

**SUMMARY FOR COMMITTEE ITEM  
2016 Fisheries Regulation Proposals**

**Committee:** Regulations Committee

**Date:** July 15, 2015

**Title:** 2016 Fisheries Regulation Proposals

**Explanation:**

The Fisheries Division recommends the attached fishing regulation changes. The following pages include a listing and brief explanation of the changes followed by the recommended Code Book language to be adopted. A Minute Order will be brought before you at the Regulation Committee meeting in August for approval. All approved changes would go into effect January 1, 2016.

**Prepared by:** Chris Racey  
Chief of Fisheries

## **2016 Proposed Fishing Regulations Public Input**

A survey through the AGFC website was used to collect public input on the following fishing regulation proposals. Results of the survey are attached. There were 960 participants and public opinion was generally positive on all the proposals. Fisheries staff recommends Commission approval of all proposals except for those involving Lake Erling (Proposal 11 and 12).

- 1. Reduce combined black bass creel limit on War Eagle Creek from the statewide limit of 10 to 2 black bass per day**
- 2. Clarify the paddlefish snagging harvest daily limit on the Black and St. Francis Rivers**
- 3. Clarify the downstream definition of the Arkansas River in the Arkansas Post Canal**
- 4. Remove the daily creel limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee**
- 5. Remove rod and pole only fishing restriction from Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee**
- 6. Update Codebook to Correct Catfish Regulation for Lake Chicot**
- 7. Filleting of Commercial Fish Prohibited on While on Water**
- 8. Change commercial fishing special season on Calion Lake to avoid conflict with duck hunters**
- 9. Implement a 16-inch minimum length limit and a 5 fish creel limit for Largemouth Bass on Lower White Oak Lake**
- 10. Elimination of daily aggregate limit for game fish**
- 11. Provide a Limited Commercial Fishing Season for Lake Erling**
- 12. Changes to catfish creel limits on Lake Erling**
- 13. Anglers who place natural structures (i.e. cane or woody stakes) in Commission-owned lakes for the purpose of hanging yo-yos or limblines, will be required to label those structures in the same manner as yo-yos or limblines. The use of unlabeled stakes made of wood or cane would be unlawful**
- 14. Replace the current 9-inch minimum length limit with a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Harris Brake Lake**
- 15. Create a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Lake Overcup**
- 16. Include Van Buren Municipal Park Pond in the Community Fishing Program Restrictions**
- 17. Closure of Commercial Aquatic Turtle Harvest in a Portion of Mississippi County**
- 18. Prohibition of Take or Possession of Collared Lizards**

**19. Clarification on the regulations regarding use of artificial lures with single, barbless hooking points in the Cow Shoals C&R area (Greers Ferry Tailwater) and in the three catch and release areas on the Little Missouri River (Narrows Tailwater)**

**AGFC Online Survey Results for Proposed 2016 Fishing Regulations (960 respondents)**

<b>Proposed Regulations</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<b>Reduce combined black bass creel limit on War Eagle Creek from the statewide limit of 10 to 2 black bass per day</b>	56%	6%	38%
<b>Clarify the paddlefish snagging harvest daily limit on the Black and St. Francis Rivers</b>	54%	4%	42%
<b>Clarify the downstream definition of the Arkansas River in the Arkansas Post Canal</b>	58%	1%	41%
<b>Remove the daily creel limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee</b>	58%	5%	37%
<b>Remove rod and pole only fishing restriction from Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee</b>	50%	9%	41%
<b>Update Codebook to Correct Catfish Regulation for Lake Chicot</b>	59%	1%	40%
<b>Filleting of Commercial Fish Prohibited on While on Water</b>	62%	15%	23%
<b>Change commercial fishing special season on Calion Lake to avoid conflict with duck hunters</b>	52%	9%	39%
<b>Implement a 16-inch minimum length limit and a 5 fish creel limit for Largemouth Bass on Lower White Oak Lake</b>	58%	8%	34%
<b>Elimination of daily aggregate limit for game fish</b>	59%	12%	29%
<b>Provide a Limited Commercial Fishing Season for Lake Erling</b>	39%	9%	52%
<b>Changes to catfish creel limits on Lake Erling</b>	42%	4%	54%

<b>Anglers who place natural structures (i.e. cane or woody stakes) in Commission-owned lakes for the purpose of hanging yo-yos or limblines, will be required to label those structures in the same manner as yo-yos or limblines. The use of unlabeled stakes made of wood or cane would be unlawful</b>	60%	20%	20%
<b>Replace the current 9-inch minimum length limit with a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Harris Brake Lake</b>	57%	9%	34%
<b>Create a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Lake Overcup</b>	57%	8%	35%
<b>Include Van Buren Municipal Park Pond in the Community Fishing Program Restrictions</b>	42%	5%	53%
<b>Closure of Commercial Aquatic Turtle Harvest in a Portion of Mississippi County</b>	32%	11%	57%
<b>Prohibition of Take or Possession of Collared Lizards</b>	50%	5%	45%
<b>Clarification on the regulations regarding use of artificial lures with single, barbless hooking points in the Cow Shoals C&amp;R area (Greers Ferry Tailwater) and in the three catch and release areas on the Little Missouri River (Narrows Tailwater)</b>	53%	5%	42%



## Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Little Rock, Arkansas  
Fisheries Management Division

### MEMORANDUM

<b>TO:</b>	Ricky Chastain Deputy Director	<b>DATE:</b>	July 3, 2015
<b>FROM:</b>	Chris Racey Chief of Fisheries	<b>CC:</b>	Mike Knoedl Jeff Crow Ben Batten Jason Olive Jim Goodhart Kim Mullins Beverly Birdsong Unit Budget Managers Fisheries File
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Public Comment Summary for 2016 Proposed Fishing Regulations		

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Each year during the fishing regulations cycle, the Fisheries Division takes public comment on regulation proposals. Comments were received through an online survey available through the AGFC website (960 respondents; a decrease from last year's 1,357 respondents). **Please note, comments are recorded as received on survey.**

### Public Comments on 2016 Proposed Regulations

- 1. Reduce combined black bass creel limit on War Eagle Creek from the statewide limit of 10 to 2 black bass per day**

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
56%	6%	38%

## Comments

- 5 would be fine
- A temporary measure only. Once the catches per hour increase, raise the limit back up.
- But if its not enforced it will not matter and if the other things like forage aren't there it will not help
- Cutting from 10 to 2 seems bit drastic
- How would that affect the limit on Beaver Lake?
- I agree given the numbers above a reduction is needed, however a limit of 2 seems too much
- I am disagreeing because you are not giving all the information. What happened in 2012 and 2013? If there is a significant decrease then the creel limit should be reduced, but because you had significant decrease 1 year out of 5 does not justify the creel limit being cut from 10 to 2. Maybe 10 to 5, but not to almost nothing.
- I have fished War Eagle Creek all spring and the fish of all species isn't there. I live on the creek and have a boat slip with a boat in it and fished this spring. My license has expired now and I'm not in a hurry to renew it because the War Eagle Creek is overfished.
- I have never fished this creek.
- I have no problems catching them
- i think that if you are going to lower the limit it would be better if you didnt lower it by 8 fish but lower it by 6 instead
- I think you should cut the limit in half to start!
- I would say nobody can keep a single Black or Bronzeback bass. There are too many good fish for eating to kill of our potential trophies!
- I would support a huge reduction in Smallmouth Bass limits
- i'd be interested in a biologist opinion of perhaps 3 per day, and a slot limit
- Just do a catch and release program for a number of years
- Maybe drop it too 5. Not 2.
- Maybe six Two is too big of a decrease
- Reduce to 5
- Smallmouth must be 18" limit 1.
- Sound like numbers tell what needs to happen
- Spend the resources to fall brush piles into beaver lake. Where better fishing would bring more dollars into fishing industry in the area.
- Stock Small-mouth, rock bass and/or Arkansas Bass
- This is extreme! I would like to see a limit imposed of 5 like on most lakes. I am a catch and release guy, but i am finding that too much catch and release and also do harm. So finding a balance of take a few & releasing a few is a great thing!
- This seems like a very drastic drop. I can understand dropping to 4 or 5, but going to 2 seems very harsh. Perhaps a plan to keep stock up rather than being solely reactive.
- You do not have a catch rate of that in the Arkansas River, but it is due to our state not working with the CORPS to make sure we have ample backwater areas.

## 2. Clarify the paddlefish snagging harvest daily limit on the Black and St. Francis Rivers

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

## Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
54%	4%	42%

## Comments

- A daily limit of one simply means more will be thrown back when snagged. It won't stop the problem since it's a by catch anyway. The daily limit of one would stop an angler from keeping a mortally wounded fish if he has already snagged one.
- all the laws are and have always been difficult to read, none of us are lawyers, don't expect us to understand what we have to take to a lawyer to read, KISS is the best, you can still write out a law and not make a puzzle! i should not have to track down AGFC officer to explain what could be made so simple.
- Assumption" only one paddlefish will be snagged. Keeping 2 would exceed limit??
- By this wording, you must keep the first paddlefish you snag. By this logic you would be required to stop snagging immediately lest you snag a second paddlefish which would put you over your limit. The wording needs to be revised or clarified.
- chances are if people are forced to keep paddlefish they will dump them elsewhere and not eat them. Would rather see it released to live another day
- Honestly I believe snagging, trot lines, bank lines, jugs and limb lines should be outlawed
- I agree on retaining however do not know the current limit.
- I am a sportsman and I don't support snagging for fish . . . . period.
- I believe that due to the one fish limit, anglers should be able to release the non-target paddlefish. Having to keep the unwanted fish would unjustly increase fishing violations.
- I disagree because the limit for catfish is greater than the limit for paddlefish. So if I am unlucky enough to snag a paddlefish on my first cast then I am done for the day seeing as if I were to catch one more paddlefish as by catch I would have broken the law. I disagree with this. If I spend the time, money and energy to travel to an area to snag and I catch the wrong fish right off the bat then I must go home or risk snagging another one and receiving a ticket. No thanks.
- I don't even have to read this. Anytime it says "clarify rules" then I am all for it. If ignorance is no excuse for breaking a law then ignorance should be no excuse for writing said law.
- I have never fished these rivers
- I think paddlefish should not be kept. Snagging should be banned.
- I understood it to be unlawful to release any snagged fish.
- If an angler snags a paddlefish on his first attempt of snagging a catfish, he must retain the paddlefish and quit snagging for the day in order to not breach the paddlefish daily limit?
- If paddlefish are routinely snagged while catfish are the target fish, and if the populations can support it, increase the limit to two per angler
- If there was a one paddle fish limit while snagging then if you snagged one you could no longer snag for the rest of that day. Because you never know what you are going to get while snagging.
- If you make an limit of one and require you to retain all fish, the fishing would be limited severely or people will ignore the regulations, another alternative should be found.
- Make snagging legal year around below dam at paneway and regulate spoonbill and flathead
- No snagging for that month
- Once the paddle fish is caught you are finished for the day
- should be no snagging season
- The regulation should also require that once the snagging limit of any specie is reached, the angler may no longer continue to snag.
- The snagging on the St. Francis river at the Kennett Bridge has got out of hand in my opinion, they are hammering this every day during that 45 day season. I personally think they snagging should be shut down here..

### 3. Clarify the downstream definition of the Arkansas River in the Arkansas Post Canal

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
58%	1%	41%

### Comments

- Always good to clarify. Hopefully signage also matches up
- How about down stream from dam 2 to the Mississippi River also. We have had problems with game wardens in the past when the river backs up into Morgan Point they want to enforce the Arkansas River lengths. But the rules stop at dam 2 correct?
- More definitive information leads to less chance of a citation
- See previous answer
- That's a little too upstream for me

#### 4. Remove the daily creel limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
58%	5%	37%

### Comments

- ALLOW THE OTHER PREDATOR FISHES DO THE JOB , KEEP THE DAILY LIMIT FOR THE FISHERMEN.THAT IS NOT GONNA HURT PEOPLE.
- And a size limit.
- Cr
- Don't remove a creel limit, just raise the daily limit
- Don't see why.
- I agree that removing the creel limit is the right move. However, removing it indefinitely seems a bit extreme. Would it be possible to have a set date range which there is no limit and have a raised limit the rest of the time? Just a though.
- I don't think it should be removed completely, up the limit yes but not remove it.
- i'm not a biologist, but it seems to me that complete removal of a daily limit seems a bit wreckless. Perhaps you can increase the limit, generously, but put a cap on it
- Introduce flathead catfish possible if not present in the lake to reduce numbers?
- Introduce other predators, like flatheads?
- Just increase the limit, but don't remove it.
- Keep some type of limit!
- Need this in more places
- Need to take the limit off. Done the same thing at lake chicot. It has helped
- No creel limit could easily have people abusing that privilege. Unless the numbers are absurdly high, a high limit may be a better option than simply no limit.



- Proper management starts with making sure there isn't an over population and stunted fish.
- Remove catfish and stock in other ponds and lakes in that part of the state. This would benefit AGFC by cutting back on wear and tear plus fuel usage of trucks traveling from west Arkansas net pens.
- Should allow yo yo's jugs etc
- Slot Limit
- this is a positive change for the lake
- With the abundance of catfish and their popularity as a food fish, I feel the statewide creel limit for catfish should be increased per day. It would be beneficial to increase it to 12 or 15 in certain popular catfish areas like the Arkansas River, Lake Dardnell, St. Francis, and White River.

## 5. Remove rod and pole only fishing restriction from Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
50%	9%	41%

### Comments

- Agree but only for catfish.
- Agree to trotline, limb line and rod and reel only....
- Commercial fisheries would decimate a thriving population. Increase catchable limit by rod and reel as has been done with other successful fisheries like crappie.
- I agree with this decision or regulation.
- I think Trotlines and limb lines should be banned in all lakes, rivers, and stream in Arkansas.
- I usually believe that fishing needs to be only done with rod and pole, but I trust your judgement in more needing to be caught.
- Many memories are made while yo yo fishing and trotlining. G & F is big on hunter/fisherman participation and this will get more people on this lake.
- Maybe not trotlines. Limb lines, Jugs and YoYos. Trotlines are commonly left in the water which is annoying to other fisherman trying to pole fish. Limb lines, YoYos and jugs are usually manned while they are out.
- Might need to add jug or (noodle) fishing
- Please please please no netting.
- Removing pole only restriction will allow floaties and yoyos for crappie and the crappie are just starting to come back in Greenlee.
- Removing this restriction will also open up harvesting of other species other than channel catfish.
- S
- Should have type of numbers perday
- Strongly agree
- There will be unnecessary by catch. Should be rod and reel statewide on all bodies of water
- this is not a bad idea, but a boater and fisherman, these can be dangerous. Lake Conway is a perfect example of this. They are every were, and can be great to catch fish but also make boat fishing a real pain. people will put them up on everything every were, and make it almost impossible to fish at times. A limited amount per person should be enforced.

- Trotlines and limb lines are a danger to all species, including humans. ANY fish, amphibian, etc can be caught on them, with no one nearby to release them before irreparable damage is done. Rod fishing removes this threat, by allowing the fisherman to immediately release non-target species unharmed.

## 6. Update Codebook to Correct Catfish Regulation for Lake Chicot

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
59%	1%	40%

### Comments

- Add size limit too!
- Being specific with what type of catfish allows anglers to abide by the AGFC rules and will help enforcement officers when confronting them. People tend to abide by specific rules rather than break them so they can avoid issues.
- Clarify rules!!!! Some nice flatheads in that lake.
- Clear and definitive rules and regulations help avoid unnecessary fines for not being in compliance
- I think there should be a legal limit. A generous number, but capped.
- remove limits on all catch
- Some people cannot difference in blue, bull and channel catfish. if flatheads are what you want to protect state a limit on flatheads.
- The LCCAC is a useless entity.

## 7. Filleting of Commercial Fish Prohibited on While on Water

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
62%	15%	23%

### Comments

- Add verbiage to include something like "unless at boat ramp/take out destination"
- Agree how ever believe you should be able to filet fish while on water to use for trot line bait
- Also would like to add further to the law to include banning dumping fish carcasses at boat ramps. Many of us camp near ramp facilities and when those commercial guys clean their fish it makes the ramps a buzzard orgy that smells like Oprahs thighs.
- Commercial fisherman have no limits then what does it matter? Sounds like a ticket was taken to court and beaten to me and someone was butthurt.
- Easier to get rid of fish waste and provides food for the ecosystem.

