

Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

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Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

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AGFC, other agencies restore portions of Grand Prairie at Stuttgart airport

STUTTGART - Stuttgart takes pride in something beyond ducks and rice. A grassland restoration project, funded through AGFC and other agencies, aims to return portions of the Grand Prairie to its former glory.

One restoration project is converting 235 acres of land, around Stuttgart Municipal Airport, to prairie habitat. The project is designed to create ecotourism opportunities, boost the local economy and restore indigenous wildlife and plants. "I'm hoping that the wildlife-appreciating community – whether bird-watchers or hunters – realize that the Arkansas Delta and Grand Prairie are fascinating places to visit not only in fall and winter, but spring and summer," said Arkansas Game and Fish Commission bird conservation coordinator Karen Rowe. Rowe oversees state wildlife grants that partly fund the project. "You have to change your perspective. You can look not only at ducks, but also at dickcissels," Rowe says.

Projected to cost \$185,000, the first phase of the restoration project involves the AGFC, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, Audubon Arkansas and the city of Stuttgart. The restoration started in 2003 after the Stuttgart city council approved the project proposal, as presented by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission.

Since then, AGFC biologists have collected prairie grassland seeds from



native genotype sources and planted them to restore prairie similar to what existed before European settlement. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has taken actions to promote a healthy prairie, including prescribed burns and herbicide applications to kill invasive Bermuda grass. As a former World War II military base, the area is considered a cultural resource, requiring an archeologist to remove concrete rubble scattered throughout the grass. Audubon Arkansas has conducted regular bird surveys to assess bird use of prairie habitat. Because many grassland and prairie birds are declining, their detection carries conservation importance.

"It's just good for the land," said Stuttgart mayor Marianne Maynard, who handles paperwork for the city-owned airport. "It's taking unused land and putting it towards a purpose."

All of these efforts are intended to partly restore what once existed: 320,000 acres of extensive Grand Prairie. Roughly one percent of the prairie – 400-500 acres – remains.

"I've talked with 80 and 90-year-olds who remember the prairies," Rowe said. "They talked about not being able to see over the grass, and seeing prairie chickens. I want to restore the prairie so that their great-great-grandchildren can see what they saw."

Additionally, it is hoped that the prairie will impress visitors from afar. "Stuttgart is like the epicenter of the Grand Prairie, the mallard capital of the world," said Joe Krystofik, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist working on the project. "People fly in from all around the country to Stuttgart [to hunt]: movie stars, presidents and vice presidents. What better way than the prairie is there to leave an impression on them?"

Maynard said she hopes the project will broaden Stuttgart's appeal for eco-tourists, who may boost the local economy.

It will be an added attraction," Maynard said. "Maybe they'll come into town and spend their dollars."

Ecotourism already entices bird-watchers to Stuttgart Airport, deemed an Important Bird Area by Audubon Arkansas. In winter, birders from across America flock to the airport, a reliable place to see Smith's and Lapland Longspurs. Perhaps someday birders will visit the airport to spy an additional target bird – Prairie-Chickens.

"Part of the project was the desire for reintroducing Prairie-Chickens," Krystofik said. "That's almost a pie-in-the-sky goal."

Restoring prairie chickens to their former breeding grounds will be no easy task, requiring vast tracts of prairie. Krystofik said prairie chickens require at least 4,000 acres of habitat in a 10,000-acre matrix.

Ultimately, whether the restored prairie attracts hordes of eco-tourists or mostly functions as a haven for wildlife, one thing is clear: it has potential.



Bois d'Arc WMA: Ducks, 'gators, fish, colorful birds

HOPE – East-central and northeast Arkansas have garnered the duck headlines for generations, but Hope and Texarkana outdoors people smile quietly and look around close to their homes.

Migrating waterfowl come to the bottomlands where Little River meets Red River. Long-established Yellow Creek and Grassy Lake duck clubs have traditions and family lineages comparable to most in the eastern parts of the state. And they have ducks too.

Dr. Lester Sitzes Bois d'Arc Wildlife Management Area developed in the 1950s to augment the opportunities for duck and other hunting in the area, along with the building of Bois d'Arc Lake to flood duck areas and to accommodate fishermen who had major problems with being able to work the moody and capricious Red River.

In recent times the name of a Hope dentist who served a seven-year term as an Arkansas Game and Fish commissioner was added to the title of the 13,626-acre management area.

