



News

Arkansas Outdoors for Aug. 27, 2008

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Commission removes ban on spinning-wing decoys *Late migratory bird seasons set*

LITTLE ROCK – After a three-year experiment, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission last week lifted the ban on spinning-wing decoys during waterfowl hunting season. The Commission also increased the daily bag limit for hen mallards from one to two.

Commissioner Brett Morgan cast the lone vote to continue the spinning-wing decoy ban. “I can’t support something that we know helps kill juvenile ducks,” Morgan said. “This is an issue that we (commissioners) raised – not the public. The majority of e-mails and phone calls that I’ve received support keeping the ban in place.”

Commissioner George Dunklin, chairman of the Commission’s waterfowl committee, said the decision to rescind the ban was difficult.



“I know there’s some dissention about removing the ban, but a UALR survey showed the majority of people wanted spinning wing decoys brought back,” Dunklin said. “We asked all of the

surrounding states to come aboard with us on this, but to no avail.”

In support of his position to remove the ban, Dunklin read from a letter from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that stated there was “no demonstrable impacts on either overall harvest rates or population levels.”



In other waterfowl news, Arkansas hunters will get 60 days of duck season for the twelfth consecutive year. Commissioners removed the WMA shell restriction during the youth hunt, and changed the time for shooting to cease on WMAs to noon; hunters must be off the water by 1 p.m.

Duck season dates are Nov. 22-Dec. 1, Dec. 6-Dec. 24 and Dec. 26-Jan. 25. The youth waterfowl hunt will be Jan. 31-Feb. 1. The northwest Canada goose zone season will be Sept. 1-15 (with a bag limit of five) and Sept. 27-Oct. 6 (bag limit two). The statewide Canada goose season will be Sept. 1-15 (bag limit five) and Jan. 10-Feb. 1 (bag limit two).

White-fronted goose season will be Nov. 15-Dec. 1, Dec. 6-Dec. 24 and Dec. 26-Jan. 30 with a bag limit of two. Snow, blue and Ross' goose season will be Nov. 8-Dec. 24 and Dec. 26-Jan. 30 with a bag limit of 20. The snow goose Conservation Order is Feb. 2-April 25 with no bag limit.

Bag limits remain much the same as last year, with the exception of the additional hen mallard. Duck hunters will be allowed no more than four mallards, two of which may be hens. The daily bag limit may contain one pintail, three mottled ducks, one scaup, three wood ducks, two redheads and one black duck, but no more than a total of six ducks. Canvasback season is closed by the FWS because of low numbers.

The Commission also:

*Approved 2009 fishing regulations.

*Approved a budget increase of \$78,680 for the Lake Saracen Walking Trail in Pine Bluff. The money comes from an Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department recreational trails grant.

*Approved the purchase of a used federal surplus property truck for the AGFC Trout Habitat Program.

*Approved funding through a federal U.S. Department of Agriculture – Animal/Plant Health Inspection Service grant for a project to monitor Arkansas fish for viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS virus) disease.

*Was presented with an updated briefing on the proposed northern snakehead fish eradication plan for the Piney Creek basin in eastern Arkansas.

*Approved funding for the National Archery in the Schools Program.

*Approved the alligator season regulations. The season will be Sept. 19-22 and Sept. 26-29.

*Approved the donation of a youth elk hunting permit to the Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation. The donation will be a fundraiser for the Foundation to be used in partnerships with other nonprofit and private

organizations in conservation education and outreach projects.

Hunters drawn for second season of alligator hunting

LITTLE ROCK – The sophomore season of alligator hunting will get underway next month. Thirty-two lucky hunters have been chosen for permits to hunt alligators in Arkansas. The season will be Sept. 19-22 and Sept. 26-29.

Approval to proceed with the 2008 alligator hunting season came from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Aug. 11, followed by the closing of the permit application period on Aug. 15, according to the AGFC wildlife assistant chief Ricky Chastain. “This schedule allowed time for the staff to prepare and initiate the draw process immediately upon the Aug. 21 approval of the regulations,” he said. The draw process is now complete, and the following hunters have been selected to participate in the 2008 alligator hunting season.



