its purpose of making hunters aware & selective, few hunters will revert back to “old” ways.
Issue	Deer	Antlers		2	Antler restrictions
Advice	Habitat	Food plots		2	Checks/controls on contractors. Perennial food plots – increased. Annual plots increased acreage.
Advice	Deer	Bag limit		1	2 bucks to 1 doe option for average hunter. Harvest cannot be productive for sex ratio.
Advice	People	Enforcement		1	More field agents – some with common sense.
Issue	Habitat	Food plots		1	Food plots.

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Poaching		1	Extreme penalties for poaching.
Advice	Habitat	Public		1	Would like AGFC to pursue purchase of additional public lands.
Advice	Deer	Regulations		1	Management area specific closures. Private land closures coincide.
Issue	Deer	Season		1	Disruption of normal breeding period by early firearms opener (Ozark region). For example: states currently experiencing greatest trophy/overall herd success feature later firearms opener, shorter gun season, one buck limit (at least for firearms).
Issue	People	Youth		1	Potential youth hunt abuse.
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Improve trophy management by implementing 4 point rule.
Issue	Deer	Captive		0	People catching baby deer.
Advice	Deer	Does		0	Kill doe before buck.
Advice	Deer	Does		0	The last weekend of deer season open to does.
Issue	Deer	Does		0	Over stocked with does.
Advice	Deer	Dogs		0	Open all national forests to all types of deer hunting.
Issue	People	Enforcement		0	Enforcement – field coverage.
Advice	Habitat	Fences		0	Owning any number of deer should require permit or use of deer tag to account for taking of deer.
Issue	Deer	Flood		0	Flood zones
Advice	Deer	Muzzleloader		0	Black powder doe only hunt.
Issue	Deer	Muzzleloader		0	Black powder doe only hunt. Buck:doe ratio out of kilter.
Issue	Deer	Muzzleloader		0	Hunting with modern guns during muzzleloading season illegally.
Issue	Deer	Ratio		0	Management option providing for best sex ratio and herd age structure.
Advice	Deer	Season		0	Make Christmas hunt available for everyone to hunt while off work for the holidays.
Advice	Deer	Season		0	Shorter, later-opening gun season.
Issue	Deer	Season		0	Christmas hunt should be 24 th – 28 th period.
Issue	Deer	Urban		0	Urban deer population.
Advice	People	Youth		0	Extend the youth hunt to two week ends.
Advice	People	Youth		0	Keep opportunities implemented for youth to be able to harvest any deer.

Harrison Workshop

Region 1: Ozarks, Arkansas River Valley, Ouachita Mountains

Saturday, June 9

Attendance 60

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Dogs		61	We want dogs!!!
Issue	Deer	Dogs		15	Use of dogs in north Arkansas for hunting deer. (a) those that hunt over bait are not true hunters. Too easy, bait hunting. Takes little skill. (b) with increase in deer population, it's easy to kill deer. (c) there are areas not accessible to hunters and dogs are needed to move the deer. (d) more people hunt with dogs. Today many people have stopped hunting. (e) since bow hunters are anti-dog, give them a season with out dogs.
Advice	Deer	Dogs		14	Allow deer hunting with dogs in North Arkansas
Advice	Deer	Dogs		13	Allow dogs in Ozark National Forest
Issue	Deer	Zones		12	Management areas (zones) are too large
Issue	Deer	DMUs		11	Smaller DMUs that self-regulate their doe and buck harvest according to the population of that DMU
Issue	Deer	Dogs		11	Dog use in Ozark National Forest
Issue	Deer	Zones		10	Deer zones too big to manage well
Advice	Deer	Dogs	3	10	Have a few days of each season to hunt with dogs