- Filleting will create problems for proper fish identification for authorities
- Fish should be left whole i think scalling and gutting is fine
- Fresh is Fresh.....
- I absolutely don't want fish filleting on the water.
- I agree only if there are length limits in place for the water in question.
- I agree to an extent, on the water i believe is a good suggestion. But once they are on the bank they should have some record of fish before cleaning. Things like hunting license. Only if they are going to clean them by the bank.
- I don't understand what the problem would be with filleting fish commercially on the water except maybe placing restrictions as to where it can't be done.
- I have no reasonable issue with NOT dressing fish while ON the water to protect outlaws. As long as we can clean them when we shore up I'm good. It's nice to clean them at the bank and put the scraps back in the water for other fish and wildlife to eat. Not only that but people dumping scraps in odd places when they clean them at home.
- I see people filleting fish all the time and throwing the remains back in the lakes
- I think commercial fishing should be banned in Arkansas. Protect our resources for sport fishermen here in Arkansas.
- I would hate to know that I had take home what fish I had to clean. I live in the city so my disposal options are limited.
- If they are literally on the water and filleting fish, then I agree that it should be prohibited. But on land, near the water should be allowed.
- It makes it harder to enforce limits if filleting takes place on the water
- Let them fillet on water, but also force people to return the carcass back to the river. Plenty of nutrients come the returned waters.
- Many times its a lot easier/less time consuming to fillet the fish while fishing.the quicker the fish is filleted after catch the better it taste!
- Or modify the regulation where at least 2 inches of skin has to stay on the fillet so the type of fish that the fillet was taken from can be identified
- Rationale for this regulation???
- Should of already been a law
- some people don't have a place to clean or fillet fish inland plus is would offer a food source for fish such as gar or paddle fish instead of eating our game fish like bass or my favorite crappie
- The scraps from the filets are just fish food for the fish.
- There were many times that people would leave fish carcasses on the shore of Wells Lake in Fort Smith and this is a very unpleasant sight and odor to others; especially when they are there to relax. .
- This does not appear to be a widespread, chronic problem in need of a special regulation.
- Unless you pose a filet minimum size requirement, it makes it too easy to keep short fish. Should also impose a regulation requiring a 1" wide minimum strip of skin for identification purposes. California F&W already does this. It's been the law there for years and makes sense
- What does it hurt to clean commercial fish on the water if you have a commercial license? It may help to keep the fish from ruining.
- Yes, I'd hate to see a pile of dead fish in the water

## 8. Change commercial fishing special season on Calion Lake to avoid conflict with duck hunters

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

## Survey Results

<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<b>52%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>39%</b>

### Comments

- Avid fisherman as well as hunter. There is no reason we can't get along together. Duck hunters do not need any special consideration.
- Duck Hunters by far out support commercial fishing for the economic growth of Arkansas as well as image and prestige.
- Duck hunting brings so much revenue into Arkansas, it needs to be protected. Public land is already getting cramped.
- eliminate all commercial fishing
- How about moving duck season on in the year. I duck hunt and the ducks are showing up later than they did 15 years ago.
- I am not a duck hunter but do not agree to this
- I love duck hunting, but its not right to take from the commercial fishermen because others don't like it.
- it is a little bit too dangerous for my taste
- Lets not upset the duck hunters
- Maybe open the season 16 days earlier to not hurt the guys who rely on that season for income.
- Not likely that missing a few days of "commercial fishing" on Calion is going to starve anyone. Place is a garhole to begin with.
- Why should duck hunter have top priority?

### 9. Implement a 16-inch minimum length limit and a 5 fish creel limit for Largemouth Bass on Lower White Oak Lake

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff recommends that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<b>58%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>34%</b>

## Comments

- another year of catch and release would be better , we need more trophy bass fisheries in ark.
- Bigger fish in a few years.
- But i feel in this case a 3 bass limit would be a better suited.
- Do not let anyone keep any largemouth of any length!
- Give them another year without harvest, then implement an 18" MLL and creel limit of 2
- Gives the bass more of a chance to mature
- How about 15"
- I feel the fish should be protected to spawn. I'm ready for this lake to come back like it was before drawdown.
- I really want to start fishing White Oak again also with the option to keep what I catch but I would be willing to wait one more year to help ensure that there'll be plenty of fish in the future.
- I think the length is to big I have seen fish stay in the 14-15inch for years 15 inch is plenty long and 14 better
- Impose a slot size. The larger fish are your spawners. Honestly my opinion of AR bass fishing is that it sucks. I rarely catch a bass at 15". Most are 10-12.
- It seems it would be better to wait another year and make sure the population and size are where they need to be rather than speculate on the projected growth.
- Keep it like it for another two years then put a slot on it
- Need a slot limit instead
- Not everybody wants a wall hanger. Lots of people just want a meal. Bass like the whitetail are being managed for the few, not the many!
- One of the best lakes I fished as a kid and it continues to be a favorite hope to get more big bass out of it in the future
- the AGFC should capitalize on the increased growth of the lake, and try to manage this part of the white oak lake complex for trophy largemouth bass with a larger minimum length, followed by a trophy slot. The upper lake offers plenty of eaters.
- there should be a slot limit if shocking of the lake proves an abundance of teen sized black bass trophy bass 18 inches and larger should be regarded as a way to bring trophy fisherman to the lake
- Think it too early as we know many will harvest below the size limit and also the number limit. I think one more year at least maybe even two.
- This will help the bass population but it will not stop people from removing the larger trophy size bass fro the fishery. A slot limit would be best for the bass anglers and the people who fish for fish to eat. A slot limit would ensure the release of the trophy size bass which are very delicate and hard to obtain in most fisheries.
- Wait one more year, then open a restricted season.
- why not a slot limit

## 10. Elimination of daily aggregate limit for game fish

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

## Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
59%	12%	29%

## Comments

- 75 fish is enough for commercial use or a large gathering, reduce it!
- Again, I suggest to increase the daily limit for catfish for high catfish populations areas. Maybe put a size limit it on some fisheries to create trophy catfish opportunities. The catfish is a great Arkansas resource and it needs to be enhanced.
- Definitely not and I think the crappie limit should be reduced and a statewide minimum length should be established. Also think flathead catfish should have a one fish over twenty or thirty pound daily limit!
- Do not understand what this is referring to, commercial fishing or spot fishing
- due to the fact that commercial fishing is legal in arkansas this may cause a drastic drop of fish in certain bodies of water due to the fact that the fisherman has no limit and will not allow for that area to be shared
- Fisherman I have seen on lake ouachita are dishonest to a fault on what they interpret as a legal limit of fish. Removing this agg limit would decimate certain fish populations.
- I believe the aggregate limit needs to be lower. There also needs to be a possession limit (what's at home). I feel some bodies of water are over fished which has greatly hurt the fishery. I don't see large fish at all
- I like the aggregate limit unless otherwise specified. Many areas in NW Arkansas are over harvested.
- My opinion is to lower the amount of 75 fish daily to 30. Who needs 75 fish a day ?
- No one follows aggregate or possession limits.
- There are already limits in place to protect each species. Enforce the limits and dump this rule. If I can catch a limit of every fish in those waters in one day I should get a trophy instead of a ticket.
- This can be a double edged sword!
- you cannot promote "game hawging"

## 11. Provide a Limited Commercial Fishing Season for Lake Erling

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Due to changes in the circumstances, staff members do not recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

## Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
39%	9%	52%

## Comments

- AGF could trap these fish and use them in stocking programs.
- AN INDIVIDUAL SHOULD ALSO BE ALLOWED TO USE FIDDLER NETS FOR THEIR PERSONAL USE, AND NOT FOR COMMERCIAL OR RESELL. THIS SHOULD BE ALLOWED YEAR ROUND.
- By doing this, Im sure the channel catfishing will not be near as good in the Future. Right now it is awesome on Rod and reel. Correct me if I'm wrong , Please. Afraid so many people that live and have places on this lake will take advantage of this commercial fishing season year round resulting in a major loss of the channel catfish. Something like this would be traumatic to the People who rod and reel fish . It's nice to go over there and catch these fish on rod and reel. No other lake like it.
- Don't let dates conflict with hunting season.

- Good idea for this lake. Wouldn't hurt to take the channel catfish limit away similar to grand and chicot.
- Have at it
- I agree but only for maybe three years until the population is back in check.
- I agree that there is an over abundance of channel cat on Lake Erling.
- Just remove the limit on channel catfish first. Allow slat traps only. Commercial season not required.
- Long as you continue sampling and reduce as required.
- Not enough ramp space to accommodate crappie fisherman last year. Would be additional boats.
- Put stipulation that only channel cats may be kept and all others are to be released.
- Raise the recreational limit to 20 per day.
- Think you are right on about the problem. Don't need to bother the flatheads or the big high fin blues that we like to catch on jugs and trotlines.
- This should have been done years ago thats y erling doesnt have the bream,bass,and crappie like it did years ago.i fish this lake a 100 + times a year
- With proper over seeing to be sure that over fishing does not occur.

## 12. Changes to catfish creel limits on Lake Erling

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Due to changes in the circumstances, staff members do not recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
42%	4%	54%

### Comments

- AGF could trap and use these fish in restocking programs.
- Agree with this immensely.
- Agree, but believe this should be carefully monitored.
- Catch and release on flatheads under a certain length.
- Continue no hogging or noodling law. Post pictures at all landings detailing how to identify each species of catfish.
- I have noticed that the flathead population has been declining. Most trips. we don't even catch a flathead. Several years ago, we use to catch several flatheads per trip.
- I have noticed the low amount of flathead catches.
- i think if you stop season on hogging flatheads and limit commercial fisherman to one flathead and enforce it things would get better quick
- I Think one flathead is to low a number. Increase the creel on channels is ok
- If you are going to consider limiting one specific fish you may consider having a slot limit for the fish that are prime to reproduce.
- I'm a damn genius. Refer to previous answer as to where I had not read this question at that time.
- NEVER remove limits entirely for game fish
- No i say reduce it to 5 but not 1 theres more flathead in that lake than what yall think..plus have ur game wardens start doin there job in the north end of lake..plus theres to many blue cat in that lake to..
- no limit on channel-limit flathead to 3 per day

- Slot limit for bass they are a predator for catfish also. And crappie
- Well for starters there is more Flatheads in that lake than u actually think there are. How about going down to a 7 minimum limit. I have seen and caught many out there. There is no shortage

**13. Anglers who place natural structures (i.e. cane or woody stakes) in Commission-owned lakes for the purpose of hanging yo-yos or limblines, will be required to label those structures in the same manner as yo-yos or limblines. The use of unlabeled stakes made of wood or cane would be unlawful**

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
60%	20%	20%

### Comments

- Also many abandoned hooks etc are a hazard
- ban the use of yo-yo's, limb lines, and trotlines Statewide
- Bragg lake has this problem. Anglers could use floating pvc to hang yo-yos then take them up when done fishing.
- Clean up after yourself. Bunch of cane poles in the lake looks ridiculous.
- Do not see the ability to enforce. No reason to properly label.
- how would you enforce these laws?
- i agree, i would like to see the use of these band all together.
- I have come across far too many yo-yos while kayaking Lake Conway. I am never in support of this fishing method.
- I honestly do not think that people will take the responsibility or time to label the structures they put into lakes. This would be ideal but I don't thin it will happen.
- I use cane all the time in lakes for hanging yoyos. The yoyos are already labeled. It is just an excessive maintenance effort for the angler. I understand they can be considered litter but these structures are a very useful tool and my opinion of the matter stands in disagreement with regulation consideration.
- I will agree with this but if this is going to become standard then I asked why is it only limited to natural structures. If the owners name and information must be attached to the structure then it should not matter the material.
- If artificial structures ar not allowed, natural structures should not be either.
- If you limit the use of the piles to that person only, do you not think that there will be a lot more in the water and they wont just cut the tag off and leave them? I can see perhaps more debris in the water with this and not less.
- IT will not do any good without enforcement
- It would be great if enforcement was done on trotlines yo-yos, limb lines, and noodles, that are all over our lakes, and rivers without owner's imformation. I have called numerous times in regard to this on Lake Atkins, Brewer, and Dardanelle. Nothing is done that I can see. Same unmarked devices are still in place.
- Most people don't even label what they are supposed to as I have seen no evidence of anyone held accountable for this another pointless laa
- Neeps to be enforced too. Just like limb lines and yo yo fishing. There are lakes these types of fishing are left out year round unattended
- No more regulation on yo yos



- Only to metal or steel rebar etc...not on cane..it can blend into a natural culture of a lake...but, no rooted cane should be allowed in water or on the banks..must be clearly a cut cane for the purpose of fishing yo-yo's or be finned if any yo-yo's or limb lines found on live cane..it is way to invasive of a plant...
- Placing cover in a lake will benefit all species of fish and labeling such things would be pointless. Let others use it as well. As long as the yoyo is properly labeled I see no point in putting a label on a stick
- Please don't make me label cane pools!
- Put a limit on number of stakes; Tri County & Bragg lakes in south Arkansas for example are relatively small bodies of water with excessive use of stakes.
- Really. That's dumb a piece of cane isn't hazardous!
- There are some real problems associated with the use of yo-yos and limb lines in many of the lakes around this state. I am not one that is against a yo-yo or limb line but I am against the relaxed attitude of some that use those devices. I understand that we cannot have an enforcement officer on each lake to control the use of these items, but there has got to be something better. It pains me to see fish hanging on a yo-yo that are sun dried and ruined or a fish on a limb line that has a infected looking hole in it's mouth because it has been on a hook for several days. I hate I can't offer any solutions other than reducing the number of devices legal for each individual (boat limit) and possibly a season for such devices. April 1 - May 31? No devices hanging in trees at any other time of the year. Both yo-yos and limb lines are dangerous if your boat is blown by the wind under a limb that has one hanging from it as the hook gets in the boat and has the potential to get in an occupant of the boat. Those that use yo-yos or limb lines don't have to worry about my crappie jig getting hooked in their body because I have been there fishing. Lakes Conway and Old Town are 2 of the worst I've ever been on. There's trees in each that are virtually impossible to fish due to the number of devices hanging around them.
- There needs to be no more regulation on alternative fishing methods. The device already must be labeled and needs to be enforced. You cannot consider Natural/Biodegradable things as "litter". Further more, people will still not "Label" them. Troutlines require a label but how many do you see strung out without a label? This will not work. These are NOT a boating hazard..
- There's no deference between using natural substances for hanging yo yo's or limblines from using natural substances for fish habitats which is exercised by Arkansas game and fish! The structures are sunken at a safe depth but with the fluctuations of Arkansas water levels they can be a unseen hazard to boaters which structures place above the water line can be visible to boaters!
- these structures are an eyesore and and should be illegal yo yoing is a unethical style of fishing
- These yoyo fisherman are taking to many game fish from our waters, I have observed many times crappie, bass, and catfish on the lines for several hours and no one around to run the yoyo's. The same with putting metal stakes in stumps and leaving them to damage fiberglass boats, this needs to be dealt with severly. It happens all the time in Cole Pile, Merasical, and back water areas on the river.
- This is basically an enforcement nightmare. if the material is natural, then it will rot and take of itself. Most people hang yo-yos on existing angler placed structures, so they are being used by more than one angler. So who would be responsible for removal?
- This is one the best ideas in a long time. Using yo yo's with cane poles have really became popular in the last few years. The problem is people think the can leave them and not remove them after the quit fishing, which is a nuisance.
- This should be a must!
- This sounds goofy to me, if someone uses a limb and leaves it in the water for the next fisherman why should he leave his name on it? The yoyos he is using should have his personal info on them and that should be enough.
- too much regulation already ....takes the fun out of yo yo fishing. Provides for fishing in good places. The yo yo is already regulated.
- We have to put name on our jugs it's only fair
- WHY?

- Yes, enforce as many rules on them as possible I'm tired of seeing abandon lines

#### 14. Replace the current 9-inch minimum length limit with a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Harris Brake Lake

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

#### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
57%	9%	34%

#### Comments

- 10 inches should be state wide on any public accessible water. Reduce confusion and stop harvest of smalls in rivers.
- A crappie really needs to be 10-11" to make a good fillet. keeping small fish is not worth it, we need bigger crappie
- Also need to add Lake Atkins to the list with 10-inch min. length limit on crappie.
- At what point do you stop trying to make every fish caught being a trophy and let people enjoy the thrill of catching a fish and not worry about how long it is.
- Bigger fish = happier fisherman
- Crappie is one of my favorite fish, I would like to see the population increase.
- I believe some type of length limit on crappie should be implemented everywhere in Arkansas. People catch small crappie and keep them just to up their total. I know that the biology of different water bodies in Arkansas can be drastically different in ways, but I believe implementing a length limit everywhere could change the nature of crappie fishing in Arkansas.
- I don't see anyone enforcing the 9 in MLL. I think this is a good proposed change, but these rules are only effective if they are enforced.
- I have fished Harris Break for 50 years for bass & crappie. A 10 inch length limit is a welcome change.
- I only disagree with a change based on "consistency with the district." No one in the public knows district lines. If it's for consistency throughout the state, fine. But imaginary district lines that can change? No.
- I personally only keep crappie with a minimum 10 inch limit anywhere I fish, and would be fine with this as a state wide length limit.
- I think the length limit should be 10 inches statewide.
- I wish that was law state wide
- Might lead to better spawns
- No limit, but GFC restock recreatioal lakes regularly, for the the sake of a good fishing experience and the return value of interest of fishing for years to come.
- Should be 12 in minimum length
- That would be okay except when a crappie is fatally wounded-I hate to have to throw it back knowing it's going to die.
- This rule should be put on all lakes.

#### 15. Create a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Lake Overcup

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
57%	8%	35%

### Comments

- 10 inch statewide.
- Also for blue mt. Lake
- Also need to include Lake Atkins to the 10-inch MLL for crappie.
- As stated before, I would be happy with a state wide 10 inch minimum limit on crappie.
- i agree with a state wide 10 crappie length
- No need from my experience. The difference between a 9" and a 10" is practically nothing.
- Please!!!!
- Same answer. Plenty of 10 inch crappie on both lakes already.
- Should be 12 in minimum length
- The length limit should be 10 inches statewide.
- There should be a length limit for crappie on all Arkansas fisheries. When the length limit was established on Lake Northfork, the crappie fishing greatly improved and has stayed good for sometime now. I often observe fishermen on Greers Ferry keeping all sizes of crappie. I feel that the size limits might improve our state's quality for crappie.
- This needs to be done statewide
- too small of a lake for length limit. look at what happened at lake Charles. 10" limit went into effect and a few years later overstocked with tiny fish.

