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Arkansas Outdoors for November 26, 2008

Keith Stephens (501) 223-6342, e-mail: kastephens@agfc.state.ar.us

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Emergency vote closes Coal Pile to hunting
Head of Enforcement Division selected

LITTLE ROCK – The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission at its monthly meeting Thursday passed an emergency proclamation to immediately close Coal Pile Lake to hunting.

The Commission also announced that Col. Mike Knoedl had been promoted to head the Enforcement Division.

Coal Pile Lake, on the Arkansas River in Desha County, was acquired by the AGFC in October from Echubby Lake Hunting Club. Under terms of the deed, no hunting will be allowed on the property, although it will be managed as a waterfowl rest area and remain open to activities such as fishing and wildlife viewing. The proclamation closed the area for waterfowl season and allowed time for a standard regulation to be proposed and passed by the Commission.

“The area has been posted,” said Doyle Shook, AGFC chief of wildlife management. Wooded areas north and east of Coal Pile belong to Echubby Lake Hunting Club and are not public land.

Knoedl, who has been with the AGFC since 1985, has worked as a wildlife officer in several counties. He was promoted to major in 2007.

“Mike has been a fine officer and has worked his way into this position from the ground up,” said Commission Chairman Freddie Black. “I know Mike will do a fine job.”

Black also said Commissioner George Dunklin was one of four finalists for Budweiser Conservationist of the Year. Dunklin is on the Ducks Unlimited President’s Council and chairman of the DU Conservation Programs



Committee. Other finalists are AI Brothers of Texas, Cliff McDonald of California and Phil Taunton of Kansas.

The award, given in conjunction with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, carries a \$50,000 grant for conservation projects. Anyone older than 21 may vote for a finalist at www.budweiser.com.

The Commission also:

*Approved commercial fishing regulations to begin Jan. 1, except for sturgeon season, which began immediately upon approval;

*Approved a budget increase for St. Francis Sunken Lands Wildlife Management Area. A \$190,880 deposit to the AGFC came from Army Corps of Engineers timber sales. By law, the money must be spent on management of the area and cannot be used to buy land. A plan has been developed to use the money for equipment, a bridge, two parking areas and an access road on Sunken Lands WMA.

*Announced public meetings to hear comments about 2009-10 hunting regulations will be 7 p.m.-9 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 6. Comments may be verbal or written. They may be submitted during a meeting or mailed by Jan. 30 to AGFC, Attn: Hunting Regulations Proposals, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Here are the locations:

Brinkley
AGFC Regional Office
1201 N. Highway 49
(877) 734-4581

Camden
Camden Fairview High School
1750 Cash Road
(877) 836-4612

Fayetteville
University of Arkansas
Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Arena
1335 W. Knapp St.
(866) 253-2506

Fort Smith
Janet Huckabee Arkansas River Valley Nature Center
8300 Wells Lake Road
(877) 478-1043

Hope
Fair Park Community Center
Fair Park Drive
(877) 777-5580

Hot Springs
National Park Community College Auditorium
101 College Drive
(877) 525-8606

Jonesboro
Forrest L. Wood Crowley's Ridge Nature Center
600 E. Lawson Road
(877) 972-5438

Little Rock
2 Natural Resources Drive
(800) 364-4263

Mountain View
Ozark Folk Center Auditorium

Highway 382
(877) 297-4331

Pine Bluff
Gov. Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature Center
1400 Black Dog Road
(877) 367-3559

Russellville
AGFC Regional Office
1266 Lock and Dam Road
(877) 967-7577

Newest elk season set to begin in January

LITTLE ROCK – During last week's monthly Arkansas Game and Fish Commission meeting, the Commission approved a third elk season – Jan. 12-16 – on private land in zone 4 in Searcy County. The quota is five antlerless elk; two either-sex permits also will be issued.

"Anyone with landowner approval and a valid application gets a permit for the antlerless elk hunt," Shook said. Two either-sex permits will be chosen by random draw, although a landowner who granted permission to hunt has the option to choose among certified hunters.