John Brazeale – Sparkman – Zone 1
Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc WMA

Nathaniel Bearden – Foreman – Zone 1
1 Millwood Lake

Gregory Duggan – DeQueen – Zone 1 Private Land At-Large

Drew Baker – Little Rock – Zone 1 Private Land At-Large

Justin Wilson – Sheridan – Zone 1 Private Land At-Large

Jason Glass – Taylor – Zone 1 Private Land At-Large

Steven Corzine – Centerville – Zone 1 Private Land At-Large

Steven Brown – Bryant – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Brent Boudra – Sheridan – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Kiley Ingle – Des Arc – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Bradley Brown – Watson – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Jeffrey Means – Searcy – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Lance Kemper – Searcy – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Aaron Ricca – Jonesboro – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Thomas Cooper – Judsonia – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Jeremy King – McGehee – Zone 3 Lower Arkansas River Wetland Complex

Reese Strickland – Little Rock – Private Land At-Large

Tim Ellis – Alexander – Private Land At-Large

Benjamin Boykin – Little Rock – Private Land At-Large

Ryan Strebeck – Crossett – Private Land At-Large

Chastain said that in addition to the seven alligator permits in Zone 1 that were available through the draw process, eight permits were made available directly to five private landowners based on surveys conducted in the spring. "In Zone 3, 13 permits were available through the draw process and four made directly available to four private landowners based on spring surveys," he explained. The total of 32 alligator harvest permits in 2008 duplicates the number available in the inaugural hunt of 2007.



The next step in the alligator hunt process will be the issuance of letters to each of the successful permit applicants, Chastain said. "This letter will inform the hunters of their successful draw, confirm the area in which they are required to harvest their alligator and inform them of their required attendance at scheduled hunter orientation workshops," he said.

Two workshops, one at the AGFC Hope Regional Office and one at the AGFC Monticello Regional Office, will be conducted on Saturday, Sept. 6. The following weekend, Saturday, Sept. 13, one additional workshop will be conducted at the AGFC Little Rock Office for any hunters not able to make one of the other workshops. All the workshops will begin at 6 p.m. and should be concluded by 8 p.m.

Chastain emphasized each holder of a Private Land At-Large permit must provide proof of having access to at least one tract of private land on which to hunt at the time they attend one of the orientation workshops. "This proof can be provided in the form of a map showing the location of the property and a signed letter from the landowner. The workshops will provide all the necessary details the hunters will need to know about the rules and regulations of the alligator hunt," he added.

Dove season opens Saturday, Sept. 6; don't forget to get HIP

LITTLE ROCK – A week later than in past years, the opening date of dove season actually represents a bit of a compromise. Due to the first day of September falling on Monday, commissioners from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission pushed opening date back a week to accommodate a full weekend of dove hunting. Arkansas's dove season opens Saturday, Sept. 6.

The opening of dove season represents the traditional opening of fall hunting in Arkansas. One of the first things hunters need to do is make sure they're HIP registered. Harvest Information Program is the formal name, but everyone from hunters to license clerks just says HIP.

This is a mandatory federal program in effect in all states. It's free, but hunters should remember they have to register for HIP each year in each state



they hunt. There is no cost, and the best way to register for HIP is when you buy a hunting license. It's required for duck and goose hunting also. The information is used for research and for setting future rules and regulations by wildlife authorities, both federal and state.

Arkansas' dove season first segment this year opens Saturday, Sept. 6, and runs through Sept. 28. The second season segment is Oct. 4 to Oct. 19 and the third segment is Dec. 13 to Jan. 2, 2009.

Except for the adjustment of dates, there are no changes in dove hunting rules in Arkansas this year. The daily dove bag limit remains at 15, with possession limit 30. Doves are migratory game birds, so federal rules of shotguns plugged to hold no more than three shells are in effect. There is no daily or possession limits on the Eurasian collared dove.

Spring turkey season public comment period opens

LITTLE ROCK - The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has opened a public comment period on the 2009 spring turkey hunting regulations. The comment period is a part of the AGFC's annual turkey regulations process. The 2009 spring season will be set by the Commission at its October meeting.

Comments may be either verbal or written. Written comments may be mailed by Sept. 30 to the AGFC, attn: Spring Turkey Hunting Regulations Proposals, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock 72205 or emailed to information@agfc.com. For verbal comments, contact the AGFC Wildlife Management Division at (501) 223-6359.

Snakehead eradication meeting Sept. 18 in Brinkley

BRINKLEY – The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will hold a town hall meeting and public hearing about eradicating northern snakehead fish at 7 p.m., Sept. 18, in Brinkley at the Convention Center.