### 16. Include Van Buren Municipal Park Pond in the Community Fishing Program Restrictions

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
42%	5%	53%

### Comments

- A little more detail about what restrictions are going to take place is needed.
- Are there enough bodies to enforce this area?
- As long as it stays open to all anglers.
- I agree if the game and fish is actively maintaining this reservoir. If the AGFC is not actively maintaining it by stocking, water sampling, fertilizing, ect then I would disagree.
- If city owned, city should decide.
- If it is private owned and private stocked no regulation should be state enforced. This is an overreach. Let Van Buren implement city codes to be enforced by their city police or their code enforcement officer.
- if its there we should all be allowed to use it
- People rarely catch fish out of this lake. It is so hard to fish during the lake spring and summer

months due to the thik grass in the lake. There is so much grass in the lake that you cant fish. It is really hard to take a kid because they are constinatley fighting the grass on the banks. Im an avid fisherman and this lake is hard to fish. How about a clean out of the banks to help people better fish.? This lake has good bass but you cant get to them due to all the grass on the baks.

#### 17. Closure of Commercial Aquatic Turtle Harvest in a Portion of Mississippi County

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

##### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
32%	11%	57%

##### Comments

- ban commercial turtle harvest in the State.
- save the turtle
- There are so many turtles in this compound that regulation on specific turtles should not be implimented
- We have enough governmental studies. Closing a certain area and not allowing typical conditions would skew a study anyhow.

#### 18. Prohibition of Take or Possession of Collared Lizards

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

##### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
50%	5%	45%

##### Comments

- A captive breeding program should be used to reintroduce them back into the wild. There should also be an exception that allows private ownership requiring a letter from AGFC as well as proof of captive breeding/purchase
- Do whatever you can to protect these critters, Kelly Irwin!
- If there was a strongly agree on this one I would have used it here

#### 19. Clarification on the regulations regarding use of artificial lures with single, barbless hooking points in the Cow Shoals C&R area (Greers Ferry Tailwater) and

## in the three catch and release areas on the Little Missouri River (Narrows Tailwater)

Public comment on this regulation was generally positive. *Staff members recommend that the Commission adopt this regulation change.*

### Survey Results

Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
53%	5%	42%

### Comments

- Barb less only!
- Clarity should already be of the upmost priority when dealing with the general public. I have a feeling if more rules were clarified then infractions would decline dramatically. I personally have called wardens numerous times to clarify rules of one kind or another.
- I agree with the proposal and I also propose the closing of the Cow shoals area during the brown trout spawn. However, a better alternative would instead be to introduce "rest days" and prevent any fishing activity every other day just on cow shoals and only during the spawn. Our population of "big" browns is slowly diminishing because of angling pressure during the spawn. We own a cabin on the river right in the middle of Jon's Pocket and too many times over the years have I seen dead browns over 23 inches that were washed down from cow shoals, some with hooks and flies broken off in their mouths. If AGFC is really concerned with protecting its large brown trout(The single-biggest reason Arkansas has become a national fly fishing destination) their needs to be programs implemented to protect these fish. They are being killed off in devastating numbers. For the past ten years, I, along with the other fly fishing guides that are on this river every day, have noticed a significant decrease in the population of BIG brown trout that we are seeing and catching. We all agree that this is due to too much angling pressure on spawning areas such as Cow shoals. I mean, c'mon guys, it will not kill the economy if you close cow shoals for a few days after every weekend to let the browns get in there and spawn and not be assaulted by fishermen.
- I agree. you should make more areas in the river like this. barbless hooks and catch and release.I think you should restrict the number of fisherman in Cow shoals during the spawn. They are tromping all over the spawning beds, fowl hooking the fish, and destroying the habitat.
- I always thought it was very clear, but if this will help clarify things for other anglers, I am in favor.
- I am not handicapped, but it does not set well with me when fly fishermen invade the area by the handicap area below narrows dam and causes problems I also believe that the handicap person should be allowed to keep some fish.
- I disagree with the creation of special classes of anglers with increased access to public waters; those who use fly rods. All should be able to access these waters. The areas create confusion and drives people way.
- I think all hooks should be barbless on any trout waters do to the fact that hooks are easily removable and fish have a better survival
- I think keeping the regulations consistent is the best option. If you allow multiple lures and therefore multiple single barbless hooks in the Greeks ferry tw area then keep the arrows with similar regulations.
- I totally disagree with the catch and release regulations completely. This is a stupid rule, keeping people who fish only certain areas who want to keep fish. This rule needs to be dropped. It has been a black eye for the AGFC since implemented.
- I would clarify in the book and signs
- If multiple single barbless lures are permitted, the number of lures permitted needs to be clear as well.
- Is the intent to protect the fish, because there isn't data supporting the state's stance as in other

- proposals. Many anglers don't use multiple hooks, but it's still a C&R area, so what is the harm? Does it not provide for a more enjoyable experience to catch more fish, and still not keep them?
- The use of a single-pointed dropper fly is no more harmful to the fish than a single pointed fly. I think this regulation applies more to bait fisherman to protect our trout from being caught with treble hooks and such.
  - There should be more enforcement on the Little Red. Regulations are of little use if they are never enforced.
  - This is always a confusing area. It seems like they are just waiting for unsuspecting fly fishermen to cast in the wrong direction to fine them. It needs to be very specific, the law is when you go to court!
  - V
  - why have catch and release

## Additional Comments

- 15 inch minimum length limit on largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass on Greers Ferry Lake
- A reduction of length on numerous lake should be considered and more handicapped accessible location need to be made!!!!
- Add a 10 inch minimum on black bass species on Waldron City Lake. This is to help the recruiting of younger fish. I've seen many people take 6-10 inch fish home.
- Add rod or pole only fishing regulation to Hogue Lake both of them.
- AGFC tries to manage Beaver Lake, in NW Arkansas as a trophy Striper lake. Increasing the legal length limit from 20 to 28" would certainly help do that. I fish the lake often and a 20" Striped Bass is by no means a Trophy at about 6 to 8 pounds. However typical 28" fish are averaging near or over 15lbs. Part of the reason for striped bass is to consume Gizzard shad for too large for other predatory fish to consume and again raising the length limit would benefit the lake in removal of those Larger Class Gizzard shad.
- All regs with limits and size should be state wide, not by any body of water. one lake should not be 9" and another be 10"
- Allow fishing other than rod only on shores lake, also eliminate horsepower restriction on shores and make it a no wake lake
- Allow non-commercial fishermen to use hoop nets. I have looked for where the regulations talk about this and all I can find is you need a commercial license to use this equipment. I personally would like to catch my own buffalo if it were possible.
- Allow spear fishermen to harvest spotted bass on beaver lake. They took off the length limit because of how many there are. Let them be taken by speargun! Please!
- ANY NEW REGULATIONS ON CRAPPIE FISHING IN THE LAKES AND RIVERS OF EAST AR ?
- Arkansas has some great fisheries, but I feel there could be a couple of things that could make fisheries world class. The introduction of blueback herring has made several lakes in the southeastern United States excellent bass fishing. The introduction of blueback herring into some of Arkansas large reservoirs could greatly improve the fishing for lots of species especially largemouth bass. Lake Ouachita and Degray has a big loss of its hydrilla and would benefit and Greers Ferry has a loss of its forage would greatly benefit from blueback herring. Bass fishing is a giant economic impact for Arkansas and with better fisheries it could be better. Look at some other states fisheries that draw tourism, fishermen, and large fishing tournaments such as Gunter'sville lake, Lake Fork, Grand Lake, Clark's Hill Reservoir. Thank you for all you do.
- Ban the Alabama Rig statewide. Do something to allow the growth of largemouth and spotted bass on lake Norfork.
- Beaver Lake is a terrible bass fishing lake. Everytime there is a tournament the bass are released at prairie creek and people will come down to the dock with a hook and worm and catch all the 2 to 5 pounders that are weighed in and then go home and cook them. This can be fixed by having a pontoon boat with a large live well release the tournament fish away from the docks where they won't be caught again. There are WAY too many striped bass in a Beaver Lake and not only do they eat all the shad and bait fish, but they eat small large and small mouths. Also there are way too many spotted bass. If you go to table rock you can catch a 2.5 pound spot like its nothing. There's not a 2.5 pound spot in Beaver Lake! There's too dang

many of them. There's also too much recreational boating on beaver lake but it's a smaller lake so you can't really do anything about that. It would also probably help to start stocking food for the bass. What would it hurt to drop a couple truck loads of shad in different parts of the lake? We would have the biggest bass in the country! Or even releasing tons of crawdads. The bass would get so fat it would be like reeling in a truck.

- Beaver lake striped bass need a 30" min length limit
- Beaver lake sure could use some bass stocked. We have stocked strippers and waleyes for years. I think it's time for bass to get a helping hand.
- Better amenities at boat ramps. I've noticed most lakes don't have docks. This makes it difficult for people that have disabilities, small kids, are pregnant and other issues. Not to mention it destroys boats by having to beach them in rocks or on the concrete ramp.
- Bring back the 10" length limit on lake Nimrod.
- Change bag limit on striper on Lake Ouachita to 5 a day
- Clarify commercial fishing requirements. IE if I use a trap to catch crawfish do I need a commercial fishing license? Clarify when and how limb lines, bank lines, and trot lines can be used with a sport fishing license. The regulations are confusing at first read and almost seem to suggest that if a sport fisherman wants to use a trap, limb line, bank line, or trot line, that they must first have a commercial license. Extremely confusing!
- Clarify things.
- Commercial fishing equipment to be used on the saline and ouichita for all catfish. I wish that was legal. Hoop nets but put a limit on them or something. It's bad when we can't use resources close to home. Just wanting to net a few for the freezer. Thanks.
- Create a black bass slit limit on greers ferry lake.
- Decline of the largemouth bass population on Greers Ferry Lake. Rumor is that this is due the stocking of hybrid stripers to accommodate the booming guiding business on the lake. Greers is a gorgeous lake to fish but not worth bass fishing right now.
- Do something to help fish populations on Greers Ferry. I fished it since the dam was built and have never seen the fish, specially the bass, in such bad shape. Even a lot of the hybrids caught this year have been skin and bone. I fished Greers hard for the first two weeks of April , almost every day, caught lots of bass of all kinds and never caught a single bass that weighed over 1 1/4 pounds, none. Caught several that should have weighed 2 + pounds but they looked like eels. Caught a number of walleye and they were no better. Caught hybrids that were 20 to 28 inches long, up in the bushes on craw worms, that weren't as thick as my hand. Never had a single fish spit up a shad or minnow in the water the whole 2 weeks or in a live well 3 days of tournament fishing. 200 folks fished the SWN two day tournament, a two day total of 10 bass weighing 16 pounds won it, 3.3 pound bass won big bass the first day, 2.5 won it the second day. The winning weight would have been 38 th place the year before and 45th in 2013. Souring Wings tournament the week before the SWN one was no better.
- Do something to reduce the hybrid population OR increase baitfish species numbers in Greers Ferry Lake in order to promote population of other fish
- enforce the laws of people who are what we call "White Bucket Fishermen". They come to the bank of the river after the fish are put in, catch a lot of them - way over the limit - and what ever size, and put them in a bucket they are sitting on and leave. Throw trash all over the place and are causing a lot of anger on the river banks of the rivers!
- Every effort should be placed into the eradication of the stripers you have stocked in Arkansas lakes. No other fisheries programs should be proposed or implemented until this is done. Stand up like a real man and admit you made a mistake in stocking these fish and correct this. Next, I think you should sell and regulate a bird watching license. After all you claim you are charged with their protection. So therefore those that enjoy it should have to pay for their enjoyment. Fair is fair, if not, eliminate hunting and fishing license.
- Farmers till the soil to the waters edge along portions of the east bank of Grand Lake in Chicot county. After a heavy rain approx. 1/4 of the lake is very muddy. This also allows toxins to more readily enter the lake. AGFC should consider implementing a no till buffer zone to enhance the water quality.
- Get rid of the no kill snakes law
- Give Matt in district 10 a raise!
- Good job guys and girls Thanks for what yall do. We need more crappie in lake Conway and beaverfork

- Greers ferry 15 inch minimum for smallmouth
- Greers ferry is in trouble and needs addressed. I've heard how cold weather has killed threadfin population but strange how lakes farther north not affected. It's clear hybrids and whites are hurting this lake whether or not it's acknowledged or not.
- Greers Ferry lake is in the worst shape it has ever been in and there have been multiple complaints filed to the Game and Fish here. Nobody seems to care, there have been zero changes and the lake is one of the worst fisheries in the state. There is no reason this lake can't be as good as Bull Shoals, Table Rock, or Ouchita. The hybrid program needs to be STOPPED!! They are a pointless fish, they eat everything (which is why there is hardly any shad in this lake) and they attract maybe a few weekend anglers for about a month out of the year. The money that the community of Greers Ferry, Heber Springs and surrounding communities are going to lose due to the fact that all major bass tournament trails in the state are going to pull out and take this lake off of their schedules. I know that myself and several others that live around here would gladly help stock this lake. If you guys provide the fish we will run all over the lake and stock them. A LITTLE EFFORT IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION GOES A LONG WAYS!!!
- Greers Ferry lake is in bad shape for bass fishing we need help on this lake it has been going down for the last 4 years PLEASE HELP
- I agreed to each question regarding the clarification of the regulations. Why is this even a consideration? Isn't clarification a good thing for everyone? I appreciate your work in this area. Thank you.
- I am concerned about the Little Red. The number of large fish seems to be declining. and fishing pressure is increasing. It would be great to see more enforcement on the river.
- I am glad you finally asked one question about the trout habitat in this survey. The Game and Fish commission needs to dedicate more resources to improving the trout habitat in this state.
- I caught a magnolia crappie on beaver lake are the regulations the same as the white and black crappie?
- I don't know for sure but imagine there's a lot of illegal netting going on @ Holtzclaw bridge on us hwy 360 there's the flathead population problem..on Lake Erling..i wish AGFC would start stocking the lake with more bluegill&redeer
- I fish regularly at the JFK Boat Ramp area. I would like to see a prohibition on boats launching at the JFK Ramp from travelling upstream to the dam. This area is utilized by bank fishing and hip wading fisherman and boat travel interrupts this fishery. Boats launching from the public access ramp should proceed downstream only. Those fishing from a motorized boats have the entire fishery on the river, bank fisherman and those are mostly families require a zone free of motorized boats. If not permanently how about every other year boats are restricted to downstream travel only.
- I fish the white river often and would like to see the daily limit for trout raised from 5 to 10.
- I have seen first hand that new regulations are not strictly enforced. Unless these new regulations are going to be enforced, everyone and all efforts will be both waste of time and money which are both valuable and not refundable.
- I hope this survey has helped and i like how you want our opinion
- I love what ya'll do for the hunters and fishers. Thanks a million.
- I recommend dropping the 30 crappie statewide limit. On little lakes like blue mountain and nimrod it is going to hurt the population. Also move the length limit to 10 inches statewide.
- I think that the rainbow limit on the little red needs to be changed back to 6. There are enough trout for everyone to enjoy without cutting the limit to 5.
- I think all lakes in Arkansas should have a slot limit on largemouth bass of 13-16 inch must be released.
- I think an individual should be allowed to use up to 5 hoop nets for personal use. Louisiana allows a sportsman to use up to 5 hoop nets for personal use as long as they don't sell the fish. This falls under a sportsman fishing license and not a commercial license.
- I think the extra ten fish limit for under 16 inches should be extended to blue catfish as well as the channel catfish that currently exist on the AR river. It once include both species and I see no reason for the difference on the sections of the AR river I fish.
- I think the new proposals will greatly improve fishing in Arkansas!
- I think there should be 10 inch mll on black and white crappie on lake Dardanelle
- I think there should be a straight 14 or 15 inch length limit on largemouth bass at Lake Degray. It would make measuring the fish a lot easier. In addition, I would like the community lake in Ward, AR to be stocked with trout during the winter stocking program. It is stocked with catfish on occasion but the community could benefit from the winter stocking. The lake gets heavy pressure and I feel confident that



the majority of them would be harvested. It would be nice if you only stocked it once or twice with maybe 500 trout each time.