Above and surrounding the lake are several creeks and sloughs liked by ducks and also home to alligators. The gators have always been around, with the remaining segment of Arkansas's alligator population centered around Grassy Lake and a few miles northwest of Bois d'Arc WMA. Alligators increased in the Bois d'Arc area with the restoration project of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission in the later part of the 20th Century.

The wintering ducks and year-round alligators are just part of the wildlife finding homes in Bois d'Arc. It's good deer country. Turkeys are on the upswing, and doves flock to the cutover portions of the management area where proliferating weeks furnish seed for the birds.

Bird enthusiasts have also learned that Bois d'Arc is a magnet for the



brilliantly colored prothonotary warbler, the yellow-with-black-wings delight for any observer. Dead trees and snags close to the water make ideal homes for the cavity-nesters.

Other migrating songbirds that spend part of their lives in the tropics come to Bois d'Arc. Egrets, herons and other shorebirds use both the lake and the adjacent wetlands. The building and management of the Red Slough Waterfowl Rest Area in recent times have added to the attraction for both the shorebirds and the ducks.

Moist soil management work is ongoing on a 180-acre segment of the WMA, in addition to 135 acres of food plots of varying sizes. Crops of wheat and oats are used on many of the food plots, planted to produce fall maturity and food for the migrants. Another 40 acres are worked as wildlife openings. A system of levees and water control structures floods the area for waterfowl habitat in late fall and winter.

Mallards are the most numerous of ducks that winter at Bois d'Arc, said biologist Gregg Mathis, now retired from the Game and Fish Commission, but other ducks include numerous wigeons, gadwalls, shovelers, teal and pintails along with several other species in smaller numbers.

The bottoms are also popular with squirrel hunters, Mathis said. "A lot of people living in this area introduce their children to hunting by going after squirrels on Bois d'Arc."

But Bois d'Arc is not all swamp and bottomlands. Farther upstream from the lake is upland acreage with pines and mixed pine-hardwood growth. This is where many of the deer are found, along with turkeys in addition to the regrowing logged areas where doves congregate.

Nearby Hope has a tradition of raising wow-size watermelons and also producing and attracting public figures. Bois d'Arc's dedication brought Governor Orval Faubus to the site in the 1950s. Future President Bill Clinton was born at Hope, and former Governor Mike Huckabee, a fervent fisherman, was first bitten by the angling bug as a boy come out of Hope to fish Bois d'Arc.

Renovated Bois d'Arc Lake has primitive campsites used by hunters and other visitors in addition to fishermen. Fishing piers and platforms are handy for wildlife watchers with binoculars and scopes along with anglers.

Cache River and Bald Knob NWR modern gun quota hunt permits available Aug. 1

AUGUSTA – Beginning Aug. 1, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will begin accepting permit applications for quota hunts on two of its wildlife refuges. The quota hunts will be held on the Cache River and Bald Knob national wildlife refuges in eastern Arkansas.

The hunt dates are Nov. 14-17 and Nov. 20-22 for the Cache River NWR, and Nov. 14-15 for the Bald Knob NWR. The quota permits will be available on a first come, first serve basis with 2,000 permits available for Cache River and 250 permits for Bald Knob NWR.

Permit requests must be sent first class through the U.S. Postal Service. Applications sent priority mail, overnight mail or through carriers such as FedEx will not be accepted. In-person applications will also not be accepted. Requests must be postmarked between Aug. 1 and Aug. 31. Permits will be issued in the order the requests are received using postmarks or until all permits have been issued, whichever comes first.

Include your full name (first, middle, last), mailing address and telephone number of the applicant and the refuge you are requesting (Cache River or Bald Knob). The Cache River quota hunt covers all 7 days of the hunt; only one application is required. Unclear or incomplete applications will be returned. Send a money order or cashier's check for \$12.50. No personal checks, cash or credit cards.

Groups of up to five hunters can also apply for the permits. Applications must include the full names (first, middle, last), and each individual mailing address and individual telephone numbers for each person in the group application. Send one money order for the group request. The cost will be \$12.50 for each applicant.

Applications should be mailed to: Central Arkansas Refuges, 26320 Highway 33 South, Augusta, AR 72006

Permits are non-transferable and non-refundable. For questions or further assistance, call Karen at (870) 347-2614 extension 21 or email karen_graves@fws.gov.