The hunt is a step to help landowners who have had problems with elk damaging property. Hunts and habitat work are tools used to control and contain the elk population. "We're pretty conservative (with quotas and permits) when we start a hunt in any zone," Shook said. "We're trying to improve the habitat, steadily reshaping it to attract elk."

Applications will be accepted through Dec. 15 and are available from the Little Rock office, Calico Rock regional office or license dealers within elk zone 4. For more information on the hunt go to: <http://www.agfc.com/hunting/huntingseasons/elk/privatelandelkpermit.aspx>.



The first elk hunt of the season was Sept. 22-26; the second is Dec. 8-12.

Ouachita River Careyville Landing public access is dedicated

UNION COUNTY – The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission officially dedicated its newest public access during ceremonies at the Careyville Access on the Ouachita River. The new concrete boat ramp and renovated parking area was unveiled during a small ceremony on the river.

No one knows for sure where the name Careyville came from, but it is believed to originate from the name of the first barge that docked there on the banks of the Ouachita River. References are made to Careyville Landing all the way back to 1841.

Don Turman, the AGFC district fisheries biologist for the area, said the access was considered a major freight and traffic hub for the surrounding area. "It was considered a good location to unload the big barges of the time due to the high rolling hills that were not prone to flooding," Turman said.



“Warehouses were built there to store merchandise and supplies that arrived regularly by steamboat from Monroe and New Orleans, Louisiana as well as other locations,” he explained.

The Careyville landing started out as a dirt landing before gravel was brought in to stabilize the area. At that time it was mostly maintained by the county and anyone else who was willing to help with it, Turman said. “Around 1975 it was realized that a concrete landing was needed and Jack Norris took up donations from the people who used the landing. The ramp was constructed and used for many years like that,” Turman said.

Some time later the ramp was lengthened, but recently the river undercut the concrete ramp and caused the concrete to crack and break off, making launching boats difficult and somewhat hazardous.

The original single lane concrete ramp served hunters, fishermen and pleasure boaters for over 30 years, but recently it deteriorated enough to need of major renovation.

Landowner Levi Norsworthy donated the land necessary to construct the new boat ramp and expand the parking area to the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Construction of the ramp and parking area was funded through the state’s Marine Fuel Tax Program at a cost of \$76,500.

Union County Judge Bobby Edmonds was instrumental in assisting with the project by providing men and equipment to clear, contour, pack and prepare the site.

Diverse field goes after elk in December hunt

COMPTON – The largest and the most diverse group of Arkansas elk hunters will go into the rugged Buffalo River country Dec. 8 for the 11th elk hunt on lands of the Buffalo National River and the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Others will hunt on nearby private lands.

There are 23 hunters with the highly-sought public land elk permits, and these are the winners from several thousand who applied for the permits during the month of May. Both the applications and the permits are free.

The addition of another youth permit this time increased the field from last December’s 22 hunters.

All the hunters are required to attend a hunter orientation session Sunday, Dec. 7, at Pruitt. Then they will hunt Monday through Friday, Dec. 8-12.

Each of the hunters can be accompanied by one or more helpers, who must wear the required blaze orange or chartreuse, but the helpers cannot carry center-fire weapons. The elk hunters can choose modern, gun, muzzle-loading or archery equipment but not crossbows. Virtually all in the past have used modern rifles.



The varied field includes a record eight women and five youths.

The December public land hunters:

Youth Either Sex Permits: Brent Shelton, Jacksonville, Zone 3; Nathan Creasey, Siloam Springs, Zone 3; Wyatt C. Jones, Pine Bluff, Zone 3.

Bull Elk Permits: Kyle Waller, Heber Springs, Zone 1; Donna Waldo, Lamar, Zone 2; Glenn Tatham, Bismarck, Zone 4; Loretta Trammell, Mountain View, Zone 4.