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	Deer	Dogs	505	10	There is no designated area in the Ozark National Forest to hunt deer with dogs
Issue	People	Youth		9	Youth hunt. (a) very good – needs to be, at least, two weekends. (b) allow landowners children and other youth to kill does on his property.
Issue	Deer	Dogs		8	Dogs running on private lands
Advice	Habitat	Development	1, 2	8	Habitat development with Game and Fish Coop (Ozarks)
Advice	Deer	Antlers		7	Allow one mature and one young buck
Issue	Deer	Antlers		7	People taking too many button buck – mistaken for does
Advice	Deer	DMUs		7	Recommend county by county DMUs with separate individual hunting regulations
Advice	Deer	Season		7	Close all deer seasons in January
Issue	Deer	Season		7	Bow season is too long. (a) many good bucks are killed before gun hunter has a chance. (b) bow hunter is allowed to hunt over bait.
Issue	Deer	Zones		7	Smaller zones. Some areas are over-populated on private land. Not enough does on public land
Advice	Deer	Zones		6	Break the state into smaller, easier to manage zones
Advice	Deer	Antlers		5	No antler restriction on 1 st buck – 3-point rule on 2 nd buck. In addition zone doe permits are good.
Advice	Deer	Antlers		5	Do away with 3-point rule, go to 1 buck for gun only, 1 buck for bow only
Issue	People	Enforcement		5	Illegal hunting and trespassing
Advice	People	Youth		5	Continue and encourage youth hunts
Advice	Deer	Zones		5	Break down zones to include local densities – neighborhoods
Advice	Deer	Zones		5	Make zones smaller to allow for more localized management
Advice	Deer	Antlers		4	Allow 2 bucks in Ozark National Forest
Issue	People	Enforcement		4	Fines and penalties for game violations too lax
Issue	People	Enforcement		4	Not enough Game Wardens
Issue	People	Enforcement		4	Lobby judges to be more strict
Issue	Deer	Primitive		4	Combine muzzleloader and handgun season
Advice	Habitat	Private		4	Property owners should be able to hunt free on own land
Advice	Habitat	Private		4	Provide assistance to private land owners to improve deer habitat
Issue	Deer	Regulations		4	Every hunter in the state to harvest a deer however he chooses to harvest it (with modern gun, in front of a dog, with a bow, black powder)
Advice	Deer	Youth		4	Kids able to kill does without permits during regular season
Advice	Deer	Antlers		3	Consider 1 buck per hunter statewide – maybe a limited draw in areas where buck population is up
Advice	Deer	Antlers		3	Do away with 3-point rule
Issue	Deer	DMUs		3	Smaller dedicated DMUs
Advice	Deer	Regulations		3	Advise AGFC to listen to the people of the Ozark National Forest
Advice	People	AGFC		2	Honestly consider public input
Advice	Deer	Antlers		2	Do away with antler restrictions or mix up to prevent high-grading
Advice	Deer	Bow		2	Shorten bow season
Advice	Deer	Dogs		2	Open some of the Ozark National Forest to run dogs
Issue	Deer	Elk		2	Elk hunting; very seldom do hunters in Searcy – Newton counties draw an elk tag. These hunters should have a better chance since they are feeding the elk.
Advice	People	Enforcement		2	More enforcement on night hunting
Advice	Deer	Primitive		2	Add muzzleloader and handgun into on season
Advice	Habitat	Private		2	Land owners to have more control over doe herd
Advice	Habitat	Private		2	Allow adjoining landowners to form a coop with “X” number of acres. Recommended at least 200 acres each. Manage their own area with their own Game Check Station. 85% of land in Arkansas is privately owned.
Issue	Deer	Regulations		2	Different regulation for private and public land

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Season		2	Cut the length of bow season and add to gun season (modern gun)
Advice	People	Youth		2	Keep the youth hunt but add more days
Advice	Deer	Season	2	2	Deer season should close December 1 – all hunting
Advice	Deer	Antlers		1	Meat first, horns second
Advice	Deer	Antlers		1	Should not have to count a buck that has short horns from nubbin to 2 inches as legal buck on your tags
Issue	Deer	Antlers		1	Three point rule. (a) smaller bucks are now breeding does. (b) smaller bucks are getting too plentiful and needs to be thinned out. (c) many older bucks will remain spikes.
Issue	Deer	Antlers		1	3-point rule
Advice	Deer	Bow		1	Would like to see bow season open September 15 though January 15
Advice	Deer	Dogs		1	Not fair for part of state to run dogs and part not able to
Advice	Deer	Dogs		1	No dog hunting without acreage restrictions – special seasons for dogs
Advice	People	Enforcement		1	Stiffer penalties, more enforcement – agencies work together better
Issue	Deer	Herd		1	Buck to doe ration not good – too many does in most areas
Advice	Deer	Public		1	Limit number of doe harvest on public land
Advice	Habitat	Public		1	Improve deer habitat on public land
Advice	Deer	Regulations		1	Award doe permits to public land hunters. Award doe permits for private land hunters to help regulate does
Issue	Deer	Season		1	Too long of season encourages non-checking of wildlife
Issue	Deer	Season		1	Season length
Advice	Deer	Tags		1	Redesign deer tag to a non-reusable sticker-type tag
Advice	Deer	Bow	2	1	Same limit for gun hunters as bow hunters
Issue	People	AGFC		0	No response to hunters from Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Any added antler restrictions may be too complicated
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	One buck limit in Ozark National Forest
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Start a 4-point rule
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	End the 3-point rule on public land
Advice	Habitat	Development		0	More huntable land -- how can Game and Fish help
Issue	Deer	Does		0	Too many does being harvested
Issue	Deer	Does		0	Award doe permits to public land hunters – award doe permits to private land hunters
Advice	Deer	Dogs		0	Open Ozark National Forest to dogs
Issue	Deer	Dogs		0	Ability to hunt with dogs on private land with landowners permission
Advice	People	Education		0	Better educate hunters on how to identify – penalize hunters who do not comply
Advice	Deer	Elk		0	No more elk
Issue	Deer	Elk		0	Elk expansion
Advice	Habitat	Public		0	WMAs should have seasons the same length as private lands
Advice	Deer	Regulations		0	For the AGFC not to punish the people of the Ozark National Forest with a 1 buck limit
Advice	Deer	Season		0	Season should not be so long – shorten season
Advice	Deer	Season		0	Have season split up instead of so long – hunt a week of hunting then wait a week to start again
Issue	Deer	Season		0	Season is too long in Ozark Mountains, too much pressure on bucks in rut
Advice	Deer	Tags		0	Issue doe tag according to over population of DMU or county
Advice	People	Youth		0	Give youth more opportunity to kill does – 2 days not enough
Advice	Deer	Herd	1	0	More deer in Ozarks – What can we do? (Game and Fish to help)