Over 181,400 pounds of fish stocked in state's waters

LITTLE ROCK – Arkansas Game and Fish Commission crews stocked over 2.3 million fish in Arkansas lakes and rivers during June, according to Mike Armstrong, chief of fisheries. The total stocking of fish weighed in excess of 181,400 pounds.

June stockings:

Aldersgate Methodist Camp, Pulaski County, 600 catchable channel



catfish

Alma City Lake, Crawford County, 403 catchable channel catfish
Alma City Lake, Crawford County, 6,500 fingerling largemouth bass
Arkansas Post National Memorial Lake, Arkansas County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lake Atkins, Pope County, 1,131 catchable channel catfish
Lake Atkins, Pope County, 46,265 fingerling Florida bass
Lake Bailey, Conway County, 700 catchable channel catfish
Beaver Tailwater, Carroll County, 9,600 catchable rainbow trout
Beech Springs Lake, Ouachita County, 480 catchable channel catfish
Benjamin Lake, Union County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Benton City Lake, Saline County, 1,300 catchable channel catfish
Boyle Park Pond, Pulaski County, 1,120 catchable channel catfish
Bramble Park Lake, Miller County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Broadmoor Lake, Pulaski County, 1,125 fingerling largemouth bass
Broadmoor Lake, Pulaski County, 1,600 Fingerling Bluegill Bream
Burns Park Golf Lakes, Pulaski County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Busby Park Lake, Lonoke County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Lake Catherine, Garland County, 200 catchable channel catfish
Cabot Community Pond, Lonoke County, 2,019 catchable channel catfish
Caddo River, Pike County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Caddo River, Montgomery County, 4,850 fingerling smallmouth bass
Calion Lake, Union County, 696 catchable channel catfish
Calion Lake, Union County, 30,100 fingerling largemouth bass
Camden/Fairview High School Pond, Ouachita County, 504 catchable channel catfish
Camp Clearfork Lake, Garland County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Camp JT Robinson Golf Course Pond, Pulaski County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Camp Robinson Firing Range Pond, Faulkner County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Lake Cap Bedell, Crawford County, 150 catchable channel catfish
Lake Cargile, Conway County, 210 catchable channel catfish
Cedar Creek Lake, Perry County, 360 catchable channel catfish
Champagnolle Creek, Calhoun County, 500 yearling grass carp
Lake Charles, Lawrence County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Charlton Pond, Garland County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Cherrywood Lake, Pulaski County, 3,100 catchable channel catfish
Church Alive Pond, Faulkner County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Clinton City Pond, Van Buren County, 350 catchable channel catfish
Lake Columbia, Columbia County, 26 adult Florida bass
Lake Columbia, Columbia County, 150,840 fingerling Florida bass
Lake Conway, Faulkner County, 50,190 fingerling Florida bass
Cove Lake, Logan County, 450 catchable channel catfish
Cox Creek Lake, Grant County, 10,048 fingerling largemouth bass
Craighead Forest Park Lake, Craighead County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Darby Lake, Franklin County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lake DeGray, Hot Spring County, 800 catchable channel catfish
Lake DeGray, Clark County, 93,700 fingerling Florida bass
Lake DeGray, Hot Spring and Clark Counties, 100,975 fingerling hybrid striped bass
DeGray Resort Golf Pond #7, Hot Spring County, 500 catchable channel catfish
DeSoto Lake, Union County, 1,044 catchable channel catfish
Lake Dieffenbacher, Miller County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Dry Fork Lake, Perry County, 360 catchable channel catfish
Dupree Park Lake, Pulaski County, 750 catchable channel catfish
Lake Erling, Lafayette County, 72,140 fingerling Florida bass
El Dorado City Pond, Union County, 1,000 catchable channel catfish
Eleven Point River, Randolph County, 18,587 fingerling smallmouth bass
Entergy Park Lake, Garland County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Family Park Lake, Garland County, 900 catchable channel catfish
Felsenthal Pool, Union County, 20,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Field Trial Pond, Prairie County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Forest Service Headquarters Lake, Lee County, 450 catchable channel catfish
Franklin County Fairgrounds Pond, Franklin County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lake Frierson, Greene County, 34,625 fingerling saugeye
Galla Creek Reservoir, Pope County, 10,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Grandview #1 Lake, Hempstead County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Grandview #2 Lake, Hempstead County, 315 catchable channel catfish
Greers Ferry Lake, Van Buren and Cleburne Counties, 151,004 fingerling hybrid striped bass
Gurdon Lake, Clark County, 5,120 fingerling Florida bass
Healing Place Ministries Pond, Jefferson County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Hindman Park A, Pulaski County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Horsehead Lake, Johnson County, 10,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Horseshoe Lake, Crittenden County, 13,875 fingerling hybrid striped bass
Lake Jack Nolen, Sebastian County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Jansen Park Lake, Polk County, 250 catchable channel catfish