- I would like to see a 25 hp prop and 40 hp jet motor restriction on the White river from Bull Shoals dam down to Buffalo Point. Please consider this!
- I would like to see a restriction on the locations for limb-line placement. I think possibly restricting it to tree limbs within a certain distance of the bank would be a possible solution, if not eliminating the practice altogether. Many lakes in the state have old limb-lines hanging from snags and other structures in the middle of lakes and can be quite hazardous for boaters. I duck hunt Cane Creek Lake in Lincoln County quite a bit and limb-lines in the middle of the lake are very dangerous. I have seen a dead wood duck hanging from one in Cane Creek because he flew into one hanging from a snag in the middle of the lake. I hate to see such preventable hazards exist on our public waters.
- I would like to see a slot limit put in place on Lake Norfolk. I would also like to see the introduction of Florida strain Largemouth in Lake Norfolk like what has been done in similar fisheries in the state.
- I would like to see some regulations on hand fishing for big flatheads, they are being depleted in lake Charles since the allowance of boxes to be placed. there is a nest box every ten feet of the lake and numbers have dropped for us pole fisherman.
- I would like to see the daily limit decreased for crappie on horseshoe and old town with a length limit enforced. Lets bring quality crappie to Arkansas. I would rather enjoy my time in state rather than having to go to MS or TN to catch quality crappie.
- i would like to see the length limit on the white and norfork rivers for trout in north Arkansas be re-instated. Due to heaver fishing pressure and what looks like less fish being stocked over all. The size of Rainbow trout is down. 25 years ago i used to catch a lot of nice sized rainbows. In recent years the size of rainbows is down.
- I would like to see the water level more consistent on lake Conway. And also less "spraying/killing" lilly pads..... Possibly some attention to black, spotted bass and crappie numbers on Greers Ferry Lake. Seems the numbers are low!!! Thank You
- I would love to have a limit on the size and number of white bass taken on the White River above Beaver Lake, and on Beaver Lake itself. I've seen (time after time) people taking dozens and dozens of whites, enough to cover the bottom of the boat a foot deep; then offering them to those at the launch, because THEY DIDN'T WANT THEM! (There were a bunch of hybrids, too. Idiot couldn't tell the difference, and I had no way to make a note of the boat registration to report them.) People are also keeping ones that are not more than 8 inches long; WHY?! No meat to speak of on the little ones, anyway! My husband and I have fished the white bass spawning run every spring for years, and there just are not as many as there used to be. Please consider stronger regulations on these species; something is really affecting them.
- I would personally like to see areas made catch and release only for Smallmouth Bass and reducing the limit to 2 daily.
- I would request AGFC to leave gates in the control structure at Big Lake WMA to maintain water levels in the lateral and north and south ditch so they are navigable by boat year around. By doing so it will increase more fishing habitat with in these ditches and bar pits with in the WMA for fisherman. At one time this was the practice and made for some good fishing areas through out the WMA that fisherman could enjoy.
- If bass have a mercury warning on lake ouichita, why not crapie and all catfish,muskie Etc, as they are all predators feeding on the same type of food. It additionally stands to reason that all downstream tributaries and lakes such as Hamilton and Catherine should have the same warnings in as much as the fish and the food they consume do go downstream.
- I'm not a fan of slot or length limits. I like to take kids fishing and hate to have to tell a kid they to turn loose a 15 3/4 bass that has a 13-16 slot.
- Implement trophy largemouth bass strategy for lake Charles.
- In Felsenthal Refuge tournaments require release of fish but your biologist said last year he considers none of the bass will live. Should the fish be kept or the number of tournaments reduced since the tournament weighing is mostly at county ramp?
- In some of the states smaller streams, I think the protection of Smallmouth Bass is crucial, and should be monitored. Sometimes I think to many Smallmouths are kept in the smaller streams of AR, such as the Southfork of Spring river..
- Increase AGFC budget to allow for more enforcement officers

- Increase hybrid limit on Lake Degray to 500/ day!
- Increase the overall catfish limit to 20 per person statewide especially on Blue cat on the Arkansas River. Stock Sauger yearly in the Arkansas River.
- It would be nice to have more stock ponds around the hot springs AR and surrounding areas or atleast for the few that we have it would be nice if some way maybe you could stock them with more bass and catfish. So that it would be more fun for the kids because they would have a better chance of catching something and also you could raise the take home limit as well. Thanks
- Keep up the good work!
- Keep up the good work; I would suggest that yoyos be banned from those lakes with a 10-inch length limit for crappie. These devices are, in my opinion, detrimental because a lot of fish under the limit are caught; a lot of them die because fishermen are not diligent in watching their yoyo. Thx
- Lake Atkins needs an MLL of 10-inch for crappie.
- Lake Charles in NE needs some type of regulation on winter taking of largemouth bass. There are way too many 5+lb fish being taken while the lake is in winter draw down.
- Lake Chicot needs your attention bad..in your infinite wisdom you've turned this once productive crappie lake into a catfish, carp and bass lake..
- Lake Dr Queen needs the slot limit placed back in force
- Largemouth bass in Greers ferry lake seem to be on the decline. Perhaps a stricter slot length would be beneficial
- Largemouth bass size limit change it to 14 inches and smallmouth to 14 also
- Laws need to be put in place regarding boat launches being automatic no wake zones.
- Let's go fishin.
- Lower Limits and add inch minimum and maximum slots on rainbow and brown trout for the white river and little red river. The White River will quickly turn into a sad situation. with the amount of angler pressure along with people taking the smallest of trout. It will soon be the same problem the little red river has been dealing with. We need to let the rivers be the best they can be because of the amount of revenue they bring to the state of Arkansas. It's sad to see what has happened to the little red river. When the place ( Logans Landing ) that is associated with the WORLD record trout can't keep its doors open then you have to know that there is a serious problem. I want to put my ashes in both of those rivers because they have given me true peace and always gave me comfort when I needed it. They are my therapist and I want my children to one day experience the beauty of trout fishing. So please let's keep them in good shape. I fear the worst for the white and I hope we can restore the red to the glory it deserves.
- manage rainbow trout to larger size fewer is fine with me don't need to catch and release 20+ stockers in a half day would rather hunt for the larger rainbow and catch fewer smaller rainbows only though if I knew they were there try something
- My family and I as avid hunting and fishing and bow fishing. Been bow fishing for close to 10 years. I am concerned about our sport due to its rapid growth over the past few years. Currently there are no restrictions on numbers of rough fish except gator gar and catfish during season. I know during tournaments and just nightly trips we may take in some high numbers of fish. Not saying there's anything wrong with tournaments or having a good night but I love the sport and I can't see the populations of rough fish being able to sustain themselves if we don't have some kind of limits. But I'm not an expert, maybe the rough fish can reproduce to feed the increasing growth of the sport of bow fishing for future generations....just a thought....
- Need a way to help control the Asian carp population on the Arkansas River before it completely ruins the fishery
- need more public fishing in southern saline and Grant County
- Need to ban the use of castable umbrella rigs aka Alabama rig
- Need to raise the trout limit at Spring River!
- Norfolk largemouth length limit should be reduced to 13 inches for 5-6 years and encourage people to keep largemouth to get rid of the 13-14 inchers and make tournaments a lot better. sizes of 15-18 inch fish will increase
- Overcup does not need a ten inch length limit. As of now with the water levels as high as they have been for the last two years I think it is early to place restrictions on the fish until we see how they have fared under normal fishing conditions.

- Place a bass club register for public. Too many clubs having tournaments in same area. This is Dangerous and places a strain on fish populations. not to mention the general public cannot enjoy these areas. Please start to control this problem it is out of hand.
- Please address Greers ferry lake black bass. It is horrible what fish I can catch look like skeletons. Needs grass added or something to protect bait from other predator fish (hybrids, whites). so sad a beautiful fishery has gotten so bad. Lots of talk about tournaments leaving lake will really hurt local businesses
- Please consider a no creel limit on white bass and hybrids on Greer Ferry Lake, reduce the number of hybrids being released. Manage the Greer's Ferry lake for black bass and smallmouth. The hybrids have literally devastated the bait fish populations and have taken over the lake. The ONLY people that target the hybrid bass species are the numerous guide services on the lake. The local populace dislike the hybrid bass.
- Please consider elimination of bass & crappie tournaments on all G&F lakes.
- Please consider setting limits for Lake Norrell, located in saline county, that would fit more appropriately for such a small lake instead of the normal state wide limits.
- Please enforce the crappie size limit on lake Conway. I would like to see the size limit up to 12" in a few years. Crappie fishing is became a huge in the state and these limit only make it better. Keep up the good work. Also would love to see some more Florida bass added to lakes. It's working so well on lake Atkins.
- Please investigate declining Black Bass populations and size in Greers Ferry and Lower Arkansas River. In my opinion i think a new direction towards getting habitat (grass) is needed for our lakes and rivers that can support it. Also, implement a program like Texas has for some type of Sharelunker program.
- Please look into better bass management on greers ferry lake.
- Please up the daily limit for white bass on the Arkansas river. The are so thick in our area. At times you can't catch anything else but them. Most people I see throw them back, but I would like to see the people who keep them take more. Thanks for listening.
- possession limit. I see the current possession limit as a true burden. I do understand the reason for possession limit, but two days? Why not make it to three or five? Let me give you an example: The common working man saves his leave from work up all year to get fish during the spawn. He takes a three day weekend and goes camping, well if he catches a limit on the first two days then he is in violation the third day of his trip. This guy has done everything legally but yet he is know restrained from enjoying what he wants to do. Keep in mind it is not illegal to have the fish processed and in the freezer at home but to be legal he now has to time away from vacation go home and put up fish so he can enjoy a third day of fishing. My point is all the current law is doing is making most honest people, trying to put some fish up, "violators". why do this? This law is just making people break a law that is not protecting the resource but just a way of putting restraints on the common person. Mississippi has a very liberal limit and Arkabutla, Sardis, Enid, Grenada, and Lake Washington are the top crappie fishing lakes in the nation. Possession limits are not killing those lakes so why doesn't this get looked at? I have personally received a ticket for this and the officers that wrote me the ticket were very professional and I was %100 corporative. I knew I was in the wrong and take resposiblity for my actions. I just see this as something that should be considered and discussed. I am by no means wanting to away with it but give the sportsman a chance to enjoy what he is doing and not burden him. thanks, for your time in reading this. I hope this does not fall on deaf ears and is discussed with an open mind.
- Prohibit jet motors on the Norfork River
- Provide more bank fishing opportunities for families/ young children. Protect those areas from boat fishing. West of Crystal Springs on lake Ouachita old road get near lake. Would be great area. Others needed for families that don't have access to boat. Provide fish cover. Ban boat fishing of area. Provide snag resistant cover, no limbs Christmas trees, etc. Possibly have small decking area.
- Putting a slot limit on bass on beaverfork lake in faulkner county.
- Quit stocking hybrid bass in Greers Ferry Lake and begin stocking bait fish.
- QUIT STOCKING STRIPERS AND WHITE BASS. GREERS FERRY LARGEMOUTH ARE DYING. THEY HAVE NO FOOD. PAY MORE ATTENTION TO LARGEMOUTH BASS. QUIT KILLING HABITAT IN OUR LAKES.
- Raise the amount of trout caught daily back up to six (6)
- Raise the current bag limit of black crappie to 20 on Bull Shoals. Decrease the size limit of walleye to 16 inches on Bull Shoals Lake and raise the bag limit to 6.

- Remove the slot limit on Dierks lake. Results from the removal of slot limits on Millwood, Dequeen, and lake Ouchita have been highly successful
- Slot for bass and crappie on lake erling. More enforcement to help stop people taking multiple limits in one day. Possible allow home owners to use net or slat trap off of their dock for catfish population control. Buy permits for traps.
- Slot size for large mouth bass on Lake Dardanelle.
- Spend some tax dollars at greers ferry the lake and black bass population is suffering. No limit on stripers whites and hybrids. Reintroduce shad populations
- SSomething needs to be done about fan boats at night on agfc waters. I have witnessed numerous occasions of bow fishermen waking up entire campgrounds all hours of the night by firing up their motors right beside them! Also restrict how close someone can bow fish to a traditional angler. Need more public access to bank fishing areas at night on Arkansas river! It is ridiculous that all the places grew up night fishing are closed at night now!
- Stock lake Catherine with more fish other than trout. The trout catch is great and offers opportunity to trout fish but it is limit's fishing to the dam area. It needs more fish towards the state park area.
- stock more bream in greers ferry lake please , it is hard to find any good size bream while bank fishing .
- Stocking of forage in Greers ferry. Conduct study to see what can be done to increase fertility of Greers ferry.
- Stop stocking Whites in Beaver Lake.
- Survey greers ferry for black bass being in poor health.
- Tag fish for reward in other lakes and rivers other than Hamilton
- Thank you for your efforts!
- Thank you guys for all the work.
- Thank you guys for the work you do.
- Thanks for allowing my feedback.
- Thanks for wasting my time with this survey! I should have know that the AGFC doesn't care about north east Arkansas. I had hoped that this survey would give me a chance to speak about the absence of funding for fisheries in Jackson and surrounding counties. I guess we will see you in duck season
- The AGFC needs to do a study on black bass in Greers Ferry Lake.
- The average person has way too much going on with their lives to keep up with the numerous rule changes and special use areas, created to benefit certain classes of anglers over others. Simply everything, when ever possible.
- THE NEW FEDERAL REGULATION AND THE AGFC REGULATION PROHIBITING ACCESS TO HOLLA BEND FROM THE ARKANSAS RIVER IS AN UNDUE HARDSHIP FOR THOSE PERSONS LIVING ON NORTH SIDE OF ARKANSAS RIVER WHO HAVE HISTORICALLY USED SWEEDEN ISLAND FOR THIER MEANS OF ACCESS DURING PERIODS OF HIGH WATERS. WHEN THE SHEET METAL PILING DAM WAS BUILT AREA ANGLERS WERE ASSURED BY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND HOLLA BEND MANAGEMENT THAT ACCESS WOULD ONLY BE LIMITED OVER THE DAM DURING CLOSED FISHING SEASON. THIS DENIAL OF ACCESS RESULTS IN ANGLERS DRIVING 25 EXTRA MILES ONLY TO FIND BOAT RAMPS ON HOLLA BEND CLOSED DUE TO HIGH WATER.PLEASE CONTACT ME CONCERNING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS POSSIBLE ILLEGAL DENIAL OF ACCESS.
- The only confusing part about Arkansas laws are the size limits on each lake. Seems what is lawful in north Arkansas is not the same in the South. I check the rules wherever I go but I still feel a little unsure if I am right. I hate feeling unsure.
- The sight rule on yo yos in the day time is not lawful. At night time it's not a factor
- The state line does not end at crowleys ridge,it would be great if the Agfc invested some time and money in the people who live in east ARK besides writing tickets,collecting tax money and licenses fees!
- The vast need for a new lake in the northeast region possibly damming up of the spring river in the farmland area possibly around ravenden, as of now someone from Jonesboro has to go all the way to norfork or greers ferry to go to a major lake... A plane in this area would bring in people from all over and reduce fishing pressure on some of the smaller waters and give Arkansas another attraction.
- The War Eagle creek is a wonderful fishery and could become great giving some nurturing. AGFC I forcemeat needs to work the area more, I live on the War Eagle and constantly find were people have fillet 10" smallmouth and blacks. The War Eagle has the potential to become Arkansas premier Smallmouth

Bass creek/River in the state, given some force meat and stocking. I have caught & released large numbers of 3 to 4 pounders in years past. No one seems to be releasing them back into the creek in the last 4 years. It is sad to see.

- THERE IS A LOW POPULATION OF WHITE BASS AND HYBRIDS IN THE ARKANSAS RIVER. YOU MUST CONTROL THE DAILY CATCH ON THESE FISHES TOO .
- There should be bream crappie and catfish stocking and a largemouth bass removal in lake Atkins. Too many little bity bass hurting all other species.
- There's a rumor going around the upper White River that there is an effort in motion to limit the motor size to 25hp motors. I sincerely hope this is NOT the case. People make a living guiding on that river and families or groups of 4-7 want to use as much of the river as they can so to get the biggest bang for their buck. Limiting the motor size to 25hp would be severely detrimental to this. If the AGFC is going to limit the motor size then maybe limit it to something like a 60-80hp. My father and I both own 40-60hp jet motors. They allow easier movement through the water and still allow the bigger groups to stay in one boat and fish as a family/group. I strongly urge this movement, if there actually is one, to cease. Thank you
- too much regulation can take the fun out of outdoor activities for the young or young at heart....keep an eye on that !
- Up limit for black bass on Degray Lake
- We need more information on the water quality of the Arkansas river, especially in the little rock metropolitan area. There is no information on PCBs and other dangerous carcinogens that may be affecting the safety of eating your catch from our river; the only information available concerns mercury levels from a couple years ago. This may not be the right forum to push this issue, but please take it into consideration
- We need to protect our natural resources better in the State of Arkansas. Overfishing on Beaver Lake and other lakes have depleted all population of fish. Stricter enforcement of fishing laws and more stocking efforts of small fish in lakes would help to establish better fishing. The Game and fish officers in Northwest Arkansas need different people in the field. The current officers are bad examples of Game and Fish representatives. Rude, unprofessional, and uneducated.
- What are the Fishing Limits on Fish on the Illinois River in Siloam Springs Arkansas. Thanks
- What I want to see done is starting back the tilapia fishing on Lake Hogue. This was something a lot of people like to do and with the money the State of Arkansas has, it shouldn't be a problem. And, maybe add tilapia stocking to many of the AGFC lakes such as Amon's Lake in Baxter County and similar lakes throughout the state.
- Where can I see electro shock results for Lake Cargill? This is a (trophy LMB) lake. My fishing results indicate there are few if any LMB in this lake.
- Why do we not manage our rivers for Smallmouths with slot limits and no live bait during spawning months We manage for trout?Blue Ribbon Smallie streams and rivers are a must set slot limits and release any over 19 inches take a look at what other states are doing Buffalo,Kings,Spring,Eleven Point and Current Rivers to start
- why dont u make all the state 10 inch limit on all carppie? also make the bass 16 inch on the ar river and poss limit 5 bass?
- Why is there not a length limit on bass in the middle saline river, we have a good fish population, but its a bunch of short fish, I think because to many people keeping everything they catch and giving them a chance to grow
- why not look at slot limits for bass on greens ferry bull shoals and norfork lakes it would over time make the bass fishing so much better and give the fish time to grow and possibly make trophy lakes out of them when going to greens ferry and norfolk you catch fish but most of them are small and under the current length limit, bull shoals is a great fishery but could be better , by making slot limits on these lakes it would make the bass fishing excellent over time and make it fun to fish giving chances to catch quality fish
- Wma lake need to be selling permits for fishing just like hunting or 1 permit for both
- Work out a deal with Oklahoma for Oklahoma fishing licenses to be valid in Arkansas and vice versa! Both states could raise the price of instate licenses to make up the difference caused by the loss of those out of state licenses not being sold. Just a being wishful I guess.
- Would like to see either a reciprocity agreement with Oklahoma or a better definition of boundaries on the Arkansas River
- yall are doing a great job down there and I hope yall stay safe any where your patrolling

- You guys are doing great work, keep it up.
- Your research and sampling allows regulations which make sense and will assure the future of our fisheries. Not to say you haven't had some yo-yo appointees in the past that wouldn't know a fish from a frog!