Snakeheads, natives of Asia, were discovered in the Piney Creek watershed in Lee and Monroe counties last spring. An eradication effort is planned for this October.

The first part of the meeting will outline the need to protect the Piney Creek watershed from the fish, which eat sport fish and can survive in a wide variety of habitats and temperatures. Without control, snakehead fish will spread into the lower White River and eventually up the Mississippi River. The second part of the meeting will be open to public comments about the Piney Creek Environmental Assessment and the eradication project.



Several AGFC personnel and FWS biologists will be available during the meeting to answer questions. The eradication will be staged in three phases: treatment, short-term assessment with retreatment, and stocking of fish and long-term assessment.

Phase I: Treatment

Treatment will be conducted Sept. 29-Oct. 18, although that schedule may change because of weather and field conditions. Water will not be treated when Big Piney Creek flow exceeds 50 cubic feet per second at Buckhorn County Road Bridge.

Treatment will consist of aerial and ground application of up to 24,000 pounds of powdered rotenone and 3,000 gallons of liquid rotenone to Big Piney Creek, Little Piney Creek, tributaries, and ditches. The estimated treatment coverage is up to 4,000 acres; the area treated will depend on the amount of water present in Piney Creek.

Rotenone is a chemical commonly used to control nuisance species in fish management and has low toxicity on other wildlife.

Aerial application will consist of liquid rotenone in ditches, tributaries ponds, and lakes without tree canopies. FWS helicopter crews will conduct aerial treatment with pilots certified for rotenone application by the Arkansas State Plant Board.

The FWS has prepared an Environmental Assessment to evaluate the potential impact of providing resources to assist AGFC in its efforts. The FWS will provide about \$150,000 of in-kind assistance to help the AGFC restore native fish in the Piney Creek watershed. Under the National Environmental Policy Act, the FWS is requesting public comments on the proposed federal action. The 30-day comment period begins on Aug. 22 and ends on Sept. 22. At the end of the comment period, the FWS will determine the extent of the federal action's impact.

Phase II: Short-term Assessment and Retreatment

Phase II will rapidly assess the success of the treatment on northern snakeheads. Retreatment will be conducted in areas where incomplete kills are suspected. This phase will begin immediately after the treatment phase and should conclude by Nov. 1.

Assessment crews will determine the success of the kill by sampling fish and looking for snakeheads. Areas with live fish may be retreated with liquid or powdered rotenone.

Phase III: Stocking and Long-term Assessment

Big Piney and Little Piney creeks will be stocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish. Largemouth bass and bluegill will be young-of-year, at least 3 inches long. Channel catfish will be a combination of yearlings (7-8 inches) and adults (10 inches and longer). Stocking may begin immediately following Phase II in early November and proceed through summer 2009. Stocking locations will be determined by availability of access, but attempts will be made to stock fish throughout the treatment area.

During the long-term assessment phase, the Big Piney Creek drainage will be monitored for northern snakeheads and the colonization of the treatment area by fish and other aquatic life. Long-term monitoring will begin in 2009 and continue until it's no longer necessary. The AGFC will work with local landowners to secure access permission and not interfere with farming operations.



The Environmental Assessment is available at <http://www.fws.gov/arkansas%2Des/>. Copies may be requested by calling (501) 513-4470; by fax, (501) 513-4480; by e-mail,

Mark_Sattelberg@fws.gov, or by mail, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services Field Office, 110 S. Amity Road, Conway 72032.

For more information about the meeting, call Keith Stephens at (501) 223-6342 or Mark Sattelberg at the FWS Conway Field Office, (501) 513-4470.

Stay safe on the water this Labor Day weekend

LITTLE ROCK – The Labor Day weekend is the last big boating weekend of the summer and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission reminds all boaters to take the time to be safe on the water.

Boaters are required by law to equip their vessels with a life jacket for each person on board and to have the life jackets readily accessible, AGFC boating education coordinator Bob Cushing says. “The best advice I can give for a safe trip on Arkansas waters is for boaters always to wear their life jackets,” Cushing said. So far this year, there have been nine boating fatalities in Arkansas. Most of these were the results of drowning which is commonly associated with the lack of a life jacket.