Jefferson County Recreation Association Pond, Jefferson County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Jessieville Work Center Pond, Garland County, 300 catchable channel catfish
John Benjamin Community Fishing Pond, Pike County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Jones Lake, Union County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Lake June, Lafayette County, 303 catchable channel catfish
Kiwanis Park, Pulaski County, 700 catchable channel catfish
Lake Village Community Lake, Chicot County, 531 catchable channel catfish
Lee Creek Lake, Crawford County, 900 catchable channel catfish
Lester Sites/Bois d Arc Lake, Hempstead County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lester Sites/Bois d Arc Lake, Hempstead County, 13,725 fingerling Florida bass
Little Missouri River, Nevada County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Little Red River, Cleburne and White Counties, 31,318 catchable rainbow trout
Little Red River, White County, 7,470 fingerling smallmouth bass
Little Rock AFB Lake, Pulaski County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Locust Ridge Pond, Union County, 800 catchable channel catfish
Logoly State Park Pond, Columbia County, 250 catchable channel catfish
MacArthur Park Lake, Pulaski County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Mallard Lake, Mississippi County, 33,055 fingerling largemouth bass
Mansfield City Lake, Scott County, 315 catchable channel catfish
Mansfield City Lake, Scott County, 1,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Michael's Pond, Logan County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Mike and Janet Huckabee Kids Pond, Hempstead County, 750 catchable channel catfish
Miller Pond, Woodruff County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Lake Millwood, Little River County, 117,595 fingerling Florida bass
Mirror Lake, Stone County, 2,087 catchable rainbow trout
Lake Monticello, Drew County, 100,890 fingerling Florida bass
Mound Lake Toltec, Lonoke County, 1,040 fingerling hybrid striped bass
Mullins Pond, Columbia County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Lake Nimrod, Yell County, 73,145 fingerling largemouth bass
Lake Norfolk, Baxter County, 42,832 fingerling hybrid striped bass
North Fork River, Baxter County, 19,500 fingerling cutthroat trout
North Fork River, Baxter County, 12,913 catchable rainbow trout
North Fork Lake, Montgomery County, 188 catchable channel catfish
North Fork Lake, Montgomery County, 10,500 fingerling largemouth bass
Old Davidsonville State Park Lake, Randolph County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Old Forrester Pond, Scott County, 315 catchable channel catfish
Old Post Park Pond, Pope County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Old Town Lake, Phillips County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Otter Creek Park Pond, Pulaski County, 650 catchable channel catfish
Lake Ouachita, Garland County, 101,550 fingerling Florida bass
Lake Ouachita, Garland and Montgomery Counties, 8,678 catchable channel catfish
Lake Ouachita, Garland County, 99,370 fingerling smallmouth bass
Lake Ouachita, Montgomery County, 85,747 fingerling striped bass
Ouachita River, Hot Spring County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Ouachita River, Hot Spring, Union and Ouachita Counties, 96,800 fingerling largemouth bass
Ouachita River, Dallas and Hot Spring Counties, 12,665 fingerling smallmouth bass
Lake Overcup, Conway County, 1,104 catchable channel catfish
Paradise Lake, Pulaski County, 350 catchable channel catfish
Paris City Lake, Logan County, 450 catchable channel catfish
Paris City Lake, Logan County, 10,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Pine Bluff Regional Park Pond, Jefferson County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Piney Creek, Monroe County, 60,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Pinnacle Mountain Pond, Pulaski County, 204 catchable channel catfish
Pleasant View Park Pond, Pope County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Reynolds Park Lake, Greene County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Riceland Foods Headquarters Pond, Arkansas County, 700 catchable channel catfish
Rich Mountain Comm. College Pond, Polk County, 250 catchable channel catfish
Rock Creek Watershed Lake, Perry County, 150 catchable channel catfish
SAU Duck Pond, Columbia County, 504 catchable channel catfish
Saline River, Saline County, 3,780 fingerling smallmouth bass
Lake Sequoyah, Washington County, 20,000 fingerling largemouth bass
Sherwood City Pond, Pulaski County, 216 catchable channel catfish
Siloam Springs City Park, Benton County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Spring Lake, Yell County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Spring Lake Baptist Camp, Garland County, 50 yearling grass carp
Spring River, Fulton County, 14,885 catchable rainbow trout
Storm Creek Lake, Phillips County, 600 catchable channel catfish
Storm Creek Lake, Phillips County, 3,264 fingerling hybrid striped bass
Subiaco Lakes, Logan County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Lake Sylvia, Perry County, 306 catchable channel catfish
T. J. House Reservoir, Crawford County, 403 catchable channel catfish
Tahkodah Camp, Independence County, 500 catchable channel catfish
Timber Ridge Ranch Lake, Saline County, 200 catchable channel catfish