Antlerless Elk Permits: Zone 1, Donald Davis, Bay; Aida Cabrera, Forrest City; Todd Wimberly, Conway. Zone 2, Edward Bernd, Guion; Tim Sharp, Camden; Virginia Sullivan, Oil Trough. Zone 3. Payton Burgess, Pine Bluff, Sherry Kentner, Benton;

Edna Stout, Cave City; Christy Wheeler, McCrory. Zone 4, Joshua Douglas, Plainview; Laurence Duranleau, Hot Springs; Bobby Greene, Wynne; Barbara Mallett, Bull Shoals; Tyler Young, Western Grove.

At the same time as the public land hunt, several dozen other hunters will go after elk on private land hunts in regions

designated as Elk Zone A and Elk Zone B. On this private land hunt, applicants for permits had to first obtain written permission of a landowner who owns land within the private land zone. These permits cost \$35. There is a quota of three elk in Zone A and seven elk in Zone B. The hunts will close when these quotas are reached.

Check stations for the elk hunt are at the Compton Community Center, Gene Rush Wildlife Management Area headquarters and the Tyler Bend Work Center of the Buffalo National River.

Almost 1 million fish stocked in state's waters

LITTLE ROCK – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission crews stocked over 856,500 fish in Arkansas lakes and rivers during October, according to Mike Armstrong, chief of fisheries. The total stocking of fish weighed in excess of 144,000 pounds.

October stockings:

Amon's Lake, Baxter County, 150 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Ann, Benton County, 8,775 yearling black crappie
Lake Atalanta, Benton County, 1,700 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Austell, Cross County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lake Avalon, Benton County, 4,690 fingerling black crappie
Bear Creek Lake, Lee County, 1,880 catchable channel catfish
Beaver Lake, Washington and Benton Counties, 60,000 yearling black crappie
Beaver Tailwater, Carroll County, 10,501 catchable rainbow trout
Benton City Lake, Saline County, 1,300 catchable channel catfish
Bicentennial Lake, Sebastian County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Big Piney Creek, Pope County, 256 catchable channel catfish
Bois d Arc Lake, Hempstead County, 314 catchable channel catfish
Boyle Park Pond, Pulaski County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Bradley County Lake, Bradley County, 180 catchable channel catfish
Bragg Lake, Ouachita County, 260 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Brittany, Benton County, 3,150 yearling black crappie
Bull Shoals Lake, Marion, Boone and Baxter Counties, 45,600 yearling blue catfish
Bull Shoals Lake, Marion County, 2,200 catchable channel catfish
Cabot Community Pond, Lonoke County, 1,006 catchable channel catfish
Calion Lake, Union County, 774 catchable rainbow trout
Camp Preston Hunt, Miller County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Camp Preston Hunt, Miller County, 24 yearling grass carp
Cavester Cove, Sharp County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Cedar-Piney Lake, Yell County, 336 catchable channel catfish
Champagnolle Creek, Calhoun County, 352 catchable channel catfish
Champagnolle Creek, Calhoun County, 3,000 yearling grass carp
Charleston City Lake, Franklin County, 342 catchable channel catfish
Cherrywood Lake, Pulaski County, 1,310 catchable channel catfish
Lake Chicot, Chicot County, 80,000 yearling black crappie
Lake Chicot, Chicot County, 20,000 yearling white crappie
Clubhouse Lake, Yell County, 160 catchable channel catfish
Cotter Big Spring, Baxter County, 300 catchable rainbow trout
Cox Creek Lake, Grant County, 260 yearling grass carp
Cox Cypress Lake, Arkansas County, 257 catchable channel catfish
Craighead Forest Park Lake, Craighead County, 400 yearling grass carp
Crossett City Park Lake, Ashley County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Cypress Bayou Pond, Lonoke County, 150 catchable channel catfish
Lake DeGray, Hot Spring and Clark Counties, 25,560 yearling black crappie
Lake Des Arc, Prairie County, 1,050 catchable channel catfish
De Witt City Lake, Arkansas County, 450 catchable channel catfish
Lake Dunn, Cross County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Dupree Park Lake, Pulaski County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Energy Park Lake, Garland County, 300 catchable channel catfish