Arkansas boating law requires children 12 years of age or younger to wear a proper fitting life jacket while the vessel is underway. The law also requires anyone operating a Personal Water Craft to wear a life jacket as well while underway, Cushing said. “The life jackets must be in good and serviceable condition and readily accessible which means be able to put it on quickly in an emergency,” he said.

Anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1986, and of legal age to operate a motorboat, must have successfully completed an approved Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Boating Education Course and carry proof while operating a motorboat on Arkansas water. The law also affects operators of sailboats.

AGFC boating law administrator Stephanie Weatherington urges all Arkansas boaters to take the boating education course, regardless of age. “The course gives longtime boaters a refresher on new laws and helps new boaters learn the rules of the waterway. Taking a course better prepares boaters for emergency situations and increases their knowledge about safety equipment requirements,” Weatherington says.

To find out about boating education and boating laws, visit the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Web site at www.agfc.com.

Fayetteville teen doesn't duck from challenges

FAYETTEVILLE – Fayetteville's Margaux Isaksen, who is barely 16 years old, is not shy about taking on some major challenges.

Three years ago she and three other young girls launched a project to rescue a creek that had been ravaged by carelessness and abuse. The effort attracted state and national acclaim – and the creek is clean and thriving today.



More recently, Isaksen was a competitor in the modern pentathlon at the Olympics in Beijing. Her finish in 21st place was disappointing to her, but others applauded her performance in a field of 36 older and much more experienced women.

The modern pentathlon is a grueling one-day competition of swimming, shooting, fencing, horseback jumping and running. It is obscure in the United States, but a major activity in many European countries. The 2008 event at Beijing was won by Lena Schoneborn of Germany.

The other American woman in the modern pentathlon was Sheila Taormina of Livonia, Mich., who had competed in previous Olympics in swimming and in the triathlon (swimming, running and bicycling).



Isaksen and Taormina, who is 39, roomed together at Beijing, and Taormina joked, "Margaux is young, tall, blonde and beautiful. I am old, short, dark and cranky."

In the Beijing competition, Taormina finished two places ahead of Isaksen. Between them in 20th place was Hungary's Zsuzsanna Voros, the gold medalist at the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece.

Isaksen said after the competition at Beijing, "I'm not going to lie. It was tough throughout the day. Sheila and I both are ready to pack up and go home. But I couldn't have asked to be here with a better teammate. It was an

honor to be here with her."

Margaux and Isabella Isaksen and their cousins, Millie and Madeleine Hogue, received the President's Environmental Youth Award in 2006. The girls established the Parker Branch Stream Team and partnered with the Audubon Society and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, to preserve the beauty and ecological value of Parker Branch, a stream southeast of Fayetteville that runs through their grandparents' farm.

"We got our hands dirty and our feet wet," Margaux Isaksen said at a meeting of the Game and Fish Commission. The girls picked up trash and hauled out discarded automobile tires from the creek. It started as a seemingly impossible task for four girls too young to drive on their own. Millie Hogue said, "We took 100-foot sections and made weekly observations." They took water samples, and they wrote reports.

The girls planted willows along the edge of the stream, an effective means of stabilizing the banks as well as giving protection from debris from the close-by county road. This was riparian restoration, the girls said, a technical term not often heard from youngsters. They used material at hand and crafted a BFRB system. The initials, Millie Hogue explained, were for Big Fat Rock Barrier.

Boating education class schedule

Click here for boating education information: <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/boating-education.aspx>

Hunter education class schedule

Click here for hunter education information: <http://www.agfc.com/education-class/hunter-education.aspx>

What's open for hunting

Current and approaching seasons in Arkansas:

What's open for hunting

Alligator:

Sept. 19-22

Sept. 26-29

Deer:

Archery – All zones: Oct. 1, 2008 to Feb. 28, 2009.

Modern Gun - Zones 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 11: Nov. 8-30.

Zone 4: Nov. 8-9.

Zone 5: Nov. 8-9 and Nov. 15-16.

Zone 4A, 5A, 13, 14 and 15: Nov. 8-Dec. 7.

Zones 4B and 5B: Nov. 8-16.

Zones 9 and 12: Nov. 8-Dec. 14.

Zone 16, 16A and 17: Nov. 8-Dec. 25.

Muzzleloader - Zones 1, 2, 3, 4A, 5A, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15: Oct. 18-26 and Dec. 13-15.

Zones 9, 12, 16, 16A and 17: Oct. 18-26 and Dec. 29-31.