Little Rock Workshop
Region 1: Ozarks, Arkansas River Valley, Ouachita Mountains
Friday, June 22
Attendance 16

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Gun		12	Reduce gun season length and move season later – make zone specific
Advice	Deer	Season		9	Raise age structure by shortening gun season and move it from peak rut
Issue	People	Education		7	Expanded education in deer management
Advice	People	Youth		6	Youth should have choice for any first buck
Issue	Habitat	Public		5	Intensify habitat management on public grounds
Advice	Habitat	Management		4	Intensify habitat management – budget allocations
Issue	Habitat	Public		4	AGFC to provide better public land management – WMA specific management
Advice	Deer	Season	6	4	Shorten season – forest owned lands in zone 6
Advice	People	Education		2	Spend more money on communication and education
Issue	People	Enforcement		2	Enforcement
Issue	Deer	Poaching		2	Poaching
Issue	People	Youth		2	Youth recruitment – make seasons more kid friendly
Issue	Deer	Antlers		1	Reduce button buck harvest
Issue	Deer	DMAP		1	Do away with small acreage DMAP
Issue	Deer	Flood		1	Re-evaluate flood prone region
Issue	Deer	Gun		1	Shorten gun season to relieve pressure on deer herd
Issue	Deer	Plan		1	Develop a quality deer management plan in Arkansas based on scientific data
Issue	People	Recruitment		1	Create more opportunity for potential hunters
Issue	People	Youth		1	Exceptions that provide better opportunity for youth to make a quality experience
Issue	Deer	Season	12	1	Breakup deer season (zone 12) into 2-week segments to relieve pressure on deer
Issue	People	AGFC		0	Enforcement and education of the plan
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	1 st buck of choice, 2 nd buck must be 4-point on one side
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Older age structure (mature buck, allow animals to mature)
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	3-point rule – repeal
Advice	Deer	APR		0	Remove APRs
Issue	Deer	Baiting		0	Baiting restrictions
Issue	Deer	Data		0	Better, more accurate data collection
Advice	People	Education		0	Add primary biology in deer dynamics to hunters education
Advice	People	Education		0	Increase hunter education opportunities
Issue	People	Education		0	Increase communication with emphasis on education
Advice	People	Enforcement		0	Increase to number of wildlife officers per county
Advice	Habitat	Food plots		0	Provide more food plots on WMAs to improve habitat
Issue	Deer	Herd		0	Increase deer on Mike Freeze – Walton Saw
Advice	Deer	Plan		0	Develop a plan and go to the public before it becomes a problem
Issue	Deer	Predation		0	Predator control
Issue	Habitat	Public		0	More public land
Issue	Deer	Ratio		0	Buck/doe ratio vs. bag limits
Issue	Deer	Urban		0	AGFC needs to take a proactive position on urban deer management
Issue	Deer	Zones		0	Create more zones based on habitat, deer herd numbers
Advice	Deer	Ratio	12	0	Improve buck/doe ratio in zone 12 by increasing doe limit
Issue	Deer	Zones	12	0	Zone 12 is too big
Issue	Deer	Zones	17	0	Zone 17 – regulate more like surrounding areas
Issue	Deer	Season	6	0	Seasons too long in zone 6 – public lands
Advice	Deer	Zones	6	0	Make zones smaller and manage based on habitat and other local

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
					characteristics

Ozark Workshop
Region 1: Ozarks, Arkansas River Valley, Ouachita Mountains
Monday, June 11
Attendance 17