Engineer Lake #2, Pulaski County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Lake Enterprise, Ashley County, 900 catchable channel catfish
Fair Park Pond, Hempstead County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Family Park Lake, Garland County, 1,000 catchable channel catfish
Foreman Lake, Pulaski County, 240 catchable grass carp
Forrest City Sports Complex Pond, St. Francis County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Fort Roots Lake, Pulaski County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Fourche LaFave River, Scott County, 526 catchable channel catfish
Lake Georgia-Pacific, Ashley County, 1,700 catchable channel catfish
Grandview #1 Lake, Hempstead County, 326 catchable channel catfish
Greers Ferry Lake, Cleburne and Van Buren Counties, 30,817 yearling black crappie
Lake Greeson, Pike County, 7,350 yearling black crappie
Lake Hamilton, Garland County, 2,639 catchable channel catfish
Harris Brake Lake, Perry County, 982 catchable channel catfish
Harrison City Lake, Boone County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Hickson Lake, Monroe County, 157 catchable channel catfish
Lake Hindsville, Madison County, 8,556 fingerling bluegill bream
Huckleberry Lake, Pope County, 589 catchable channel catfish
Hunter Lake, Pulaski County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Illinois Bayou, Pope County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Interstate Pond #2, Monroe County, 257 catchable channel catfish
Interstate Pond #4, Monroe County, 171 catchable channel catfish
Irons Fork Lake, Polk County, 460 catchable channel catfish
Lake June, Lafayette County, 296 catchable channel catfish
Keeland Lake, Yell County, 316 catchable channel catfish
Kingfisher Lake, Yell County, 316 catchable channel catfish
Kiwanis Park, Pulaski County, 800 catchable channel catfish
Lee Creek, Crawford County, 384 catchable channel catfish
Lee Creek Lake, Crawford County, 902 catchable channel catfish
Lilly Pad Pond, Yell County, 316 catchable channel catfish
Little Missouri River, Pike County, 879 catchable channel catfish
Little Red River, Cleburne County, 19,135 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Loch Lomond, Benton County, 33,390 yearling black crappie
Lake Lou Emma, Crawford County, 290 catchable channel catfish
Lyon College Pond, Independence County, 300 catchable channel catfish
MacArthur Park Lake, Pulaski County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Martin Luther King Park, Jefferson County, 800 catchable channel catfish
McKinley Park Lake, Saline County, 510 catchable channel catfish
Mike & Janet Huckabee Kids Pond, Hempstead County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Mike & Janet Huckabee Lake, Hempstead County, 310 catchable channel catfish
Miller Pond, Woodruff County, 150 catchable channel catfish
Mirror Lake, Stone County, 1,000 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Monticello, Drew County, 755 catchable channel catfish
Mulberry River, Franklin County, 590 catchable channel catfish
Murphy Park Lake, Washington County, 300 catchable rainbow trout
Nashville City Park Lake, Howard County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Lake Norrell, Saline County, 240 yearling grass carp
Norfolk Lake, Baxter County, 22,000 yearling blue catfish
Norfolk Lake, Baxter County, 2,200 catchable channel catfish
Norfolk River, Baxter County, 2,071 fingerling brown trout
Norfolk River, Baxter County, 8,288 catchable rainbow trout
Norwood Lake, Benton County, 2,450 yearling black crappie
Old Davidsonville State Park Lake, Randolph County, 304 catchable channel catfish
Otter Creek Park Pond, Pulaski County, 650 catchable channel catfish
Lake Ouachita, Montgomery and Garland Counties, 10,026 catchable channel catfish
Lake Ouachita, Montgomery and Garland Counties, 50,624 yearling black crappie
Ouachita River, Hot Spring County, 1,251 catchable channel catfish
Parkway Village Ponds, Pulaski County, 608 catchable channel catfish
Petit Jean River, Yell County, 632 catchable channel catfish
Lake Pickthorne, Lonoke County, 528 catchable channel catfish
Plum Bayou, Lonoke County, 3,040 yearling black crappie