## **Proposed Fisheries Regulations to be implemented January 1, 2016**

### **Reduce combined black bass creel limit on War Eagle Creek from the statewide limit of 10 to 2 black bass per day.**

Sampling of War Eagle Creek has indicated a reduction in catch per hour of black bass in samples from 2010, 2011 and 2014. Catch per hour of all sizes dropped from 49 per hour in 2010 to 45 in 2011, and catches reached a low of 22 in 2014. Catch rates of stock sized black bass decreased from 33 per hour in 2011 to 16 per hour in 2014. The reduced catch rates may be attributed to several flood events, a drought, and habitat degradation in the watershed. A reduction in the creel limit is needed to protect black bass until catch rates rise to 45 black bass per hour.

### **Clarify the paddlefish snagging harvest daily limit on the Black and St. Francis Rivers.**

This change was requested by Enforcement to clarify a daily limit for paddlefish during the snagging season (Jan 1 – Feb. 15) on the Black and St. Francis Rivers. In addition, this regulation would clearly state that paddlefish must be retained when snagged. Furthermore, this regulation would establish a daily limit of one paddlefish. During January and February in the St. Francis and Black Rivers catfish gather in deeper pools, using these locations as winter refuge. During this time of year anglers target these deeper pools to snag catfish. During the snagging anglers routinely snag paddlefish as bycatch. Currently, most snagging anglers release the majority of paddlefish snagged. Therefore, one fish may be snagged repeatedly during the snagging season increasing the stress hormones of the snagged fish, thus reducing the immune system response and increasing fishing mortality rates.

### **Clarify the downstream definition of the Arkansas River in the Arkansas Post Canal.**

The current wording in the AGFC Code of Regulations lists the Arkansas River boundary for sportfishing as “The Arkansas Post Canal from Lock and Dam No. 1 to the Arkansas River and the Arkansas River from Dam No. 2 upstream to the Oklahoma state line...”. The regulation is referring to Norrell Lock and Dam as No. 1 and Wilbur D. Mills Dam as No. 2. Another lock has been built at Morgan Point downstream of Norrell Lock and Dam, which makes referencing just the numbers of the navigation structure confusing. This regulation will help clarify which navigation structures are the boundaries for the Arkansas River.

### **Remove the daily creel limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee.**

Channel catfish have been reproducing in Lake Greenlee since 2006. Tandem baited hoop net sampling during summer 2014 produced the highest catch rates of channel catfish in the state. Two thousand fish were collected in four sets. Of the 1,500 channel catfish that were measured, only 5% were larger than 14 inches. Lake Greenlee also has a very low density predator population due to poor largemouth bass reproduction. Channel catfish have become overcrowded and more fish need to be harvested to bring the population back in balance. Removing the creel limit should increase angler harvest of channel catfish.

### **Remove rod and pole only fishing restriction from Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee.**

Channel catfish have been reproducing in Lake Greenlee since 2006. Tandem baited hoop net sampling during summer 2014 produced the highest catch rates of channel catfish in the state. Two thousand fish were collected in four sets. Of the 1,500 channel catfish that were measured,

only 5% were larger than 14 inches. Lake Greenlee also has a very low density predator population due to poor largemouth bass reproduction. Channel catfish have become overcrowded and more fish need to be harvested to bring the population back in balance. Removing the rod and pole only restriction should increase angler harvest of channel catfish by allowing other gears including trotlines and limb lines.

#### **Update Codebook to Correct Catfish Regulation for Lake Chicot.**

Removing the limit on channel catfish was a recommendation that came from the Lake Chicot Citizens Advisory Committee (LCCAC) as part of the Lake Chicot Management Plan. However, the codebook currently states that there is no limit on catfish. This regulation proposal will update the codebook by reflecting the original intent of the LCCAC and the management plan, which is to remove the limit on channel catfish only and not all catfish species. The guidebook is correct and that is what the public has been going by the last several years.

#### **Filleting of Commercial Fish Prohibited on While on Water.**

This regulation change was requested by Enforcement Division due to an incident of a commercial fisherman filleting buffalo on the water. There is a similar regulation under the sportfish regulations prohibiting filleting of fish on waters with length limits.

#### **Change commercial fishing special season on Calion Lake to avoid conflict with duck hunters.**

Calion Lake was reopened to commercial fishing in 2015 for the first time since the 1960's. Unfortunately, local duck hunters did not communicate their concerns about potential conflict with commercial fishers until the start of the season. We are unaware of any conflicts so far, but now realize that the potential is there. Based on this, we propose to change the dates for the Calion Lake commercial season to February 1 through March 15 in 2016. This will reduce the season by approximately 16 days, but should allow all user groups to enjoy Calion Lake without conflict, and may provide fishermen the opportunity to fish during a more productive time of year.

#### **Implement a 16-inch minimum length limit and a 5 fish creel limit for Largemouth Bass on Lower White Oak Lake.**

No harvest of Largemouth Bass has been allowed on Lower White Oak Lake since early 2012. Bass were stocked in May 2014, so they will be almost 2 years old on January 1, 2016. Based on historical data, the fish should be 14-15 inches long at that time, with some fish exceeding 16-inches before the end of 2016. There are also a small number of larger black bass in the lake that came in from Upper White Oak Lake and some from an earlier stocking of adults. Local anglers are anxious to start harvesting fish, but we want to be sure to protect the fish at least until they have had a chance to spawn once. We believe a high MLL and a reduced creel limit will accomplish that.

#### **Elimination of daily aggregate limit for game fish.**

AGFC has maintained a daily aggregate limit of 75 game fish for many years, primarily for sociological reasons. In cases of over abundant fish populations, this limit has unnecessarily restricted efforts to reduce fish populations through recreational harvest. In situations that warrant reduced harvest, species specific daily limits are adequate for reducing angling pressure.



### **Provide a Limited Commercial Fishing Season for Lake Erling.**

Fisheries staff recommends a limited commercial fishery (November 1 – February 29, 2016), targeting channel catfish on Lake Erling. Results of extensive sampling efforts in 2014 indicate that channel catfish are overpopulated in this reservoir despite a recreational creel limit that allows harvest of an additional 10 channel catfish. Allowing commercial fishermen to fish slat traps and fiddler size hoop nets, which catch channel catfish almost exclusively, could help reduce this overabundant population, without impacting the other catfish species.

### **Changes to catfish creel limits on Lake Erling.**

Fisheries staff recommends allowing unlimited harvest of channel catfish on Lake Erling and reducing the flathead catfish limit to 1 per day. Results of extensive sampling efforts in 2014 indicate that channel catfish are overpopulated in this reservoir despite a creel limit that allows harvest of an additional 10 channel catfish. Sampling for blue catfish and flathead catfish resulted in a relatively low catch rate for flatheads (7.5 catfish per hour). The extremely low CPUE of flathead catfish suggests that this species has low survival in the system and warrants protection beyond state-wide creel limits.

### **Anglers who place natural structures (i.e. cane or woody stakes) in Commission-owned lakes for the purpose of hanging yo-yos or limblines, will be required to label those structures in the same manner as yo-yos or limblines. The use of unlabeled stakes made of wood or cane would be unlawful.**

After the use of artificial structures to hang yo-yos or limblines was made unlawful, the use of natural structure, in the same capacity, has proliferated on District 10 lakes. These woody or cane structures are often left out year around in large numbers, which can create a boating hazard. Abandoned structures in the lake could also be considered litter. Mandating the labeling of these structures will hopefully make the owners more responsible and remove them when not in use.

### **Replace the current 9-inch minimum length limit with a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Harris Brake Lake.**

Currently, Lake Conway has a 10-in minimum length limit (MLL). We are proposing a 10-in MLL on Lake Overcup as well. We would like to have consistent crappie regulations in the district. Currently there is a 9-in MLL on Harris Brake and annual population samples demonstrate that this is an effective regulation. Harris Brake's crappie population is characterized by moderately high total annual mortality (60%) with the majority of the mortality due to angler harvest (29-48%). This combined with fast growth (321-mm @ Age-2+) is an ideal situation for a MLL regulation. Modeling predicts that increasing the MLL from 9-in to 10-in may increase the mean weight and length of harvested crappie by 17% (0.86-lbs to 1.01-lbs) and 7% (11.4-in to 12.2-in) respectively. In addition, yield may increase 10% (20-kg to 22-kg) and the percent of 10-in and 12-in crappie in the population may increase by 29% (51% of the population, up to 66% of the population) and 29% (21% of the population, up to 27% of the population), respectively. In contrast, the number of harvested crappie may decrease by 9% (53% of the population, down to 48% of the population).

**Create a 10-inch minimum length limit for black and white crappie on Lake Overcup,** Lake Overcup's crappie population is characterized by moderately high total annual mortality (66%) with the majority of the mortality due to angler harvest (46-59%). This combined with fast growth (275-mm @ Age-2+) is an ideal situation for a minimum length limit (MLL) regulation. Modeling predicts that a 10-in MLL may increase the mean weight and length of harvested crappie by 85% (0.46-lbs to 0.86-lbs) and 20% (9.6-in to 11.6-in) respectively. In addition, yield may increase 54% (16.5-kg to 25.5-kg) and the percent of 10-in and 12-in crappie in the population may increase by 192% (7% of the population, up to 76% of the population) and 200% (7% of the population, up to 21% of the population), respectively. In contrast, the number of harvested crappie may decrease by 15% (78% of the population, down to 66% of the population).

**Include Van Buren Municipal Park Pond in the Community Fishing Program Restrictions.** Van Buren Municipal Park Pond is a 10-acre reservoir located in Van Buren, in Crawford County. The lake is owned by the city of Van Buren, and is associated with a park that has a number of amenities: parking, restrooms, a walking trail completely encompassing the pond, a playground and boardwalk. The location is near the geographic center of Van Buren, and provides an excellent location to serve a very high number of residents of both Crawford and Sebastian Counties. The restrictive limits of the Community Fishing Program Restrictions will help to protect the fishery and distribute the harvest among many different anglers.

**Closure of Commercial Aquatic Turtle Harvest in a Portion of Mississippi County.**

This proposed change would close commercial aquatic turtle harvest in a segment of the Mississippi River in Mississippi County; from the Sans Souci Landing downstream to the head of Sunrise Towhead, just east of Butler, AR, and all waters within and bounding the area known as "Driver Bar", which forms the east bank of the river channel within this river segment. Driver Bar has been cut off from the contiguous Arkansas landmass and forms part of the state boundary with Tennessee. Driver Bar is bounded by the Fort Pillow State Historic Area and the John Tully Wildlife Management Area, managed by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). This proposed closure is at the request of the TWRA which plans on conducting a long-term population study on the Common Snapping Turtle *Chelydra serpentina*. This closure would prevent any possible effects of turtle harvest that could influence the proposed TWRA study.

**Prohibition of Take or Possession of Collared Lizards.**

Populations of the Collared Lizard in Arkansas have declined precipitously over the past several decades. The majority of historically known populations are either extirpated or greatly reduced as a result of habitat loss, due to vegetation encroachment of formerly open glades in the Ozark Plateau and Ouachita Mountains. These lizards make poor long-term pets due to strict environmental requirements, and as such, most captives die within a year of capture when maintained by amateurs. Therefore, placing this species on the protected species list would afford some level of protection from collection as native wildlife pets and reduce additional pressures on already diminished populations.

**Clarification on the regulations regarding use of artificial lures with single, barbless hooking points in the Cow Shoals C&R area (Greers Ferry Tailwater) and in the three catch and release areas on the Little Missouri River (Narrows Tailwater).**

The current regulations for Cow Shoals have been in place since it was established in 1995. The current regulations for the three Narrows Tailwater catch-and-release areas have been in effect since their establishment in 2000 (Year-Round and Seasonal C&R areas) and 2007 (Winter C&R

area). In these four areas, only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. The intent of the regulations is, and has always been, to limit anglers to a single barbless hooking point per pole. However, several anglers have recently expressed confusion as to the appropriate way to interpret this regulation due to the use of “lures” (plural) in the definition. Their interpretation is that an angler could use multiple lures (e.g., a fly and dropper fly) on one pole, as long as each lure has a single, barbless hooking point. Although regulations in the two Greers Ferry TW special regulations areas and in other tailwaters do permit anglers to use multiple barbless hooking points, the regulations have not been changed for Cow Shoals C&R or for Narrows tailwater. Clarification of the current wording is necessary to eliminate confusion as to the original intent of these regulations.

## Code Book Language for Proposed 2016 Fisheries Regulation Changes

Changes are in red

01.00-C	DEFINITION OF TERMS
04-15	<p>For the purposes of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Code of Regulations, the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean and include:</p> <p><b>ADULT GOBBLER</b> – Male turkeys having at least one of the following characteristics: a) tail feathers which are the same length, b) wing feathers that have white barring all the way to the tip or c) a beard more than six (6) inches in length.</p> <p><b>ALLIGATOR DEALER</b> – Any person, firm or corporation engaging in the sale, purchase, barter or exchange of an American alligator (<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>) or other crocodilian species, or any part, nest or eggs thereof in Arkansas.</p> <p><b>ALLIGATOR FARMER</b> – Any person, firm or corporation possessing an American alligator (<i>Alligator mississippiensis</i>) or other crocodilian species, or any part, nest or eggs thereof in Arkansas for the purpose of propagation, production or rearing.</p> <p><b>ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE DEALER</b> – Any person, firm or corporation engaged in the sale or purchase of alligator snapping turtles.</p> <p><b>ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE BREEDER</b> – Any person, firm or corporation possessing alligator snapping turtles for the purpose of propagation, production, rearing or sale.</p> <p><b>ANIMAL</b> – An organism of the animal kingdom, as distinguished from the plant kingdom, including any part, product, egg or offspring thereof.</p> <p><b>ANTLERLESS DEER</b> – A doe or a buck having 2 inches or less of hardened bone antler (this type of deer must be checked as a buck).</p> <p><b>ANTLERLESS ELK</b> – Any elk (male or female) not meeting requirements to be a legal bull elk.</p> <p><b>AQUACULTURE SPECIES</b> – Any species listed on the Approved Aquaculture Species List (<a href="#">Addendum J1.00</a>) and species not listed but allowed under Unlisted or Restricted Species Possession Permits.</p> <p><b>AQUATIC WILDLIFE</b> – All aquatic species, including aquatic snails, aquatic turtles, crayfish (crawfish and crawdads), fish (including minnows), frogs, mussels and salamanders.</p> <p><b>ARKANSAS RIVER BOUNDARY (Sportfishing Only)</b> – The Arkansas Post Canal from <b>Norrell</b> Lock and Dam No. 1 to the Arkansas River and the Arkansas River from <b>Wilbur D. Mills</b> Dam No. 2 upstream to the Oklahoma state line, including all lakes, bays and tributary streams accessible by boat from the main channel except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Big Bayou Meto upstream from Arkansas Highway 11;</li><li>• Plum Bayou upstream from U.S. Highway 79;</li><li>• Little Maumelle River upstream from Pinnacle Mountain State Park;</li><li>• Maumelle River upstream from Lake Maumelle Dam;</li><li>• Fourche LaFave upstream from Arkansas Highway 113;</li><li>• Palarm Creek upstream from Interstate 40;</li><li>• Cadron Creek upstream from the weir;</li><li>• Point Remove Creek upstream from Arkansas Highway 113;</li></ul>

- Petit Jean River upstream from Pontoon Boat Ramp at Arkansas Highway 154;
- Illinois Bayou upstream from Russellville Waterworks Dam;
- Big Piney and Little Piney creeks upstream from Arkansas Highway 359;
- Horsehead Creek upstream from Interstate 40;
- Mulberry River upstream from Interstate 40;
- Frog Bayou upstream from Arkansas Highway 162 and Lee Creek upstream from Lee Creek Dam,
- And from the first non-navigable shoal for streams entering the Arkansas River along the right bank descending from the Oklahoma state line to Lake Dardanelle Dam.

**ARTIFICIAL LURE OR FLY** – Terminal fishing tackle made entirely of rubber, wood, metal, glass, feathers, hair, synthetic fibers or plastic, with hook attached.

**BAITFISH** – Minnows, logperch, gizzard and threadfin shad, gar (other than alligator gar), bullhead catfish, crayfish, drum, bowfin under 6 inches, skipjack herring, brook and inland silversides, bigmouth, smallmouth and black buffalo, river carpsucker, banded and Ozark sculpin, bream 4 inches and under, and bream over 4 inches that are caught by hook and line.

**BAITING** – The direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for wildlife to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

**BIG GAME** – Alligator, black bear, deer, elk and turkey.

**BLACK BASS** – Largemouth bass, redeye bass, smallmouth bass and spotted bass.

**BLOCKING OUT** – The removal of the head and/or tail associated with the processing of a commercial fish. The blocked-out carcass (bullet) must be at least the minimum length required for the body of water where the commercial fish was harvested ([Code 30.11](#)).

**BONUS DEER** – A harvested deer that is not included in a hunter's statewide bag limit.

**BOX TYPE TURTLE TRAP** – A floating trap designed to capture aquatic turtles, but does not permit capture of fish ([Code 34.07](#)).

**BREAM** – A species of the genus *Lepomis*, including bluegill, redear, warmouth and other sunfish.

**BUCK** – A male deer (see LEGAL BUCK definition).

**BUCK DEER SEASON** – A deer season in which no deer other than legal buck deer may be taken.

**BUY** – To purchase, barter, exchange or trade, including any offer to purchase, barter, exchange or trade.

**CAPTIVITY OR HOLD CAPTIVE** – The holding of living wildlife in a controlled environment that is manipulated by man for the purpose of exercising ownership, possession or control of the wildlife, and that has boundaries designed to prevent selected species from entering or leaving the controlled environment.