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issues	Deer	Antler		10	Immediate repeal of antler management on public land
Issues	Deer	Enforcement		6	More enforcement
Issues	Deer	Herd	6, 7	5	Chaffee – falling populations
Advice	Deer	Enforcement		5	Hire more game wardens
Advice	Deer	Enforcement		5	More enforcement officers for poaching control and regulation enforcement
Advice	People	Enforcement		4	DUI-type course for game law offenders
Advice	People	AGFC		4	More pay for game wardens
Issues	Habitat	Quality		3	Food plot quality
Advice	Habitat	Quality		3	Maintain existing plant variety – food plots
Issues	Habitat	Private		2	Better management of small private ownership property
Issues	Deer	Regulations		2	Centerfire handguns legal during muzzleloader season
Advice	deer	regulations		2	Eliminate firearms 2 years (Chaffee), adjust seasons, improve habitat, decrease bag limit
Issues	Deer	Predation		2	Fawn mortality “predation” coyotes
Issues	Deer	Enforcement		2	Lack of enforcement existing laws
Issues	Deer	Dogs		2	No dog hunting with guns until modern gun season (coyote)
Advice	Deer	Dogs		2	Plan to eliminate deer dogs
Issues	Deer	Enforcement		2	Poaching and regulations compliance
Issues	Habitat	Management		2	Private vs. public land management
Issues	Deer	Zones		2	Reduce size of zones for management
Issues	Deer	Zones		1	Clarify WMAs as own separate zones “within larger number zones”
Issues	People	AGFC		1	Commissioner’s “support the deer management plan” in process today
Advice	Deer	Zones		1	Cut down zone sizes
Advice	Deer	Regulations		1	Develop harvest strategy to have near carrying capacity with mature bucks as possible
Advice	People	Enforcement		1	Enforce ATV laws
Advice	People	Enforcement		1	Enforce more in private land trespassing
Advice	Deer	Enforcement		1	Enforce the laws in place
Issues	People	Recreation		1	Excessive recreational traffic
Advice	Habitat	Quality		1	Logging -- clear cut – make food plots
Advice	Deer	Predation		1	More liberal “predator hunting” coyotes, hogs
Advice	Deer	Zones		1	Smaller zones
Issues	People	Access		0	Access issues – need more areas to hunt
Advice	People	Cost		0	Cost to individuals too expensive
Issues	Deer	Dogs		0	Deer dogs hurt game – running deer
Issues	People	Education		0	Educate public about carrying capacity of habitat and number of potential deer per square mile , doe/buck ratio
Advice	Deer	Enforcement		0	Enforce laws
Issues	Habitat	Quality	6, 7, 670	0	Habitat – canopy vs. food plots
Issues	Deer	Herd		0	Lack of diverse age structure in buck population
Issues	People	AGFC		0	Money spent poorly – it seems
Issues	Deer	Dogs		0	Private land dog trespassing
Advice	People	Dogs		0	Revoke hunting privileges for illegal dog trespassing
Issues	Deer	Seasons		0	Seasons dates

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	People	Youth		0	Student licenses \$5.00
Issues	People	AGFC		0	Tax money from 1999???
Issues	Deer	Zones		0	Zone size too big

Mt. Ida Workshop
Region 1: Ozarks, Arkansas River Valley, Ouachita Mountains
Tuesday, June 12
Attendance 25

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	Deer	Dogs		13	Protect my rights to run dogs (rights to free cast on public property)
Issue	Deer	Dogs		10	Run dogs all seasons; modern gun seasons
Issue	People	ATV		8	Use of ATV's for big game retrieval – input from AGFC to FEDS; include stand placement
Issue	People	Youth		8	Continue youth hunts under strict adult supervision
Issue	Deer	Antlers		7	3-point rule – do away with it
Issue	Deer	Antlers		5	Keep 3-point rule
Issue	Deer	Dogs		5	Open the 3-day December hunt to dogs
Advice	Deer	Antlers	11	5	Eliminate the 3 point rule in zone 11 and Muddy Creek WMA
Issue	Deer	Antlers	11	5	Remove/reevaluate the 3 point rule in zone 11
Issue	Deer	Herd	11	5	More deer in Muddy Creek WMA and all of Zone 11
Advice	Deer	Season	11	5	Keep split seasons – keep zone 11 seasons same as southern Arkansas
Issue	Deer	Antlers		4	Eliminate 3-point rule
Issue	People	Youth		3	Kids under 16 should be allowed to kill a doe
Issue	People	Outfitters		3	No private outfitters
Advice	People	AGFC		2	Inform the public on bureaus and private land management
Issue	Deer	Antlers		2	3 point rule
Advice	People	ATV		2	Give input to feds re prudent use of ATV's during hunting seasons – regular & add permits and windows
Issue	Deer	Does		2	Doe permits – instead of a drawing system include a doe in the bag limit – for 3 deer limit for all
Issue	Deer	Zones		2	Zones are too large – make zones smaller and keep deer numbers up
Issue	Deer	Does	11	2	Continue doe permits in zone 11
Issue	People	AGFC		1	Game and Fish Commission Commissioners – How are they appointed? – They should be elected by hunters instead of appointed by the politicians
Advice	Deer	Bag limit		1	Keep 2 buck limit
Advice	People	Enforcement		1	More enforcement – stiffer fines
Issue	People	Enforcement		1	More wildlife officers to improve coverage
Advice	People	Fines		1	Stiffer fines for poaching and trespassing
Advice	Deer	Regulations		1	Stop night hunting
Issue	Deer	Regulations		1	Shorten archery season at the end of the year – January 31
Advice	Deer	Zones		1	Make zones smaller – keep deer numbers up
Advice	Deer	Antlers	11	1	Reevaluate 3 point rule in zone 11
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Include nubbin bucks as antlerless deer in the bag limit
Advice	People	ATV		0	ATV use on public lands
Issue	People	ATV		0	Hunters need to be able to retrieve game with 4-wheelers
Advice	People	Cost		0	Cost to individuals too expensive
Advice	People	Discrimination		0	No discrimination against elderly or disabled
Advice	Deer	Does		0	Save does already bred and carrying little ones
Issue	Deer	Does		0	Number of doe tags match zone numbers