Zones 4, 4B, 5 and 5B: Closed.

The statewide Christmas holiday modern gun deer hunt will be Dec. 26 to 28 with the special youth modern gun deer hunt in all zones (excludes certain WMAs where a modern gun or muzzleloader permit is required to hunt) scheduled for Nov. 1 to 2.

Duck:

Nov. 22-Dec. 1, Dec. 6-Dec. 24, Dec. 26-Jan. 25.

The youth waterfowl hunt will be Jan. 31-Feb. 1.

Goose

Northwest Canada goose zone season: Sept. 1-15 (with a bag limit of five) and Sept. 27-Oct. 6 (bag limit two).

Statewide Canada goose season:

Sept. 1-15 (bag limit five) and Jan. 10-Feb. 1 (bag limit two).

White-fronted goose season:

Nov. 15-Dec. 1, Dec. 6-Dec. 24 and Dec. 26-Jan. 30 with a bag limit of two.

Snow, blue and Ross' goose season:

Nov. 8-Dec. 24 and Dec. 26-Jan. 30 with a bag limit of 20.

Snow goose Conservation Order: Feb. 2-April 25 with no bag limit.

Dove: Sept. 6-28

Oct. 4-19

Dec. 13, 2008-Jan. 2, 2009

Teal: Sept. 13-28

Virginia and Sora Rail: Sept. 13-Nov. 21

Spotted Skunk, Weasel Hunting: Closed

Fall Turkey:

Archery: All Zones: Oct. 1, 2008-Feb. 28, 2009.

Firearms: Zones 3, 5B, 6, and 17: Oct. 11-17.

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 5A, 7, 7A, 8, 9, 9A and 10: Closed.

Bear

Archery: Zone 1: Oct. 1-Nov. 30
Zone 2: Sept. 15-Nov. 30
Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Muzzleloader: Zones 1 and 2: Oct 18-26
Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Modern Gun: Zones 1 and 2: Nov 3-30
Zone 5: Dec 6-14
Zone 5A: Nov 29-Dec 14
Zones 3, 4, 6 and 7: closed

Special Youth Modern Gun Bear Hunt: Zones 1 and 2 (does not include WMAs requiring a deer permit to harvest a bear): Nov. 1-2

Zones 3, 4, 5, 5A, 6 and 7: Closed

Furbearers (2008 Season):

Raccoon night hunting July 1-Aug. 31.
Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting is closed.

Furbearers (2009 Season):

Trapping (other than coyote, beaver, muskrat, nutria): sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, Feb. 22.
Coyote trapping: sunrise, Aug. 1-sunset, March 31.
Beaver, muskrat, nutria trapping: sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, March 31.
Gray fox, mink, opossum, red fox, striped skunk hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, Feb 28.
Raccoon day or night hunting: sunrise, Sept 1-sunset, March 31.
Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31.
Bobcat hunting: sunrise, Oct. 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through June 8.
Coyote hunting: sunrise, July 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through June 14.
River otter hunting: sunrise, Nov. 15-sunset, Feb. 28.
Muskrat, nutria, beaver hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31.
Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed.

Elk

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and A: Sept. 22-26.
Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, A and B: Dec. 8-12.

Quail

Statewide: Nov. 1-Feb. 8.

Rabbit

Statewide: Sept. 1-Feb. 28.

Squirrel

Statewide: Sept. 6, 2008-Feb. 28, 2009 and May 16-June 14, 2009.

Crow

Statewide: Sept. 6-Feb. 23.

Projected opening dates for the 2009-2010 deer hunting season.

Archery: Oct. 1, 2009
Muzzleloader: Oct. 17, 2009
Modern Gun: Nov. 14, 2009

Coming up in the outdoors

Aug. 30 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK

Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Outdoor Resources."

Sept. 6 – Annual White River Fishermen Bass and Trout Tournament benefiting

Arkansas Children's Hospital, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Access and weigh-in at Guion Access. \$50 entry fee per person. For more information contact: Johnny Thomas at (870) 269-4596 or (870) 213-5979 or (870) 213-6606, Rickey Canard at (870) 214-0760 or Bill Turner at (870) 793-3670 or (870) 834-5783.

Sept. 7 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 5 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Elk of Arkansas."