**CARCASS** – The body of a dead animal.

**CASE** – A container specifically designed to hold a firearm which completely encloses the firearm by being zipped, snapped, buckled, tied or otherwise fastened with no portion of the firearm exposed.

**CATCH-AND-RELEASE** – The requirement that fish of a designated species must be immediately released into the water where caught.

**CERVID** – A member of the Family Cervidae including without limitation deer, reindeer, moose, elk and caribou.

**CHASE FOR PLEASURE** – To search for, pursue or chase game animals or other wildlife with the use of dogs for recreational purposes only, with no intent of hunting such game animals or wildlife.

**CHECKING WILDLIFE** – The reporting of specific information to the Commission concerning harvest of alligator, bear, deer, elk and turkey by one of the following methods: phoning a designated number to report bear, deer or turkey harvests, electronically through the Commission's on-line deer and turkey checking Web site or mobile applications, and in person to report harvest of elk and alligator at a designated check station.

**CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)** – Fatal disease affecting the brain of cervids that belongs to a group of diseases called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.

**CHUMMING** – To dislodge or deposit any substance not attached to a hook which may attract fish.

**CITES TAG** – a permit that allows shipping of certain animal pelts outside the State of Arkansas and assures compliance with the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species.

**CLEAN** – Having no meat matter or tissue attached to the carcass.

**COMPUTER-ASSISTED HUNTING** – The use of a computer or any other device, equipment or software to remotely control the aiming and discharge of a firearm, bow or crossbow to kill wildlife located in Arkansas.

**COMMERCIAL FISH** – Bowfin (over 6 inches), paddlefish, shovelnose, sturgeon, and all species of buffalo, catfish, carp, drum, gar, and sucker family (except silver redhorse).

**COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN** – Any person who fishes with tackle designated as commercial tackle requiring a license and/or tag issued by the Commission.

**COMMERCIAL TACKLE** – Properly licensed tackle used to catch aquatic wildlife for commercial purposes.

**COMMERCIAL WILDLIFE HUNTING RESORT** – A facility, location, business, or operation that offers, for pay or other consideration, an opportunity to hunt native wildlife, other than pen-raised game birds, held in captivity. Includes all contiguous land, and structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land, used for the hunting activities.

**COMMERCIAL WILDLIFE PERMIT** – Any or all of the following permits: Alligator Farmer/Dealer, Alligator Snapping Turtle Breeder/Dealer, Resident Shell Taker and Seller, Shell Buyer, Non-Resident Shell Buyer, Resident Roe Taker/Seller, Resident Roe Buyer/Exporter, Non-Resident Roe Buyer, Resident Fur Dealer, Non-Resident Fur Dealer, Special Commercial Quail, Game Bird Shooting Resort, Commercial Wildlife Hunting Resort, Wildlife Breeder/Dealer and Wildlife Importation.

**COMMISSION** – The Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, unless otherwise designated.

**DEFERRED HUNTER EDUCATION (DHE)** – Designates a holder of a valid Arkansas hunting license/permit who has deferred completion of the hunter education program.

**DISABLED** – Any individual who is 100 percent permanently and totally disabled as declared by one or more of the following federal agencies: the U.S. Social Security Administration, the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs or the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board.

**DOE** – A female deer.

**DISABLED VETERAN:**

- (a) any individual whom the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has rated 100% permanently and totally disabled as a result of his or her U.S. military service;

- (b) any individual whom the VA has rated permanently disabled as a result of his or her U.S. military service and who received the Purple Heart medal as a result of his or her service-connected disability.

**DOE DEER SEASON** – A deer season in which a doe may be taken.

**DROWNING SET** – Any leg-hold trap that uses one or more of the following techniques to retain the target animal in water of suitable depth for drowning: a slide wire with lock, a tangle stake or a drowning weight.

**DUCKS** (includes the following species) – All species of teal, merganser, whistling duck and scaup; American wigeon, American black duck, bufflehead, canvasback, gadwall, common goldeneye, mallard, mottled duck, northern shoveler, redhead, ring-necked duck, ruddy duck, northern pintail and wood duck.

**EDIBLE PORTIONS** – portions of the following animals are considered edible as stated below:

- (a) **Game Mammals:** front quarters, hind quarters, loins and tenderloins.
- (b) **Game Fish:** fillets of fish.
- (c) **Game Birds:** breasts.
- (d) **Frogs:** hind legs.
- (e) **Alligators:** tails, legs, flanks, loins and tenderloins.

**EITHER-SEX** – A male or a female.

**EITHER-SEX DEER SEASON** – A deer season in which a doe or a legal buck may be taken.

**EMERGENCY CONDITION** – Any condition involving:

- (a) imminent peril to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or the wildlife resources of the State; or
- (b) immediate action mandated by federal law or regulation.

**ENCLOSE** – To surround wildlife using man-made barriers, including but not limited to fencing, walls, structures or other devices, so that the wildlife are not free to leave a particular environment.

**ENCLOSURE** – Any area surrounded by a man-made barrier, including but not limited to fencing, walls, structures or other devices that prevent wildlife from leaving a particular environment.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES** – A wildlife species or subspecies endangered or threatened with extinction listed, or proposed as a candidate for listing, by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or any native species or subspecies listed as endangered by the Commission ([Addendum P1.00](#)).

**FALCONRY** – The caring for and training of raptors for pursuit of wild game, and hunting wild game with raptors. It includes the taking of raptors from the wild to use in the sport and caring for training and transporting raptors held for falconry.

**FEDERAL WATERS** – Waters designated by federal law as federally controlled or under the jurisdiction of a department or agency of the United States Government.

**FEE LAKE** – A lake in which there is a fee for fishing rights. All persons 16 years of age and older must possess an Arkansas fishing license. Daily limits apply.

**FERAL HOG** – Any hog, including but not limited to Russian and European wild boar, any Old World swine, or the family Tayassuidae, including without limitation peccary, javelin, and New World swine, which is roaming freely and is living in a wild or feral state, and is not conspicuously identified as required under §§ 2-34-101 and §§ 2-34-102.

**FIREARM** – Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile through a barrel, including without limitation modern guns, air guns and muzzleloaders (see **LOADED FIREARM**).

**FISH OR FISHING** – To lure, attract, collect or pursue fish species or aquatic wildlife for the purpose of taking or attempting to take such species by any method.

**FISH DEALER** – Any person who sells live fish, including baitfish.

**FISH FARM** – Waters and adjacent premises confined within a pond, tank or lake not connected with public waters, and under management of a fish farmer.

**FISH FARMER (AQUACULTURIST)** – A person, firm, partnership or corporation engaged in the propagation or rearing of aquaculture species for sale.

**FREEFLOATING FISHING DEVICE** – A floating fishing device unanchored or unattached to a stationary object.

**FURBEARERS** – Badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, gray fox, red fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, raccoon, river otter, spotted skunk, striped skunk and weasel.

**GAFF** – To take or attempt to take fish with a hand- held or handled hook.

**GAME ANIMALS** – Alligator, black bear, bobcat, coyote, deer, elk, gray fox, red fox, mink, opossum, eastern cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, raccoon, gray squirrel and fox squirrel.

**GAME BIRD SHOOTING RESORT** –A facility, location, business, or operation that offers, for pay or other consideration, an opportunity to hunt captive-raised game birds. Includes all contiguous land, and structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land, used for the hunting activities.

**GAME BIRDS** – Turkey, quail, pheasant, chukar and all birds classified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as migratory game birds.

**GAME FISH** – Alligator gar, black bass, white bass, striped bass, hybrid striped bass, crappie, catfish, trout, bream, goggle-eye, walleye, muskellunge, sauger, saugeye, paddlefish and pickerel.

**GEOCACHE** – Items in a container (cache) placed or hidden for individuals to subsequently find using a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver.

**GEOCACHING** – An outdoor sport, similar to “high-tech treasure hunting,” involving use of a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver to find a cache.

**GUIDE** – A person who provides, for monetary or any other compensation, that person’s personal services for the purpose of assisting others to locate, pursue, catch or hunt wildlife.

**HACKING** – The temporary release of a raptor held for falconry to the wild so that it must survive on its own.

**HARASS** – An intentional or negligent act which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavioral pattern which include but are not limited to, breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

**HARVEST/HARVESTING** – To reduce to possession.

**HEN TURKEY** – Female turkey with or without a beard.

**HIGH-FENCE ENCLOSURE** – An enclosure that contains an area of at least 500 contiguous acres, with at least 60 percent of the acreage in forested cover that has been classified as timberland by the local county tax assessor, that has a perimeter fence at least 8 feet high, with no cross-fencing that has the effect of reducing the size of the area to less than 500 contiguous acres with at least 60 percent of the acreage in forested cover as herein provided.

**HOGGING** – The taking of fish by the use of hands only in or under the water.

**HUNT OR HUNTING** – Taking or attempting to take wildlife by any method including but not limited to searching, pursuing, chasing, tracking, luring, or attracting.

**HUNTING INCIDENT** - When bodily injury above basic first aid or death occurs due to an activity directly related to a hunting excursion in the field. Examples of such activities would include discharge of a firearm, bow, or crossbow and falls from an elevated platform (tree stand, tower stand, or elevated duck blind).

**HUNTING PARTY** – Two or more persons hunting together.



**HYBIRD RAPTORS** – A raptor produced from a cross-breeding birds of two different taxa, one or both of which are listed in 50 CFR 10.13, and any offspring of such raptors.

**IMPORT OR IMPORTATION** – To ship, convey, carry, transport, bring or introduce into Arkansas anything from outside its borders.

**IMPRINT** – A bird that is hand-raised in isolation from other raptors from two weeks of age until it has fledged and will be considered to be an imprinted bird for its entire life.

**JAKE** – Sub-adult male turkey having all these characteristics: longer central tail feathers, outermost one or two wing feathers lacking white barring all the way to the tip and a beard 6 inches or less in length.

**KILLING DEVICE** – Any firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, compressed gas or spring-powered pistol or rifle, blowgun, speargun, hand-thrown spear, slingshot, irritant gas device, explosive device, or any other implement designed to discharge a projectile capable of killing wildlife.

**LARGE CARNIVORE** – *Tigers (Panthera tigris)*, *African Lions (Panthera leo)*, or any hybrid thereof and all species of bears.

**LEGAL BUCK** – A male deer may be considered legal under the following rules as applied by this Code:

- (a) **Buck of Choice:** A male deer.
- (b) **Button Buck:** A male deer less than 12 months old with no hardened boned antler.
- (c) **Three-point Rule:** A male deer having both antlers under two inches (including button buck) or at least one antler with at least three points, each a minimum of one inch long, including the tip of the main beam. ([Code 21.03](#)).
- (d) **12/15 Rule:** 1) A male deer having both antlers under two inches (including button buck) or 2) a male deer having an inside spread of at least 12 inches or more in width, 3) a male deer having at least one main beam 15 inches or more in length ([Code 21.03](#)).
- (e) **15/18 Rule:** 1) A male deer having both antlers under two inches (including button buck) or 2) a male deer having an inside spread of at least 15 inches or more in width 3) a male deer having at least one main beam 18 inches or more in length ([Code 21.03](#)).
- (f) **WMA Special Restrictions:** Special restrictions may apply on certain WMAs ([Code 21.03](#)).

**LEGAL BULL ELK** – An elk having at least one antler visible above the hair line.

**LEGAL TURKEY** – A turkey may be considered legal under the following rules as applied by this Code:

- (a) Hunters 16 years and older a legal turkey is an adult gobbler or bearded hen.
- (b) Hunters 6 to 15 years of age is an adult gobbler, bearded hen or jake.

**LENGTH LIMITS** –

- (a) **Minimum Length Limit:** The shortest length of a fish of a designated species that can be kept.
- (b) **Maximum Length Limit:** The maximum length of a fish of a designated species that can be kept.
- (c) **Protected Length:** A species/size limit that prohibits anglers from keeping fish within a designated size group. Unless otherwise specified, all fish are measured from the front of the lower jaw with the mouth closed to the tip of the tail with tail lobes pressed together when laid flat on a rule, on its side. All fish not meeting the length limit requirements

for a particular water or species must be immediately released into the water where caught.

**LIMITS –**

- (a) **Daily Limit:** the maximum number of a species allowed to be taken during a specific 24-hour time period (midnight to midnight, unless otherwise specified).
- (b) **Seasonal Limit:** the maximum number of a species allowed to be taken during a specific season.
- (c) **Possession Limit:** the maximum number of species allowed to be possessed at any time. Any fish or wildlife, excluding migratory game birds, legally taken for personal consumption and stored in processed form within a residence of the possessor shall not count toward the possession limit.

**LITTER –** All waste which has been discarded or otherwise disposed of, including, but not limited to, convenience food and beverage packages or containers, trash, garbage, all other product packages or containers, and other post consumer solid wastes as referenced in State Law, or discarded game animal carcasses.

**LOADED FIREARMS –** Firearms are considered loaded if shells or cartridges are in the chamber, magazine or cylinder. Percussion cap muzzleloading firearms are considered loaded if the percussion cap is on the nipple. Flintlock muzzleloading firearms are considered loaded if there is powder in the flashpan. Electronic pulse ignition muzzleloaders are considered loaded if the ignition circuit is charged.

**MIGRATORY BIRDS –** All birds protected by the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and subsequent amendments.

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS –** Coots, crows, doves, ducks, gallinules or moorhens, geese, rails, snipe and woodcock.

**MILITARY RETIREE -** Any individual at least 60 years old who is entitled to retired pay as a result of his or her United States military service.

**MINNOWS –** Small nongame fish commonly used for bait including bluntnose minnows, bullhead minnows, chubs, dace, fatheads, common carp under 6 inches, goldfish, shiners and stonerollers.

**MOBILITY IMPAIRED –** A designation made by the Commission based upon a satisfactory showing that a person has a permanent physical condition, verified by a physician duly licensed to practice medicine by a state medical board, which severely impairs the person's mobility and prevents him or her from being able to engage in hunting or fishing activities without the use of an ATV or similar specialized device for transportation.

**NATIVE WILDLIFE –** Those species and sub-species of wildlife that have established, naturally reproducing, free-ranging, wild populations within Arkansas.

**NIGHT –** The time period 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.

**NOODLING –** The taking of fish by the use of a pole-mounted breakaway hook that detaches at the time of the strike or catch, or snare type device, with an attached line manipulated by hand when a person is in or under the water.

**NONGAME WILDLIFE –** All wildlife other than furbearing or game animals, game birds and game fish.

**NON-NATIVE WILDLIFE –** Any wildlife not defined as native wildlife.

**NONRESIDENT –** A person not defined as a resident.

**NUISANCE WILDLIFE –** Any wildlife creating a problem by committing damage to personal property or crops.

**OPEN SEASON –** A time frame established by the Commission during which a designated species may be lawfully taken.

**PEN-RAISED QUAIL** – Quail raised or hatched in captivity.

**PERSON** – Any individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership or other legal entity in singular or plural as the context requires. All pronouns shall include the masculine, feminine and neuter.

**PORTABLE HUNTING STAND** – Any device or structure used for the purpose of hunting that can be carried in its entirety by one person at one time including but not limited to tripod stands, lean-to stands, lock-on stands, ladder stands, and climbing stands (Box stands are not portable hunting stands).

**PORTABLE POP-UP BLIND** – A structure used to conceal a person that can be collapsed and carried in its entirety by one person.

**POSSESS OR POSSESSION** – Having or holding wildlife, or any property in one's power; the exercise of dominion over property. Possession includes actual possession (physical occupancy or control over property) and constructive possession (control or dominion over property without actual possession or custody of the property).

**PRIMATE** – A live individual animal of the taxonomic order Primates, excluding humans.

**PROPAGATE OR PROPAGATION** – To allow plants or animals to breed or multiply.

**PUBLIC ROAD** – The traveled portion and the shoulders on each side of any road maintained for public travel by a city, county, state, or federal government and includes all structures within the limits of the right-of-way of any such road.

**PUBLIC WATERS** – Waters that members of the public have a legal right to access and use for recreational purposes, including all legally navigable waters.

**PUT-AND-TAKE PAY LAKE** – Private waters open to public fishing for a fee, after being licensed by the Commission and where no fishing license or daily limit of fish is imposed.

**RAPTOR** – Migratory bird of the Order Falconiformes, Accipitriformes or the Order Strigiformes.

**REAR OR REARING** – To maintain plants or animals to increase their size or development.

**REHABILITATION** – Providing medical treatment or other care to orphaned, sick or injured wild animals that have come into human possession with the goal of returning the animal to the wild.

**RESIDENCE** – Any dwelling such as a house, manufactured home, or apartment that is permanently fixed in place and is owned, leased, or rented fully or in part by an individual. This term does not include tents; temporary lodging or rental units such as hotels, motels, resorts, or commercial campgrounds; recreational vehicles; mobile travel trailers; or, motor vehicles.

**RESIDENT** –

- (a) A person who physically inhabits a bona fide residence in Arkansas for at least 60 days and declares full-time residency. Possession of Arkansas real estate and/or proof of payment of associated services or utilities do not qualify the owner/renter as a resident if he lives out of state. Additional facts considered in establishing proof of current Arkansas residency are:
  - (i) Possession of a valid Arkansas driver's license or Arkansas identification card.
  - (ii) Possession of a valid Arkansas vehicle registration in his name and display of current Arkansas license tags on his vehicle.
  - (iii) Other documentation may be considered.