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	People	Enforcement		0	Better law enforcement of game laws
Advice	People	Enforcement		0	Enforce game laws vigorously
Issue	Habitat	Fire		0	More fire breaks
Advice	Habitat	Food plots		0	Maintain food plots better
Advice	Habitat	Food plots		0	Increase acres for wildlife seed dispersal and food plots
Issue	Habitat	Food plots		0	Food plots in WMAs – none in Lake Greeson WMA
Issue	Deer	Herd		0	No deer in Muddy Creek WMA
Issue	Deer	Predation		0	Better predator control
Advice	Habitat	Public		0	More food plots on public lands
Issue	Habitat	Quality		0	Burn in state leased WMA (access and visibility)
Issue	Deer	Season		0	Keep season same length for maybe longer
Issue	Deer	Season		0	Split season – Move the first part of season up a week to allow a longer break before Thanksgiving
Advice	Deer	Tags		0	Buy WMA permits 1 st come 1 st serve until they are gone
Issue	Deer	Tags		0	Buy WMA tags 1 st come 1 st serve – may keep hunters in their local area
Issue	Deer	Tags		0	Fill tags with weapon of choice in WMA
Issue	Habitat	Water		0	Improve water access
Advice	People	Youth		0	Help promote more youth hunting
Advice	People	Youth		0	To promote youth hunting
Issue	People	Youth		0	Student licenses \$5.00
Issue	Deer	Antlers	11	0	Management favors trophy over meat hunters in zone 11
Issue	Deer	Herd	11	0	More deer in Lake Greeson WMA and all of Zone 11
Issue	Deer	Season	11	0	Evaluate the length of season in zone 11
Issue	Deer	Does	11,13	0	Doe management sucks in Zone 11 and parts of 13

Camden Workshop
Region 2: West Gulf Coastal Plain
Friday, June 15
Attendance 33

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Season		12	The season needs to be shortened to at least ½. Seems as if deer hunting is placed above other hunting. It is hard to train squirrel dogs and coon dogs due to the lengthened season.
Issue	People	AGFC		10	Better communication between hunters and policy makers
Advice	People	Education		9	Deer management education
Issue	Deer	Season		6	Seasons too long (modern gun)
Issue	Deer	Dogs		5	Illegal dogs are messing up hunts
Advice	Habitat	Hogs		5	Develop feral hog management plan (eradication plan)
Advice	Deer	Bag limit		4	Deer limit should be set at 4 (2 bucks and 2 does) regardless of different gun/bow seasons
Issue	People	Night hunting		4	Night hunting is serious issue
Advice	Deer	Season		4	Reduce gun deer season to 2 weeks (Thanksgiving hunt included in 2 weeks) in November and 1 week in December
Advice	Deer	Season		4	Shorter modern gun season (4 weeks)
Advice	Deer	Zones	12	4	Smaller zone size – zone 12
Issue	Deer	Antlers		3	Ability of hunter to harvest 1 st buck of choice
Issue	Deer	Ratio		3	Buck/doe ration and deer herd health
Issue	People	Trespassing		3	More strict trespassing laws
Advice	People	Youth		3	Increase hunter education to youth, inspire more youth to get involved with outdoors – including hunting
Issue	Deer	Zones	12	3	Zone 12 is way to big

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Antlers		2	Allow hunters to take any buck, but educate hunters on telling cull bucks from those young bucks that are or will potentially be a trophy
Issue	Deer	Checking		2	More check stations
Advice	Deer	Herd		2	Take more does if the buck/doe ration is off track – check deer health through surveys
Issue	Habitat	Hogs		2	Address issue of controlling feral hogs
Issue	Habitat	Private		2	Involvement of timber companies in management of habitat; controlled burning; SMZ's (travel corridors); open space food plot management
Advice	Deer	Regulations		2	4 point rule
Issue	Deer	Season		2	Deer season is too long
Issue	Deer	Season		2	Need extra week between muzzleloader and gun season by moving gun season back one week
Issue	Deer	Tags		2	Simpler system for tagging and registering deer
Issue	Deer	Antlers	12	2	Greater emphasis on trophy management in zone 12
Advice	People	AGFC		1	Hire more biologists and/or wildlife officers to gather data and protect resources
Advice	Deer	Bag limit		1	Reduce deer limit to 2 deer (1 buck and 1 doe or 2 does)
Issue	People	Education		1	Educate hunters on telling cull bucks from young potentially good trophy deer
Issue	People	Education		1	Educate public in buck/doe ration and deer management
Issue	Deer	Regulations		1	Changing rules and regulations causes problems with keeping up with number of deer that can be harvested with bow/gun/muzzleloader
Advice	Deer	Season		1	In Ouachita County, move gun season back 1 week
Advice	Deer	Season		1	Shorten muzzleloader season (3 or 4 days)
Issue	Deer	Season		1	Need shorter gun season
Issue	Deer	Herd	12	1	Way to many does to buck ration zone 12
Issue	Deer	Ratio	12	1	Lower part of zone 12 buck:doe ratio
Advice	Deer	Season	12	1	4 weeks of deer season then 1 week after Christmas (bucks only)
Issue	People	AGFC		0	Are there enough biologists and law enforcement officers?
Issue	People	AGFC		0	Need more information from biologists
Issue	People	AGFC		0	Increase of enforcement in AGFC
Issue	People	AGFC		0	How do we contact AGFC?
Issue	People	AGFC		0	Need information from AGFC about how to manage our land for deer
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Go from 3-point to a 4-point rule (youth still kill any buck – 1 st buck)
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Survey club, check genetics
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Go from 3-point to a 4-point rule
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Club went from no buck kill for 3 years, went to a 6-point or better for 10 years, then on an 8-point for several years and still don't harvest any trophies
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Allow hunters to take any buck but cull bucks from young potentially good trophy deer
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Button buck?
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Develop plan/mechanism for harvest of inferior bucks
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	3 point rule
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Development of procedure to facilitate elimination of cull bucks
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	What about a 4-point rule?
Issue	Deer	Bag limit		0	Four deer is too many – reduce limit to 2 deer
Issue	Deer	Bag limit		0	We aren't seeing as many deer as we used to . We feel there are too many deer being harvested.
Advice	People	Cooperatives		0	Promote deer management cooperatives/associations
Advice	Deer	Dogs		0	Implement stiffer fines to those owners caught (dogs)
Advice	Habitat	Hogs		0	Issue a bounty on wild hogs by county
Issue	Habitat	Hogs		0	Wild hogs are a problem
Advice	Deer	Muzzleloader		0	Longer muzzleloader season
Advice	Deer	Non-		0	Only issue 2 deer limit to out of state hunters