Toms Lake, White County, 2,900 fingerling largemouth bass
Tri County Lake, Calhoun County, 30,600 fingerling largemouth bass
Truman Baker Lake, Scott County, 300 catchable channel catfish
Twin Lakes "A", Pulaski County, 250 catchable channel catfish
US Fish & Wildlife Service Pond 4, Arkansas County, 1,000 catchable channel catfish
Veterans Park Pond, Logan County, 900 catchable channel catfish
Waldron City Lake, Scott County, 720 catchable channel catfish
Wallace Lake, Chicot County, 15,206 fingerling largemouth bass
War Memorial Park, Pulaski County, 400 catchable channel catfish
Wells Lake, Sebastian County, 1,400 catchable channel catfish
West Memphis City Park Lake, Crittenden County, 1,333 catchable channel catfish
Lower White Oak Lake, Ouachita County, 12,000 fry flathead catfish
Lower White Oak Lake, Ouachita County, 156,440 fingerling Florida bass
Upper White Oak Lake, Ouachita County, 12,000 fry flathead catfish
White River, Washington County, 600 catchable channel catfish
White River, Izard, Baxter, Marion and Stone Counties, 103,680 fingerling cutthroat trout
White River, Baxter, Izard, Marion and Stone Counties, 132,423 catchable rainbow trout
Willow Beach Park Lake, Pulaski County, 4,004 catchable channel catfish
Withrow Springs Pond, Madison County, 350 catchable channel catfish

Bowhunter education programs set

LITTLE ROCK – Looking to hone your bowhunting skills? Classes are now being formed to cover the International Bowhunter Education Course. Graduates will receive a bowhunter education card from the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.

The card is good for life, accepted in all states and meets the Arkansas urban bowhunting requirements.



Date, Time, Location

Aug. 1, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Gov. Mike Huckabee Delta Rivers Nature Center. Call (870) 534-0011 to register.

Aug. 8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Cherokee Village Omaha Center. To register, email tom@monticellonews.net with name, phone number and class date.

Aug. 15, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Bull Shoals State Park Visitors Center. To register, email tom@monticellonews.net with name, phone number and class date.

Aug. 22, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Hot Springs Village Woodlands Auditorium. To register, email tom@monticellonews.net with name, phone number and class date.

The classes are free of charge, but registration is required as the class size is limited. For additional information or to register, call (870) 818-2704.

For those archers who wish to take the class online, just visit www.nbef.org. There is a \$20 charge for the online test and you must attend an IBEP "Field Day" to complete the class requirements.

The IBEP Field Days, listed below, will be held immediately after each urban bowhunt shooting test and orientation and may last three to four hours. Bowhunters must bring the online certificate proving they have passed the IBEP online test. The IBEP field day will include treestand safety, blood trailing, a short test over the online material, as well as other topics. If you want to attend one of these field days listed you must register.

Date, Time, Location

Aug. 29, 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Cherokee Village Baseheart Fire Station Baseheart/Cherokee Rd.

Aug. 29, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Horseshoe Bend Veterans Memorial Park.

Sept. 12, 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Bull Shoals Archery Range.

Sept. 12, 8 a.m. to 12 noon, Hot Springs Village Coronado Center.

Please e-mail tom@monticellonews.net with name, phone number and class date to register. If you do not have e-mail access you may call (870) 818-2704 and leave a message with the required information.



Wildlife habitat management seminar to help landowners

LITTLE ROCK - There are many things landowners can do to make property more attractive to wildlife. That will be the subject of a seminar Aug. 13 at the Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center in Little Rock.