- (b) The following persons are considered residents for purposes of this Code:
  - (i) Residents of Arkansas enrolled as full-time students in colleges and universities outside of Arkansas.
  - (ii) Nonresidents enrolled as full-time students in colleges and universities in Arkansas.
  - (iii) Nonresident foreign exchange students attending school in Arkansas.
  - (iv) Resident foreign exchange students attending school outside of Arkansas.
  - (v) Active-duty military personnel assigned to duty stations in Arkansas.
  - (vi) Active-duty military personnel who were Arkansas residents at the time of entering service, regardless of where currently stationed.
  - (vii) Members of the National Guard who are assigned to an Arkansas Guard Unit.
- (c) Proof of at least one year residency must be provided when applying for the following licenses/permits:  
Special Guide, Alligator Farmer/Dealer, Alligator Snapping Turtle Breeder/Dealer, Commercial Fisherman's and Sportfishing, Commercial Fisherman's Helper, Junior/Senior Commercial Fishing, Resident Shell Taker/Seller, Shell Taker Helper, Shell Buyer, Resident Fish Dealer, Resident Roe Taker/Seller, Resident Roe Taker Helper and Resident Roe Buyer/Exporter.  
Non-Expiring Lifetime Resident Hunting and Fishing License and Sportsman's Permit.
- (d) The director or his representative shall make the final determination as to the resident status of any license applicant.

**ROUGH FISH** – Gars, bowfin, bullhead catfish, common carp, Asian carp (grass carp, bighead carp, silver carp), suckers (including buffalo), drum and yellow bass.

**SEINE** – A fishing net that hangs vertically in the water where the ends can be drawn together to entrap fish.

**SEINING** – The act of moving a seine by boat or human power to capture fish.

**SELL OR SALE** – To exchange or deliver for money or its equivalent; to offer for sale, barter, exchange or trade or the act of selling, bartering, consigning, exchanging or trading.

**SHELL BUYER** – Anyone who buys mussels or mussel parts from a Taker. An agent purchasing for a licensed buyer is not a buyer.

**SMALL GAME** – Furbearers, migratory game birds, quail, rabbit and squirrel.

**SNAG** – to take fish using conventional rod-and-reel tackle where the fish is impaled by the forceful retrieval of one or more hooks.

**SNAGLINE** – Commercial tackle consisting of a horizontal line with hooks or drops less than 24 inches apart.

**SPORTFISH** – See GAME FISH for definition.

**TACKLE** – An apparatus or device used to take wildlife.

**TAKE** – To shoot, kill, injure, trap, net, snare, spear, catch, capture or reduce to possession.

**TAXIDERMY** – The art of preparing, stuffing and/or mounting wildlife and parts thereof.

**TRAP OR TRAPPING** – A device to catch and hold wildlife.

**TROUT** – Any members of the Salmonidae family including rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, cutthroat trout, salmon and char.

**WATERFOWL** – All species of coots, ducks, geese and swans.

**WATERS OF THE STATE** – All streams, lakes, ponds, sloughs, bayous, marshes or any other waters either permanent or intermittent located wholly or partially within Arkansas. Provided, however, “waters of the state” shall not include pay lakes and fish farms or any waters that are confined within a pond, tank, or lake, situated entirely on the premises of a single private owner and which, except under abnormal flood conditions, are not connected with any other flowing stream or body of water that extends beyond the premises of such owner. **WILD** – To be living in a state of nature and not domesticated.

**WILDLIFE** – All wild birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians and other wild aquatic forms, and all other wild animals, regardless of classification, whether resident, migratory or imported, protected or unprotected, dead or alive, and shall extend to and include any and every part of any individual species of wildlife, including animals living in a captive state and which lack a genetic distinction from members of the same species living in the wild. Aquatic wildlife includes all aquatic species, including aquatic snails, aquatic turtles, crayfish (crawdads and crayfish), fish (including minnows), frogs, mussels and salamanders.

**WILDLIFE CHECK METHODS** – The following are the official wildlife check methods:

- (a) a designated elk check station;
- (b) the Commission on-line deer and turkey checking Web site and mobile applications;
- (c) a designated alligator check station; and,
- (d) the designated bear checking telephone number or the designated deer and turkey checking telephone number.

**WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA)** – Designated areas owned or controlled by the Commission and distinguished by certain markers and considered a separate zone with regard to wildlife regulations including: wildlife management area (WMA), waterfowl rest area (WRA), wildlife demonstration area (WDA), special use area (SUA) and state park-conservation area (SP-CA).

**YOUTH** –

- (a) for sections of this Code pertaining to big game, “youth” means any individual not less than 6 years old or more than 15 years old.
- (b) for all other sections of this Code, “youth” means an individual less than 16 years of age.

**ZONE** – An area defined by the Commission where hunting and/or fishing activities are regulated.

## **09.14 NATIVE WILDLIFE PETS RESTRICTED**

01-15 It is unlawful to possess native wildlife as pets except as follows:

- (A) Native wildlife captured from the wild:
  - (1) No more than six per household of any combination of the following animals may be possessed as pets:
    - (a) Hand-captured bobcat, coyote, gray fox, red fox, opossum, rabbit, raccoon and squirrel; and
    - (b) Deer that were captured by hand prior to July 1, 2012 may be retained until their death.

- (c) Hand-captured native non-game wildlife other than birds, bats, alligator snapping turtles, ornate box turtles, hellbenders, Ouachita streambed salamanders, **collared lizards**, troglodytic species (cave dwellers), or those animals defined as endangered species.
  - (2) It is unlawful for any person to remove such wildlife or their offspring from Arkansas except under the terms of a permit that may be issued by the Chief of Wildlife Management to persons who are moving to another state and have presented proof from that state that it is legal to import the wildlife.
  - (3) The sale or transfer of ownership of such wildlife or their offspring is prohibited except as provided in (A)(7) of this regulation.
  - (4) All wildlife possessed in captivity shall be maintained in enclosures, pens, or cages that are sufficiently strong to prevent escape of the wildlife and that will protect the wildlife from injury.
  - (5) All adult deer kept in compliance with (A) of this regulation shall be confined within an enclosure that complies with the following requirements:
    - (a) Enclosures shall have a perimeter fence that is not less than eight feet in height and shall be constructed so as to prohibit the escape of confined cervids and the ingress of native cervids.
    - (b) The area of the enclosure shall not be less than 200 square feet for the first cervid and shall be increased in size 150 square feet for each additional cervid.
  - (6) Males and females of the same species must be kept in separate enclosures, or if kept in the same enclosure, the owner shall provide proof that all males within the enclosure have been neutered.
  - (7) Native wildlife, except white-tailed deer, kept as personal pets in compliance with this regulation may be transferred to a wildlife rehabilitator permitted by the Commission ([Code 09.12](#)) and released back into the wild in the county where they were captured provided such animals were not confined with commercially obtained, captive born wildlife of the same species.
- (B) Captive born native wildlife: No more than six per household of any commercially obtained, captive born native wildlife may be possessed as personal pets in compliance with the following restrictions:
- (1) Commercially obtained, captive born wildlife pets and/or their offspring shall not be confined with the same species of wild born animals and/or their offspring.
  - (2) Owners shall maintain records of proof of legal ownership of such animals including licenses, bills of sale, bills of lading, receipts, invoices and copies of Wildlife Importation Permits or other satisfactory evidence. The date of acquisition, place of origin, and the name, address, and telephone number of the person from whom the wildlife was acquired shall be recorded. Owners shall provide these records to the Commission upon demand.
  - (3) Commercially obtained, captive born wildlife pets or their offspring shall only be sold in compliance with [Code 09.07](#).

- (4) Males and females of the same species must be kept in separate enclosures, or if kept in the same enclosure, the owner shall provide proof that all males within the enclosure have been neutered.
- (5) Owners of commercially obtained or captive born white-tailed deer or elk that were acquired prior to June 30, 2005, and that are kept as personal pets may retain ownership of such animals provided they registered with the Wildlife Management Division by June 30, 2008, and are in compliance with all provisions of this regulation.
- (6) Owners must immediately test all deer and elk that die in captivity for CWD and forward copies of test results to the Commission within seven days of receipt.
- (7) All cervids kept in compliance with (B) of this regulation shall be confined within an enclosure that complies with the following requirements:
  - (a) Enclosures shall have a perimeter fence that is not less than eight (8) feet in height and shall be constructed so as to prohibit the escape of confined cervids and the ingress of native cervids.
  - (b) The area of the enclosure shall not be less than 200 square feet for the first cervid and shall be increased in size 150 square feet for each additional cervid.
- (8) All wildlife possessed in captivity shall be maintained in enclosures, pens, or cages that are sufficiently strong to prevent escape of the wildlife and that will protect the wildlife from injury.
- (C) It is unlawful for anyone to keep a native wildlife pet under inhumane or unhealthy conditions.

**EXCEPTION:**

Aquatic pets taken in compliance with [Code 26.26](#).

**PENALTY: Class 1**

<b>26.08</b>	<b>WATERS RESTRICTED TO CERTAIN FISHING TACKLE</b>
08-07, <u>01-14</u>	It is unlawful to fish with any device other than rod or pole in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) Arkansas County – DeWitt City Park Lake</li> <li>Benton County – Lake Atalanta and Lake Bentonville</li> <li>Clark County – Big Timber Lake</li> <li>Carroll County – Hidden Lake</li> <li>Clark County – Gurdon Lake</li> <li>Clay County – Lake Hubble</li> <li>Conway County – Lake Bailey, Lake Roosevelt in Petit Jean State Park</li> <li>Craighead County – Craighead Forest Lake</li> <li>Crawford County – Lake Cambadelle and Lake Lou Emma</li> <li>Crittenden County – West Memphis City Parks Lake and Marion City Park Lake</li> <li><u>Cross County – All lakes in Village Creek State Park</u></li> <li>Faulkner County – Lake Bennett</li> </ul>

Fulton County – Spring River and tributaries from 100 yards below Dam No. 1 to the mouth of Myatt Creek; Spring River Lake

Greene County – Crowley Ridge State Park Lake and Reynolds Park Lake

Hempstead County – Lakes 1 and 2 on the Rick Evans Grandview WMA

Izard County (2 pole maximum limit) – Horseshoe Bend Pool on Strawberry River

Lafayette County – Lake June

Monroe County – Lake Greenlee

Montgomery County – North Fork Lake

Lonoke County – Tommy L. Sproles Lake Pickthorne and Ward City Park Lake

Madison County – Hindsville Lake

Monroe County – ~~Lake Greenlee and~~ Donald Branch Fishing Pond

Perry County – Lake Sylvia

Polk County – Shady Lake

Poinsett County – Upper Lake Hogue

Randolph County – Old Davidsonville State Park Lake

Scott County – Truman Baker Lake

Sebastian County – Carol Cross Lake

St. Francis County – All lakes in Village Creek State Park; Forrest City Park Lake

Stone County – Gunner Pool and Hayden Bend Pond

Yell County – Lake Kingfisher

Washington County – Devil's Den State Park Lake and posted U.S. Forest Service ponds and lakes.

Prairie County – Mike Freeze Wattensaw WMA ponds and lakes, except oxbow lakes

- (B) Arkansas River from 100 yards below Dardanelle Dam to Arkansas Highway 7 bridge and 100 yards below Dam No. 2 to the mouth of Morgan Cut-Off; Fourche La Fave River from 100 yards below Nimrod Dam to Arkansas Highway 7 bridge.

- (C) Waters listed in [Code 26.25](#).

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- 1) Giggling or bowfishing for rough fish is permitted in compliance with [Code 26.06](#), in waters listed in Section B and in other unrestricted state waters.
- 2) Catching bait is allowed in compliance with Code Chapter 32.00.

**PENALTY: Class 1**

**26.17 SNAGGING GAME FISH PROHIBITED**

08-07 It is unlawful to snag game fish.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- (1) From the bank within 100 yards below a dam (prohibited below the Upper White Oak Lake Dam).



- (2) From a boat from 100 yards below all locks and dams on the Arkansas River to the downstream entrance point of the lock structure, and from 100 yards below Dam No. 2 to the boat-launching ramps immediately below the dam.
- (3) From the bank below Beaver Dam, from the Corps of Engineers "No Fishing Beyond This Point" sign, downstream to the first Corps of Engineers boat ramp on the left descending bank April 15-June 15.
- (4) Daily limit: With the exception of catfish and paddlefish, no more than half the daily game fish limit may be taken by snagging, or the lesser whole number nearest half the limit, when the limit is an odd number.
- (5) Snagging must be discontinued once the daily limit of any species of game fish has been harvested.
- (6) Game fish snagged must be retained for personal use and applied to the daily limit.
- (7) Catfish may be snagged Jan. 1-Feb. 15 on the Black River from the Missouri state line to the Spring River confluence and on the St. Francis River from the Missouri state line to the Payneway Structure, with a daily limit of five catfish (no more than two of which may be flathead catfish) **and no more than one paddlefish.**

**PENALTY: Class 1**

## **26.21 YO-YO FISHING RESTRICTED**

01-09 It is unlawful for a person to fish more than 30 yo-yos or other mechanical fishing devices or to leave such unattended (out of sight or hearing) during daylight hours, or to suspend more than one yo-yo or mechanical device from any horizontal line, wire, limb or support. Stakes used for mounting yo-yos or limblines on Commissioned-owned lakes must be made from wood or cane and must be removed from the lake when not in use. **Stakes used for mounting yo-yos or limblines on Commissioned-owned lakes must be clearly labeled with the name and address, vehicle operator's license number, or current vehicle license number of the person using such equipment.** Yo-yos must be clearly labeled with the name and address, vehicle operator's license number, or current vehicle license number of the person using such equipment. These regulations shall apply to all yo-yos left in place whether "set" or "tripped" (disabled).  
**PENALTY: \$50 to \$1,000**

## **26.25 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS**

01-15 (A) **FAMILY FISHING PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS**  
The restrictions in this subsection shall apply to the following waters:  
Chicot County – Lake Village Community Fishing Pond  
Clay County – Mom's Lake  
Columbia County – Armory Pond  
Craighead County – Craighead Forest Park Youth Fishing Pond  
Drew County – Monticello High School Pond  
Faulkner County – Dr. James E. Moore Jr. Camp Robinson Firing Range  
Fulton County – Salem City Lake  
Hempstead County – Mike and Janet Huckabee Youth Fishing Pond  
Jefferson County – Pine Bluff Regional Park Youth Fishing Pond  
Lawrence County – Walnut Ridge City Lake

Pulaski County – Landers Lake, War Memorial Park Pond

Union County – Mattocks Park Lake

**RESTRICTIONS:**

- (1) Fishing is open only to youths or persons 65 years of age or older. All other properly licensed persons may fish if accompanied by a youth who is actively fishing. Fishing is also open to holders of a disabled fishing license (either a three-year or combination disability license). One licensed person may assist and fish with an actively fishing disabled fishing license holder.
- (2) Only hand-held rod or pole allowed.
- (3) Largemouth bass: catch and release only.
- (4) Catfish daily limit: 3
- (5) Bream daily limit: 25
- (6) Trout daily limit: 5
- (7) Hybrid striped bass: 3
- (8) Lakes open to electric trolling motors only.
- (9) All other sportfishing daily limit: same as statewide.

**(B) COMMUNITY FISHING PROGRAM RESTRICTIONS**

The restrictions in this subsection shall apply to the following waters:

Baxter County – Amon’s Lake

Benton County – Lake Springdale, Lake Bentonville, Lake Keith

Clark County – Clear Lake

**Crawford County – Van Buren Municipal Park Pond**

Crittenden County – Tilden Rodgers Park Pond

Faulkner County - Conway Station Park Pond

Garland County – Family Park Pond, Entergy Park Pond

Jefferson County – Martin Luther King Jr. Park Pond in Pine Bluff

Lonoke County – Cabot Community Pond, Mike Freeze England Community Pond

Miller County – Lake Dieffenbacher

Pike County – John Benjamin Glenwood Community Pond

Pope County – Pleasant View Park Pond

Pulaski County – all lakes, ponds and streams managed by the City of Little Rock Parks and Recreation Department within the city limits of Little Rock, Community Center Pond, Cherrywood Lake, Lake Valencia, Little Rock Air Force Base Pond, North Little Rock City Park waters, Paradise Lake, Pinnacle Mountain State Park Pond, Sherwood

Municipal City Pond, Willow Beach Park Pond

White County – Bald Knob Community Pond, Searcy City Lake

Saline County – Sunset Lake

Sebastian County – Carol Ann Cross Pond

Sebastian County – Wells Lake, Fort Chaffee

Yell County – Dardanelle City Park Ponds, Yell County Wildlife Federation Pond

Washington County – Murphy Park Pond

**RESTRICTIONS:**

- (1) Only hand held rod or pole allowed.
- (2) Largemouth bass: catch and release only.
- (3) Catfish daily limit: 3
- (4) Bream daily limit: 25
- (5) Trout daily limit: 5

- (6) Hybrid striped bass: 3
- (7) Lakes open to electric trolling motors only.
- (8) All other sportfish daily limit: same as statewide.