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
		residents			
Issue	Deer	Non-residents		0	Only issue 2 deer max to out of state hunters
Advice	Habitat	Private		0	Recommend cap out at \$5 per acre (hunting leases)
Issue	Habitat	Private		0	The cost of leases are too high
Issue	Deer	Ratio		0	Improvement of buck/doe ratios
Issue	Deer	Regulations		0	Rules seem to be different for Moro Big Pine Management Area than for the rest of the state
Issue	Deer	Regulations		0	Need better explanation as to harvesting rules for management areas vs. state area
Issue	Deer	Regulations		0	Harvesting should be same for WMA as for rest of state
Advice	Deer	Regulations		0	After killing a buck, you must kill a doe
Advice	Deer	Season		0	Move deer gun season back 1 week later in zone 12
Advice	Deer	Season		0	Seasons too long/make shorter (split season two weeks in November and two weeks in December)
Issue	People	Youth		0	Youth registration – control number killed
Issue	People	Youth		0	Loosing youth hunters
Advice	Deer	Zones		0	Look at data on zones – add new zones if data shows they need to be broken up
Issue	Deer	Zones		0	Look at biological data in zones – are the zones good or do they need to be reworked in sizes
Advice	Deer	Antlers	12	0	In zone 12 (Cleveland County specific) change antler restrictions – possible gain a buck system or approve buck and 1 buck of choice

Hope Workshop
Region 2: West Gulf Coastal Plain
Thursday, June 14
Attendance 15

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Dogs		12	Allow dogs only during the last week of the modern gun season or not at all
Advice	Deer	Antlers		7	3 point rule should be changed to an “inside spread rule” with fierce enforcement
Issue	Deer	Dogs		7	Dog hunting: (1) compromises management objectives, (2) gives hunting a negative image, (3) causes conflicts between non-hunter private landowner and different hunter groups
Issue	Deer	Ratio		7	Buck/doe ratio
Advice	Deer	Antlers		5	More data on 3 point rule compared to prior 3 point rule
Advice	Deer	Does		5	Earn second buck with a required doe take
Advice	Deer	Does		3	Doe tags (bonus)
Advice	People	Youth		3	Kids & seniors shooting first buck or buck of choice
Issue	Deer	Antlers		2	3 point rule is down grading the trophy deer quality & numbers
Advice	Deer	Data		2	Break down data by county
Advice	People	Enforcement		2	More enforcement
Issue	Habitat	Private		2	Management ability on private land – options
Advice	People	Youth		2	Keep youth [under 16] exemption on first deer
Advice	Habitat	AGFC		1	AGFC promote early to mid seral habitat program with the public agencies, private land owners & timber companies
Issue	Deer	Antlers		1	Improve overall quality of the deer herd including towards more & better trophy deer through habitat improvement & appropriate regulations
Issue	Deer	Antlers		1	3 point rule should be changed to using spread rule
Issue	Habitat	Browse		1	Loss of browse habitat including hardwood

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	People	Education		1	Teach more local hunter ed classes
Issue	Habitat	Food plots		1	Forage – lack of info – food plots?
Issue	Habitat	Hardwoods		1	Timber companies are promoting loss of hardwood browse
Issue	Deer	Herd		1	Healthier deer herd
Issue	Habitat	Hogs		1	Hog problems
Advice	Deer	Regulations		1	Statewide law that hogs can only be harvested with weapons legal for whatever season is currently open
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Eliminate older spikes
Issue	Deer	Data		0	More accurate deer counts
Issue	Deer	Data		0	Deer data from private clubs [accuracy of?]
Issue	Deer	Dogs		0	Dogs: whether to keep or not
Advice	People	Education		0	Educate the public with the scientific research
Issue	People	Education		0	Easier access to get hunter ed classes
Issue	Habitat	Fences		0	High fence game farms should be allowed; no cervid imports
Advice	People	License		0	Comparable hunting licenses from adjacent states
Issue	Deer	Ratio		0	Out of balance buck/doe ratio in populations