Pullen Pond, Yell County, 316 catchable channel catfish
 Lake Rayburn, Benton County, 3,150 yearling black crappie
 Regional Park Pond, Jefferson County, 400 catchable channel catfish
 Robe Bayou, Monroe County, 306 catchable channel catfish
 Lake Saracin/Pine Bluff Lake, Jefferson County, 1,502 catchable channel catfish
 Searcy City Lake, White County, 250 catchable channel catfish
 Shores Lake, Franklin County, 298 catchable channel catfish
 Siloam Springs City Park, Benton County, 300 catchable catfish
 Spring River, Fulton County, 9,645 catchable rainbow trout
 Spring River, Fulton County, 10,000 fingerling brown trout
 Lake Springdale, Washington County, 300 catchable rainbow trout
 Storm Creek Lake, Phillips County, 2,592 yearling blue catfish
 Swepeco Lake, Benton County, 112,490 fingerling bluegill bream
 Swepeco Lake, Benton County, 50 yearling grass carp
 Tri County Lake, Calhoun County, 448 catchable channel catfish
 War Memorial Park, Pulaski County, 200 catchable channel catfish
 Ward City Lake, Lonoke County, 150 catchable channel catfish
 Wells Lake, Sebastian County, 1,000 catchable channel catfish
 Lake Winona, Saline County, 1,722 catchable channel catfish
 Lake Wedington, Washington County, 28,520 fingerling bluegill bream
 White River, Baxter, IZard, Marion and Stone Counties, 68,320 catchable rainbow trout
 White River, Baxter, IZard and Stone Counties, 78,349 fingerling brown trout
 White River, Jackson and Independence Counties, 8,460 catchable paddlefish
 White River, Independence and Stone Counties, 10,560 fingerling paddlefish
 White River, Independence County, 3,000 yearling paddlefish
 Whitstine Lake, Independence County, 300 catchable channel catfish
 Lake Wilson, Ashley County, 457 catchable channel catfish
 Lake Windsor, Benton County, 15,400 yearling black crappie
 Wrape Plantation Lake, Arkansas County, 166 catchable channel catfish
 Yell County Wildlife Federation Pond, Yell County, 288 catchable channel catfish

AGFC can help with nuisance furbearers

LITTLE ROCK – Got a problem with nuisance animals on your property? The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission can help landowners that are experiencing problems with nuisance furbearers like beavers, muskrats, raccoons and coyotes by linking them together with trappers and furbearer hunters looking for a place to take part in these traditional activities now that the trapping season has started.

This will help landowners get their nuisance problems under control while increasing recreational opportunities for the public, according to the AGFC's furbearer program coordinator Blake Sasse.

"Landowners wishing to participate in the program can enter their names and information about their property and the species they're having problems with in an online registry at <http://www.agfc.com/wildlife-conservation/nuisance.aspx> or by calling 501-223-6359," Sasse explained.



Photo by Chris Newberry

Trappers and hunters can access the registry and call nearby landowners to ask permission to access their property to take the nuisance species and others of interest during a designated trapping or hunting season, Sasse added. "Although prices for some nuisance species are currently low, many trappers are willing to take them in return for the opportunity to catch more valuable species," he said.

Landowners retain full control of who has access to their property and do not open their lands up to the public by placing their name in the registry. Participants can also remove their names from the registry at any time if their

problems have been solved or they no longer wish to take part in the program. "This site will probably be most helpful for those with over 100 acres of property with running streams since larger areas provide more potential opportunities for trappers or hunters to find what they're looking for," Sasse said.