Jason Honey and Matt Mourot, wildlife biologists for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, will discuss topics such as fall food plots, native plants, controlled burning to benefit wildlife, forest canopy openings, water resources and more at the short seminar. The seminar will be held at the nature center located in the River Market District of downtown Little Rock between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. It is designed for landowners with 40 acres or more they want to manage for wildlife. Hunting clubs, leases and individual property owners are invited to attend to gather ideas on wildlife habitat management.

Free parking is available along streets in the River Market District. Seating is limited, so call the nature center office at (501) 907-0636 to register. >

**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:

Furbearers

Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31.
Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed.

Deer**Archery**

Statewide: Oct. 1-Feb. 28

Muzzleloader

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 3, 4A, 5A, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 15: Oct. 17-25 and Dec. 19-21
Zones 9, 12, 16, 16A and 17: Oct. 17-25 and Dec. 29-31
Zones 4, 4B, 5 and 5B: Closed

Modern Gun

Zones 1, 1A, 2, 3, 6, 6A, 7, 8, 8A, 10 and 11: Nov. 14-Dec. 6

Zone 4: Nov. 14-15

Zone 5: Nov. 14-15 and Nov. 21-22

Zones 4A, 5A, 13, 14 and 15: Nov. 14-Dec. 13

Zones 4B and 5B: Nov. 14-22

Zones 9 and 12: Nov. 14-Dec. 20

Zones 16, 16A and 17: Nov. 14-Dec. 25

Christmas Holiday Modern Gun Deer Hunt is Dec. 26-28 statewide.

The Special Youth Modern Gun Deer Hunt is Nov. 7-8 and Jan. 2-3 statewide excluding certain WMAs where a modern gun or muzzleloader permit is required to hunt.

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. 17-25

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

Modern Gun

Zones 1 and 2: Nov. 9-30

Zone 5: Dec. 5-13

Zone 5A: Nov. 28-Dec. 13

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. 7-8

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

Fall Turkey Season

Archery

Statewide: Oct. 1-Feb. 28

Firearms

Zones 3, 5B, 6 and 17: Oct. 26-Nov. 1

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

Elk

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4 and A: Sept. 21-25

Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, A and B: Dec. 7-11

Zone A: Sept. 21-25 and Dec. 7-11

Zone B: Dec. 7-11

Quail

Statewide: Nov. 1-Feb. 7

Rabbit

Statewide: Sept. 1-Feb. 28

Fall Squirrel Season

Statewide: Sept. 5-Feb. 28

Spring 2010 Squirrel Season

May 15-June 13

Crow

Statewide: Sept. 5-Feb. 20

Furbearers (2009-2010)

Gray fox, mink, red fox and striped skunk hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, Feb. 28

Opossum Hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1- sunset Feb. 28

Bobcat hunting: sunrise, Oct. 1-sunset, Feb. 28 and from the first day of spring turkey season through the last day of spring squirrel season.

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. 4-sunset, Feb. 28

Raccoon night hunting: sunset, July 1-sunrise, Aug. 31

Raccoon day or night hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31

Muskrat, nutria, beaver hunting: sunrise, Sept. 1-sunset, March 31

Badger, spotted skunk and weasel hunting: Closed

Furbearer trapping (other than beaver, coyote, muskrat, nutria): sunrise, Nov. 14-sunset, Feb. 21

Coyote trapping: sunrise, Aug. 1-sunset, March 31

Beaver, muskrat, nutria trapping: sunrise, Nov. 14-sunset, March 31

The 2010 deer season opening dates:

Deer (archery): Friday, Oct. 1, 2010

Deer (muzzleloader): Saturday, Oct. 16, 2010

Deer (modern gun): Saturday, Nov. 13, 2010

2010 Spring Turkey Public Meetings:

Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

2010-2011 General Public Meetings:

Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2010, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

For further hunting changes regarding bag limits, deer zone boundaries, game checking and other information go to www.agfc.com.

Coming up in the outdoors

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

Aug. 8 – Scimitar Shrine Director's Staff Bass Tournament, Arkansas River behind Alltel Arena, 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Entry fee is \$150 per boat with 75% payback. For more information call Chris at (501) 749-3025 or Tom at (501) 834-6005.