Brinkley Workshop
Region 3: Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Crowley’s Ridge
Monday, June 18
Attendance 19

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	People	Public		9	Limit overcrowding on public lands by zoning them into 5,000 acre parcels and issue permits in each zone to match carrying capacity of the animals.
Advice	People	Youth		7	Youth focused opportunity with cooperation between AGFC and sporting groups.
Issue	Deer	Antlers	4	6	1st deer buck of choice, 2nd buck 4 on one side
Issue	Deer	Muzzleloader		5	Longer muzzleloader season
Advice	Deer	Regulations		5	Have independent biologist give recommendations on Arkansas data
Advice	People	Management		4	Be willing to fund the best management available
Issue	Deer	Predation		4	Increased predation, at unacceptable levels, to the herd.
Advice	People	AGFC		3	Pay the money to get professional deer advice or hire a top notch deer biologist. Let these people make the decisions
Advice	People	Education		3	Increase communication at all levels, with emphasis toward school aged, and general public, with emphasis on biological data.
Issue	Deer	Flood		3	Flood zones permits or quota per zone
Advice	Deer	Primitive		3	Shorten both muzzle loader and modern gun seasons (ML no longer primitive in many cases). Or truly primitive season.
Advice	People	Education		2	Spend as much time on “hands on” education as there is on Nature Centers. Public school programs
Issue	Deer	Flood		2	Don’t change flood prone zone (Clarendon)
Advice	Deer	Predation		2	Bounty on coyotes & bobcats & longer trapping season.
Advice	Deer	Antlers		1	Further antler restriction or shorten season
Issue	Deer	Bow		1	Lift baiting restriction in February (bow hunting)
Issue	People	Education		1	Better education of deer management to the hunting public.
Issue	People	Enforcement		1	Pressure law enforcement to a lot stricter fines and jail time to repeat offenders. Shame them publicly in papers and Game & Fish magazines. “Wall of shame.”
Issue	Deer	Flood		1	Private land should close same level as WMA
Advice	Deer	Harvest		1	Harvest doe before antlered buck.
Issue	Deer	Harvest		1	Decline in harvest numbers
Issue	Deer	Muzzleloader		1	Muzzleloader season starts too early

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	Deer	Season		1	Shorter hunting seasons, all equipment. No modern weapon hunting during the “peak” of the rut.
Issue	Deer	Season		1	Muzzle loader – modern version – combined with modern gun is a combined too long of a season.
Issue	People	Youth		1	Emphasis & recruitment of young hunters.
Issue	People	Youth		1	Get youth involved
Issue	People	Youth	4	1	Christmas hunt youth only zone 4
Issue	Deer	Season	9	1	Gun season too long / zone 9
Issue	People	AGFC		0	Spend more money on wildlife biology by hiring outside biologist.
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Have “trophy” areas managed for 4 ½ and older bucks
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Protect all bucks until 3 ½ years of age. Educate
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	3 or 4 point rule
Issue	Deer	Bow		0	Bow season may be too long.
Issue	Deer	Does		0	Emphasis on doe harvest prior to the rut.
Advice	People	Education		0	Educate hunters on quality bucks
Issue	People	Education		0	Lack of educating the public on deer management. School programs, etc.
Advice	People	Enforcement		0	More money spent on enforcement
Advice	Deer	Flood		0	Leave flood prone zone water level alone
Issue	Deer	Flood		0	Adjust the flood zones to protect fleeing animals.
Issue	Deer	Harvest		0	Doe harvest too high?
Advice	People	Listen		0	Listen to hunters
Issue	Deer	Management		0	Manage deer resource and not people
Issue	Deer	Management		0	Higher quality deer management on all public and private lands. Not trophy – quality.
Issue	Habitat	Management		0	More marginal land restoration. Mostly overflow ground.
Advice	People	Management		0	AGFC take a more proactive and aggressive approach.
Issue	People	Management		0	Quality deer management continues as a management policy.
Issue	People	Permits		0	Pressure & issue of permits on Game & Fish properties
Issue	Habitat	Public		0	Manage timber on all public property as you would private land as a profitable, renewable resource.
Advice	People	Quality		0	Continue QDM tailored to the zone.
Advice	People	Quality		0	Offer quality public hunts. Rotate zones and “rest” certain zones yearly.
Issue	Deer	Ratio		0	Buck:doe ratio
Issue	Deer	Regulations		0	Over regulated
Issue	Deer	Urban		0	Burgeoning herd populations in urban and protected areas.
Advice	People	Youth		0	Offer a lot of youth hunts and manage them for the youth
Issue	Deer	Antlers	9, 16	0	Increase overall age of bucks – zone 9 & 16

Jonesboro Workshop
Region 3: Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Crowley’s Ridge
Tuesday, June 19
Attendance 20