Additional information about this program can be found at <http://www.agfc.com/wildlife-conservation/nuisance.aspx> or by calling (501) 223-6359.

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:

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 5: 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: Dec. 13-15.

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

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

The statewide Christmas holiday modern gun deer hunt will be Dec. 26-28.

Duck:

Nov. 22-Dec. 1,

Dec. 6-Dec. 24

Dec. 26-Jan. 25.

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

Statewide Canada goose season:

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:

Dec. 13, 2008-Jan. 2, 2009

Virginia and Sora Rail:

Sept. 13-Nov. 21

Spotted Skunk, Weasel Hunting:

Closed

Fall Turkey:

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

Bear:

Archery: Zone 1: Oct. 1-Nov. 30

Zone 2: Sept. 15-Nov. 30
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

Furbearers:

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, 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

Nov. 29 – Brookings Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Brookings Landing. For more information contact Eric or Carolann Wilmes at (870) 236-4225 or ufoundcarolann@hotmail.com.

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 – Poinsett County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Trumann Recreational Complex. For more information contact Chris Gairhan at (870) 530-2899 or cgairhan@yahoo.com.

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. 6 – Cypress Bayou Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Beebe National Guard Armory. For more information contact Barry Wolfe at (501) 681-4286 or wolfe.barry@gmail.com.

Dec. 9 – Roland Martin at New Life Church in North Little Rock. For more information call Bruce Waters at (501) 766-5775 or bruce-waters@sbcglobal.net or John Craft at (501) 851-1408 or craft@craftveach.com.

Dec. 12 – Hughes Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Hughes Fire Station. For more information contact Bobby Cupples at (901) 489-7263.

Dec. 13 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "The Art of Carving."

Dec. 13 – East Arkansas Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Southland Greyhound Park. For more information contact Jason Rodgers at (870) 225-6642 or agoinc4450@aol.com.

Dec. 17 – Grand opening of the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center in downtown Little Rock.

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

Dec. 20 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "The Trout Magnet."

Dec. 20 – As part of the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center grand opening ceremonies, six professional anglers will be on hand from 1 to 4:30 to meet and greet fans, sign autographs, take pictures and interact about fishing. Larry Nixon, George Cochran, Scott Suggs, Rob Kilby, Mike Wurm and Penny Berryman will be on hand for the festivities. The newest nature center is located in the River Market District in downtown Little Rock.

Dec. 27 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Holiday Squirrel Hunt."

Dec. 31 – Razorduck Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Foothills Indoor Arena in Clarksville. For more information contact Cheryl Feikema at (479) 754-3924 or cherdene@suddenlink.net.

Jan. 6, 2009 – AGFC hunting regulations meetings, 7 p.m.

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

Jan. 10, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Bald Eagle."

Jan. 10, 2009 – Booneville Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, First Baptist Church in Booneville. For more information contact Josh Boersma at (479) 518-4250 or boersma66@yahoo.com.

Jan. 17, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Watchable Wildlife and Outdoor Photography."

Jan. 17, 2009 – Black River Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Rolling Hills Country Club in Pochontas. For more information contact Joey Pfeffer at (870) 378-1926 or joey.pfeffer@afbic.com.

Jan. 22, 2009 – AGFC Commission monthly meeting at the AGFC Little Rock central office, 2 Natural Resources Dr., beginning at 9 a.m.

Jan. 24, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Ladies Only Duck Hunt."

Jan. 31, 2009 – Outdoor Sportsmen Banquet, Greenwood High School basketball arena, 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Jan. 31, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Late Season Duck Hunt."

Feb. 7, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "The Art of Knife Making."

Feb. 14, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Run, Rabbit, Run."

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.

Feb. 21, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Bringing Back the Bobwhite Quail."

Feb. 28, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Zig-Jigging for Trout."

March 7, 2009 - Talkin' Outdoors at the Corner Café with Steve "Wildman" Wilson, 9 a.m. on KARK Channel 4. Topic of the show will be "Raccoon Hunting."

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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