Aug. 8 – Wildlife Field Day. The U of A Division of Agriculture in Calhoun County will be hosting the field day at the Woodberry Park Community Center beginning at 10 a.m. This event will bring in professionals from across the state to discuss many different wildlife management aspects. The cost for the program will be \$10 payable to the Calhoun County Extension Office at the door. The fee covers fact sheets and other literature. Due to size limitation, there will be a maximum of 50 people allowed to participate in this program. Interested participants please preregister prior to Aug. 5 at 4 p.m. Lunch will be provided. To preregister, or for any additional information, please contact the Calhoun County Extension Office at (870) 798-2231.

Aug. 8 – Reekie Gardner Jr. White River Bass Classic Tournament, team bass fishing (two people per team). Entry fee is \$65 per boat. Registration will be held at B & R Marine, 840 Batesville Blvd. in Batesville, Aug. 6-7, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call (870) 793-8275.

Aug. 13 - Wildlife Habitat Management for Landowners, 7 p.m.-8 p.m., Witt Stephens Jr. Central Arkansas Nature Center in Little Rock. There are many things landowners can do to make property more attractive to wildlife. Jason Honey and Matt Mourot, wildlife biologists for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, will discuss topics such as fall food plots, native plants, controlled burning to benefit wildlife, forest canopy openings, water resources and more. The seminar is designed for landowners with 40 acres or more to manage. Hunting clubs and leases and individual property owners are invited to attend for ideas on wildlife habitat management. The Central Arkansas Nature Center is located within Riverfront Park in the River Market District of downtown Little Rock. Free parking is available along streets in the River Market District. Seating is limited, so call the nature center office at (501) 907-0636 to register to attend.

Aug 15-16 - Arkansas Catfishing Association tournament at lakes Millwood and Earling in southwest Arkansas. Open tournament to the general public. Double catch donated to Hope in Action charity. For more information contact Paul Schweyer of Barling at paulschweyer@sbcglobal.net or (479) 452-1652 or (479) 719-0474, or Lee Fields of Pope County at leefields@centurytel.net or (479) 331-0399 or cell (870) 577-7289.

Aug. 22 – East Arkansas Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Southland Gaming and Racing Park in West Memphis. For more information contact Jason Rodgers at (870) 225-6642 or agoinc4450@aol.com.

Aug. 28 – Ouachita Flyway Chapter of Delta Waterfowl banquet, Caddo Event Center in Caddo Valley near Arkadelphia. Social starts at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner. Tickets are \$40 for a single, \$60 for a couple, student discounts also are available. The chapter requests that all people planning to attend call or email Tommy Womack at (870) 230-3215, tommy_womack@hotmail.com.

Sept. 12 – University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton Skeet Shoot, 2 p.m. at the Point Remove Lodge in Hattiesville. This year Andy Miller is scheduled to do a shooting exhibition. Again this year, the Ducks Unlimited Green Wing shoot for kids ages 8-14 will be featured. For more information call Kristi Strain at (501) 977-2085 or by email at strain@uaccm.edu.

Sept. 12 – Jacksonville Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, old Wal-Mart building in Jacksonville. For more information contact Matt Robinson at (501) 412-8055 or jacksonvilledu@aol.com.

Sept. 17 – North Little Rock Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Sherwood Forest in Sherwood. For more information contact Pat Mahan at (501) 743-6154 or northlittlerock@yahoo.com.

Sept. 25 – Toad Suck Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Knights of Columbus Hall in Conway. For more information contact Jeremy Abbott at (501) 428-3161 or jerabb@yahoo.com.

Sept. 26 – South Logan County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, 1st Baptist Church in Booneville. For more information contact Josh Boersma at (479) 518-4250 or boersma66@yahoo.com.

Oct. 5 – Benton County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, The Quail Barn in Bentonville. For more information contact Todd Etzel at (501) 613-1874 or toddetzel@sbcglobal.net or Blayne Estes at (479) 721-3394 or baestes@cox.net.

Nov. 3 – Marion Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, The Greens at Marion Clubhouse in Marion. For more information contact Irwin Burton at (870) 739-3442 or redneck_squirrel@yahoo.com.

Nov. 19 – Phillips County Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Phillips County Community College in Helena-West Helena. For more information contact Jason Smith at (870) 995-6103 or jason6868@att.net.

Nov. 19 – Paragould Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Paragould National Guard Armory. For more information contact Jerrod Brown at (870) 215-3212 or william.brown@sma.astate.edu.

Dec. 5 – Clear Creek Chapter of Ducks Unlimited membership banquet, Alma Boys and Girls Club. For more information contact Jeremy Teff at (479) 409-4646 or duckranger@gmail.com.

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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