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Advice	Deer	Dogs		12	Keep the dogs out of deer hunting
Advice	Deer	Antlers		11	Buck of choice for everyone on first buck and 3-point rule afterwards
Issue	Deer	Antlers		9	1 st buck buck of choice – 2 nd buck 4 on one side
Issue	Deer	Antlers		7	3-point rule issues – scrub bucks – inferior horn development – harvesting too many good genetic bucks at young age
Advice	Deer	Poaching		7	Stiffer penalties – increased enforcement to deter poaching
Issue	Deer	Ratio		7	Manage for better buck to doe ratio
Issue	Deer	Poaching		5	Poaching – road hunting – night hunting

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	Deer	Antlers	3	5	4-point rule (2 deer limit, 1 buck) – zone 3
Advice	People	AGFC		4	Hire more officers
Issue	Deer	Poaching		4	Poaching in all zones
Advice	People	Youth		3	Youth summer camp (and research) funded by \$2 – \$5 stamp
Issue	People	Youth		3	Youth summer camp
Issue	Deer	Zones		3	Zones too large to manage
Advice	People	ATV		2	Non-restriction for ATVs on public lands
Advice	Deer	Does		2	Make doe tags available for sale
Issue	Deer	Flood		2	Private land in flood regions need to have same season as surrounding WMA
Advice	Deer	Poaching		2	Stiffer penalties for poachers
Issue	Deer	Does	3	2	Doe ratio out of balance – zone 3
Advice	Deer	Does	8	2	Keep quota system for doe harvest but increase number of quota permits issued – zone 8
Advice	Deer	Dogs		1	Special season for dog hunters
Issue	Deer	Tags		1	Revise tagging system
Advice	Deer	Does	3	1	No quota permits in zone 3
Issue	People	Youth	4, 5	1	To few hunting days for youth in zone 4 and 5
Issue	People	AGFC		0	More enforcement
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Slot or cull buck tag
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Antler restrictions oversimplify the process – genetics not considered
Issue	Deer	Antlers		0	Look at spread limit on bucks
Issue	Deer	Baiting		0	Ethics of hunting over bait
Issue	Deer	Does		0	Increase doe harvest – zone 8
Issue	Deer	Dogs		0	Dog hunting should not be allowed anywhere
Advice	People	Education		0	Continuing education of hunters – all ages
Issue	Deer	Gun		0	Move gun season out of peak rut
Issue	Deer	Herd		0	Some way to report unhealthy deer
Advice	People	License		0	ID card for license
Issue	Deer	Muzzleloader		0	Longer late muzzleloader season
Issue	Deer	Regulations		0	Less regulations
Advice	Deer	Tags		0	Youth and senior paper tag revision – adhesive tags
Advice	People	Youth		0	Additional hunting days for youth
Issue	People	Youth		0	Get more youth involved in hunting
Issue	People	Youth		0	Christmas hunt youth only
Advice	Deer	Zones		0	Make zones smaller
Issue	Deer	Zones		0	Smaller zone
Advice	Deer	Does	3	0	Doe season similar to zone 1 for zone 3
Issue	Deer	Does	3	0	No quota permits in zone 3
Issue	Deer	Dogs	3	0	No new dog running zones – mainly zone 3
Advice	Deer	Gun	3	0	Extend gun season later into December – zone 3
Advice	Deer	Drivers	4	0	Outlaw deer drivers in zone 4
Issue	Deer	Gun	4	0	Deer drives – zone 4 – gun season

McGehee Workshop
Region 3: Mississippi Alluvial Valley, Crowley's Ridge
Saturday, June 16
Attendance 7

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
Issue	People	AGFC		3	Commission tends to change deer regulations without biological data & full support of AGFC professional staff
Issue	Deer	Antlers		3	Antler restrictions: too many 4 points (no brow tines)
Issue	People	Education		3	Need more education programs for hunters on proper deer

Issue – Advice	Topic	Sub-Topic	Zone	Dots	Comment
					management
Advice	Deer	Regulations		3	Slot limit on deer: 4 or less, 7 or greater
Issue	People	AGFC		2	Under funding for deer management/habitat/research
Advice	People	Education		2	Use commission magazine to explain regulations and gain support for proper management
Advice	People	Education		2	If aggressive or major change in regulations, use public relations to justify
Issue	Habitat	Private		2	Need buy in from timber companies on good habitat
Advice	Deer	Regulations		2	Shoot buck of choice 1 st buck
Advice	Deer	Baiting		1	Allow baiting full season for bow season
Advice	People	Education		1	Educate hunters better on deer identification
Issue	Deer	Ratio		1	Unbalanced sex ratios and skewed age classes – young deer
Advice	Deer	Antlers		0	Biologist check deer herd for reason of 4 points
Issue	Deer	Baiting		0	Can't bait in February; want to
Issue	Deer	Muzzleloader		0	Whole week of late muzzleloading?
Advice	Deer	Regulations		0	Make spotted fawns illegal
Advice	Deer	Regulations		0	Illegal to shoot button bucks
Issue	Habitat	Timber		0	Timber management practices have changed drastically in Gulf Coastal Plain; plan must address change in habitat