Sept. 13 - Arkansas Catfishing Association (ACA). Arkansas River, Cherokee Landing, Morrilton, launching from Cherokee Park. Registration at 5 a.m. and launching at 5:40 a.m. Check-in time is 3 p.m. Details at ArkCats.Org website:

http://app4.websitetonight.com/projects/8/4/1/0/841049/Home_Page.html, or contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at big_vato98@yahoo.com, or, Coordinator Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at leefields@centurytel.net.

Sept. 13 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fishing for Monster Catfish."

Sept. 18 – North Little Rock chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Woody's Sherwood Forest in Sherwood. For more information call Pat Mahan at (501) 743-6154 or email at pmahan000@centurytel.net.

Sept. 18 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include the 2009 spring turkey season regulations proposal.

Sept. 20 - Delta Wings Chapter of Delta Waterfowl will hold its third annual banquet on at Southland Park Gaming and Racing in West Memphis. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Contact Gary Harlow at gjharlow@aol.com for more information.

Sept. 20 – Fort Smith chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Adelaide Hall in Fort Smith. For more information call Chris Walthall at (479) 471-8009 or email at tynoiaca11@yahoo.com.

Sept. 27 – Jacksonville chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Old Wal-Mart building in Jacksonville. For more information call Matt Robinson at (501) 412-8055 or email at jacksonvilledu@aol.com.

Sept. 28 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 11 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "All About Archery."

Oct. 5 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 11 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Early Season Goose Hunting."

Oct. 11 – A one-day course on Bears and Bear Hunting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 11, at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway. Biologists with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will lead discussions on bear biology and management along with the history of bears and hunting strategies. The class will run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Brewer-Hegeman Conference Center, and it is free. Space is limited, so advance registration is needed. This can be done by phone at (501) 450-5274 or online at www.uca.edu/AOEP/ and click on Community Education.

Oct. 11 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Deer Hunting 101."

Oct. 18 - Arkansas Catfishing Association tournament. Arkansas River, Ozark Taylor Lock and Dam. Registration at 5 a.m. and launching at 5:40 a.m. Check-in time is 3 p.m. Details at ArkCats.Org website hosted by godaddy.com: http://app4.websitetonight.com/projects/8/4/1/0/841049/Home_Page.html , or contact ACA president James Freeman of Pocahontas at (870) 810-3294 or by email at big_vato98@yahoo.com, or, Coordinator Lee Fields of Russellville at (479) 331-0399 or by email at leefields@centurytel.net.

Oct. 18 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Fall Fishing."

Oct. 18 – Logan County chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, First National Ban Community Building in Paris. For more information call Shane Vincent at (479) 963-6245.

Oct. 22 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting in Pine Bluff, beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include: the 2009 spring turkey seasons regulations approval and special fishing regulations proposal.

Oct. 24-26 - Want to learn more about trapping? A workshop is being held Oct. 24-26 to give interested people tips and techniques for trapping in Arkansas. The workshop is sponsored by the Arkansas Trappers Association, Southwest Arkansas Fur Takers, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, and North American Fur Auctions. Both advanced and beginner classes will be available. The workshop will be held at Camp Clearfork near Mount Ida on Highway 270. Lodging and meals are provided. Camping facilities and motels are located nearby as well. Groups are welcome. The cost for those 17 years of age and under is \$10. For those 18 and over the price is \$20. Reservations must be received by Sept. 30. For more information call Wallace Funderburk at (870) 867-2642.

Oct. 25 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Snakeheads."

Nov. 1 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Youth Deer Hunting."

Nov. 8 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Getting Ready for Duck Season."

Nov. 15 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Ducks, Ducks and More Ducks."

Nov. 20 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include: special fishing regulations approval.

Nov. 22 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Wings Over the Prairie Festival."

Nov. 29 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "How 'Bout Them Hogs?"

Dec. 6 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Christmas Gift Ideas." The Grand Prize will also be awarded to some lucky viewer.

Dec. 18 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

Jan. 9-11, 2009 – Marine Expo at the Statehouse Convention Center in Little Rock.

Jan. 22, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2

Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

Feb. 19, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include the 2009-2010 general hunting regulation proposals.

March 19, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m. Topics include the 2009-2010 general hunting regulations approval.

April 16, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

May 21, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

June 18, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting in Lake Village. Topics include the early migratory bird season proposals.

For the latest in Arkansas Game and Fish Commission information go to www.agfc.com or call the Wildlife Information Hotline, (800)440-1477.

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