**PENALTY: Class 1**

30.25	COMMERCIAL FISHING RESTRICTIONS IN CERTAIN WATERS
01-15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(A) <b>Corning Lake or Long Lake in Clay County:</b> trotlines, throw line, limblines or snag lines are prohibited.</li> <li>(B) <b>Lake Dardanelle:</b> Commercial tackle of any type prohibited from noon, March 1-noon, Nov. 30 in the waters of Dardanelle Lake north of the Missouri Pacific Railroad in Pope, Johnson and Franklin counties, Dardanelle Bay in Yell County, and south of signs posted on Shoal Bay, Cane Creek Bay, Six Mile Creek at O-Kane Island Access, and south of Arkansas Highway 22 in Delaware Bay in Logan County.</li> <li>(C) <b>Lake Dardanelle:</b> Gill and trammel nets must be anchored so they are not within 3 feet of the water surface except noon, Dec. 1-noon, April 1.</li> <li>(D) <b>Big Lake National Wildlife Refuge:</b> March 1-Oct. 31 with 3 inch or larger square bar mesh gill and trammel nets.</li> <li>(E) <b>Lake Millwood</b> with legal gill and trammel nets open noon, Sept. 30-noon, May 1, and slat traps open noon, Sept. 30-noon, June 1. Lake Millwood is open year-round to other legal commercial fishing.</li> <li>(F) <b>Nimrod Lake, Blue Mountain Lake and Morgan Point Bendway Lake:</b> Open noon, Oct. 1-noon, March 1. All <u>species of</u> carp caught must be removed from these lakes. Commercial fishermen must register prior to fishing with the local district fisheries biologist and must submit monthly catch records to the local district fisheries biologist by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Only legal-sized gill and trammel nets or larger.</li> <li>(G) <b>Entergy Nuclear Power Plant:</b> No commercial fishing in the discharge bay Nov. 1-March 1.</li> <li>(H) <b>Cadron Creek and Point Remove Creek:</b> Legal commercial tackle during the commercial fishing season noon, Sept. 30-noon, May 1 on Cadron Creek -- from its mouth to Arkansas Highway 287 on its east fork in Faulkner County, North Cadron Creek -- from its mouth to Arkansas Highway 285 in Faulkner County; Point Remove Creek -- from its mouth up the east fork to Arkansas Highway 95 and the Kissire Bridge on the west fork in Conway County.</li> <li>(I) <b>Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMA:</b> Open noon, Jan. 1 until the last day of February.</li> <li>(J) <b>First Old River Lake (Miller County):</b> Open noon, Nov. 1 until noon the last day of February, with legal gill and trammel nets. Commercial fishermen must obtain, and have in their possession while fishing, a commercial permit from the district biologist at the Hope Regional Office and report their catch to the Hope Regional Office by March 15.</li> <li>(K) <b>Grand Lake (Chicot County):</b> Commercial fishing with slat traps noon, Nov. 1-noon, March 1.</li> <li>(L) <b>Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc Lake (Hempstead County):</b> Open noon, Jan. 1 until noon February 28, with legal gill and trammel nets. Commercial fishermen must obtain, and have in their possession while fishing, a commercial permit from the district biologist at the Hope Regional Office and report their catch to the Hope Regional Office by March 15.</li> <li>(M) <b>Calion Lake (Union County):</b> Open noon, <del>Jan. 1</del> February 1 until noon <del>Feb. 28</del> March 15, with legal gill and trammel nets. Commercial fishermen must</li> </ul>

obtain and have in their possession while fishing, a commercial permit from the district biologist at the Camden Regional Office and report their catch to the Camden Regional Office by March 15 31. All rough fish caught in the nets must be retained.

**PENALTY: Class 2**

**30.26 POSSESSION OF FILLETED FISH PROHIBITED WHILE COMMERCIAL FISHING**

It is unlawful to possess filleted fish or fish with head or tail removed while commercial fishing or transporting fish by boat.

**EXCEPTION:**

Blocking of paddlefish in compliance with code 30.21

**34.04 COMMERCIAL AQUATIC TURTLE HARVEST RESTRICTIONS**

- 01-15 (A) It is unlawful to take or attempt to take aquatic turtle eggs from the wild.
- (B) It is unlawful to take or attempt to take aquatic turtles for commercial purposes by any means other than hoop nets or box type turtle traps. Commercial aquatic turtle harvest is allowed in waters of the following counties or specified portions thereof, and/or bodies of water as specified:
- (1) Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot (Exception 2), Cleveland, Clay, Columbia (Exception 2), Craighead, Crittenden (Exception 2), Cross, Dallas, Desha, Drew (Exception 2), Grant, Greene, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette (Exception 2), Lawrence (Exception 2), Lawrence (east of the Black River), Lee, Lincoln, Lonoke, Miller, Mississippi [**Exception 2(g)**], Monroe, Nevada, Ouachita, Phillips, Poinsett, Prairie, Pulaski (south of I-30 and east of I-440 and Arkansas Highway 67), Randolph (east of the Black River) from the southern border to Pocahontas; from Pocahontas to Maynard east of Arkansas Highway 115; and from Maynard to the state line east of Arkansas Highway 166), St. Francis, Saline (east of I-30), Union, White (east of Arkansas Highway 67) and Woodruff counties;
  - (2) Arkansas River, from its mouth to the Arkansas/Oklahoma state line, including that part of the Arkansas River from the Ozark Dam to the Arkansas/Oklahoma state line, bounded on the north by the Union Pacific Railroad and on the south by Arkansas Highway 22 in compliance with Code 30.25.
  - (3) Black River from its mouth to the Missouri state line;
  - (4) Little River from its mouth to the Corps of Engineers boat ramp on west bank of river below Millwood Lake Dam;
  - (5) Ouachita River from the Louisiana state line to the Arkansas Highway 79B Bridge (Camden);
  - (6) Red River from the Louisiana state line to the Oklahoma/Texas state line;
  - (7) Sulphur River from its mouth to the Texas state line;
  - (8) White River from its mouth to 100 yards below Dam No. 1 at Batesville, Independence County;
  - (9) Arkansas waters between the main levees of the Mississippi River.
  - (10) All lakes, bays or other bodies of water, other than tributary streams,

connected to waters as specified above, when accessible by boat, from the main channel except as limited by Addendum Chapter H1.00.

- (C) When a river or stream forms the boundary between opened and closed counties, that boundary segment shall be open to tackle legal in the open county.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- (1) Bayou Meto Bayou in compliance with [Code 38.01](#).
- (2) The following waters are closed to commercial aquatic turtle harvest:
  - (a) Lake Erling, including all tributaries upstream from 100 yards below Lake Erling Dam to Arkansas Highway 313 (Lafayette County)
  - (b) All Commission-owned lakes (excluding all natural lakes when accessible by boat from river or stream channel on WMAs in counties listed above);
  - (c) Lake Columbia (Columbia County);
  - (d) Horseshoe Lake (Crittenden County);
  - (e) Lake Wallace (Drew and Chicot counties);
  - (f) Upper and Lower Lake Chicot (Connerly Bayou to Ditch Bayou Dam inclusive)(Chicot County).
  - (g) **The Mississippi River in Mississippi County, from the Sans Souci Landing downstream to the head of Sunrise Towhead, due east of Butler, AR, and all waters within and bounding the area known as “Driver Bar”, which forms the east bank of the river channel within this river segment.**
- (3) USDA Forest Service lakes, State Park lakes and lakes owned by municipalities or property-owner associations.
- (4) Private landowners, in closed counties, can obtain from the Commission, a Private Land Nuisance Aquatic Turtle Permit. This permit allows the harvest of Common Snapping Turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*), Redear Sliders (*Trachemys scripta*), and Spiny Softshells (*Apalone spinifera*) for commercial purposes on private property under the following conditions:
  - (a) Only from manmade lakes and ponds
  - (b) Only by a licensed commercial aquatic turtle harvest or dealer permittee
  - (c) Only with legal commercial turtle harvest gear as defined above
  - (d) All harvested turtles shall be reported on aquatic turtle harvest report forms as specified in [Code 34.07](#).

**PENALTY: Class 2**

**~~37.09~~ OUTBOARD MOTOR RESTRICTIONS ON ELEVEN POINT RIVER**

~~06-15 It is unlawful to use outboard motors larger than 30 horsepower at the propeller or jet pump on the Eleven Point River.~~  
**~~PENALTY: Class 1~~**

**N1.01 GAME FISH DAILY LIMITS**

01-15	Alligator Gar	1
	Black Basses (including not more than four Smallmouth)	10
	Bream (over 4 inches length)	50
	Catfish (exc. Bullhead)	10
	Crappie	30

Rock Bass	10
Muskellunge	6
Paddlefish	2
Pickerel	6
Sauger	6
Saugeye	6
Shovelnose Sturgeon	No Limit
Striped Bass or Hybrid (Combination)	6
Trout (including not more than:	
2 brown trout, 2 cutthroat	
trout, 2 brook trout)	5
Walleye	6
White Bass	25

~~Daily Aggregate Limit 75~~

#### EXCEPTIONS:

- (1) The following bodies of water are restricted to half the daily limit for all sportfish:  
Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc Lake, Horseshoe Bend Pool of the Strawberry River in Izard County. All black bass and crappie on Lower White Oak Lake must be released immediately.

- (2) BLACK BASS (LARGEMOUTH, SPOTTED, SMALLMOUTH):

##### (A) **Smallmouth bass:**

**Ozark Zone** (Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Clay, Cleburne, Fulton, Independence, Izard, Lawrence, Madison, Marion, Newton, Randolph, Searcy, Sharp, Stone, Van Buren, and Washington counties) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches with a daily limit of four, except Bull Shoals, Beaver, Greers Ferry, Table Rock Lakes and Lake Norfolk (see Ex. 1(B) below). Greers Ferry Lake – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches, daily limit six.

**Ozark Zone Blue Ribbon Streams** – Crooked Creek from Arkansas Highway 101 bridge downstream to the confluence with the White River; between the U.S. Highway 62-412 and U.S. Highway 62 Spur bridges at Pyatt – smallmouth bass minimum length limit 18 inches, daily limit of one. Buffalo River from confluence with Clabber Creek downstream to the confluence with the White River – smallmouth bass minimum length limit 18 inches, daily limit of one. All other water of Crooked Creek and Buffalo River – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 14 inches, daily limit of two.

**Ozark Zone Catch-and-Release Area** – Crooked Creek, along boundary of Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation property near Kelley's Slab Access.

**Ozark Zone Quality Streams** – Kings River from Trigger Gap to U.S. Highway 62 bridge smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 18 inches, daily limit of one.

All other water of the Kings, Illinois, Spring, South Fork of the Spring and Eleven Point rivers and War Eagle Creek – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 14 inches, daily limit of two.

**Ouachita/Boston Zone** (all Arkansas counties not included in the Ozark Zone) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 10 inches, daily limit of four.

**Ouachita/Boston Zone Quality Streams** – (Mulberry, Caddo above DeGray Lake, DeGray Lake, Cossatot River, Ouachita River upstream from Lake Ouachita, Ouachita River downstream from Rammel Dam, Saline River, including its four headwater forks in Saline, Perry and Garland counties, South Fork/Ouachita, Little Missouri above Lake Greeson) – smallmouth bass minimum length limit of 12 inches, daily limit of two.

**Ouachita/Boston Zone Catch-and-Release Area** – all smallmouth bass caught in Lake Ouachita including the Ouachita River upstream to the River Bluff access and the South Fork of the Ouachita River upstream to Hovel Branch must be immediately returned to the stream.

(B) **Largemouth bass:**

Grandview Lake 2, Lake Sylvia, and Lower White Oak Lake – daily limit five.

Lake Millwood – daily limit six.

Mallard Lake – daily limit one.

Marion McCollum Lake, Lake Sylvia – Largemouth bass caught must be immediately returned to the water.

(C) **Black Bass (all species combined):**

Beaver, Bull Shoals, DeGray, DeQueen, Norfork, Table Rock lakes, Lakes Jack Nolen, Ouachita, Ashbaugh – daily limit six. Lake Lou Emma – daily limit five. Lake Atkins – daily limit four. War Eagle Creek – daily limit two.

(3) **BREAM:**

No limit on bream 4 inches or shorter.

(4) **CATFISH:**

(A) No limit on catfish on Grand Lake - Chicot County, between the main levees of the Mississippi River, from the confluence of the Mississippi/White Rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi/Arkansas Rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge. No limit on blue and channel catfish from Little River (below Millwood Dam) Red and Sulphur Rivers. No limit on channel catfish on Marion McCollum Lake Greenlee – Monroe County, and on Lake Chicot (including that portion of Connerly Bayou downstream from Connerly Dam to the bayou's mouth and Ditch Bayou from the inlet on Lake Chicot to Ditch Bayou Dam).

(B) Catfish daily limit five on:

DeWitt City Park Lake (Arkansas County); Lake Atalanta (Benton County); Hidden Lake (Carroll County); Big Timber Lake and Gurdon Lake (Clark County); Hubble Lake (Clay County); Lake Bailey (Conway County); Lake Cambadelle and Lake Lou Emma (Crawford County); Marion City Park Lake (Crittenden County); Village Creek State Park Lakes (Cross and St. Francis Counties); Lake Bennett (Faulkner County); Lake Clearfork (Garland County); Crowley Ridge State Park Lake and Reynolds Park Lake (Greene County); Newark City Lake (Independence County); Lake June (Lafayette County); Ward City Park Lake (Lonoke County); Hindsville Lake (Madison County); Blytheville City Park Lake (Mississippi County); Donald Branch Fishing Pond (Monroe County); Lower White Oak Lake (Ouachita County); Lake Sylvia (Perry County); Shady Lake (Polk County); Twin Lakes A and B, Camp Ferncliff (Pulaski



- County); Old Davidsonville State Park Lake (Randolph County); Forrest City Park Lake (St. Francis County); Truman Baker Lake (Scott County); Cave City's Lakes (Sharp County); Gunner Pool and Hayden Bend Pond (Stone County); Devils Den State Park (Washington County); Spring Lake, Kingfisher, Clubhouse Lakes in Petit Jean WMA (Yell County) and posted USDA Forest Service ponds and lakes.
- (C) In addition to daily limit, 10 channel catfish under 16 inches may be taken on the Arkansas River.
  - (D) In addition to daily limit, 10 channel catfish and 10 blue catfish any size may be taken in Lake Erling and Millwood Lake.
- (5) **CRAPPIE:**
- (A) Crappie daily limit – 15 in Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals, Norfolk reservoirs, Cane Creek Lake (Lincoln County), and Gurdon Lake (Clark County).
  - (B) Crappie daily limit – 50 between the main levees of the Mississippi River, from the confluence of the Mississippi/White Rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, from the confluence of the Mississippi/Arkansas Rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge and on Horseshoe Lake (Crittenden County).
  - (C) Crappie daily limit – 20 in Lake Chicot and Lake Monticello.
- (6) **WALLEYE:**
- (A) Beaver Lake and its tributaries; Table Rock Lake and its tributaries to Beaver Dam; Bull Shoals Lake, and Norfolk Lake – minimum length limit of 18 inches, daily limit four.
  - (B) Greers Ferry Lake and its tributaries – protected slot limit of 20-28 inches, daily limit of six (only one of which may be longer than 28 inches).
  - (C) In compliance with [Addendum N1.02](#) and [Code Chapter 28.00](#).
- (7) **WHITE BASS, STRIPED BASS, HYBRID STRIPED BASS:**
- (A) White bass:  
Between the main levees of the Mississippi river, from the confluence of the Mississippi and White rivers upstream to the Benzal Railroad Bridge, and from the confluence of the Mississippi and Arkansas rivers upstream to the Yancopin Railroad Bridge – daily limit of 50, possession limit of 100. Beaver Lake and its tributaries; lakes Ashbaugh, Sequoyah and Monticello – no limit.
  - (B) Striped bass and hybrid striped bass (combined): Beaver, Bull Shoals and Norfolk lakes; lakes Greeson, Maumelle, and Ouachita – daily limit three. Arkansas River and connecting lakes – daily limit 10. Lake Monticello – no limit.
- (8) **ALLIGATOR GAR:**  
Alligator gar longer than 36 inches may not be harvested from noon, May 1-noon, July 1, statewide. Alligator Gar Permit is required to harvest alligator gar ([Code 26.28](#)).
- (9) **TROUT (BROOK, BROWN, CUTTHROAT, RAINBOW):**
- (A) **Brown trout:**  
White River (Bull Shoals Tailwater) and North Fork White River (Norfolk Tailwater) – minimum length 24 inches, daily limit one. Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59 and Spring River – minimum length 16 inches, daily limit two. Little Red River (Greers Ferry Tailwater) from Greers Ferry Dam to Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge –



protected slot limit of 16-24 inches, daily limit of five (only one of which may be longer than 24 inches).

White River (Beaver Tailwater) from Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access – protected slot limit of 13-16 inches, daily limit of five (only one of which may be longer than 16 inches). Little Missouri River, from Narrows Dam to Arkansas Highway 27 Bridge – all brown trout must be released immediately.

(B) **Cutthroat trout:**

White River (Bull Shoals Lake Tailwater), North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater), Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59, Spring River – minimum length 16 inches, daily limit of two.

(C) **Brook trout:**

White River (Bull Shoals Lake Tailwater), North Fork White River (Norfork Tailwater), Spavinaw Creek (Benton County) west of Arkansas Highway 59, Spring River – minimum length 14 inches, daily limit two.

(D) **Rainbow trout:**

Lake Atalanta (Benton County) – daily limit five.

All fish measurements must follow procedures listed in [Code 01.00-C Length Limit](#) definition.

N1.02	LENGTH AND PROTECTED LENGTH LIMITS ON CERTAIN LAKES AND RIVERS
01-15	<p>(A) <b>BLACK BASS</b> – It is unlawful to possess black bass as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Largemouth bass less than 12 inches on Lake Frierson.</li> <li>(2) Spotted bass less than 12 inches on, Bull Shoals, Norfork and Table Rock lakes.</li> <li>(3) All black bass less than 12 inches in Horseshoe Bend Pool on the Strawberry River.</li> <li>(4) Largemouth and spotted bass less than 13 inches on Lake Ouachita.</li> <li>(5) Largemouth bass 13-16 inches on lakes Austell (Cross County), Barnett (White County), Brewer, Wilhelmina (Polk County), Bear Creek Lake, Bob Kidd; Lee Creek; Sugar Loaf Lake, and Dierks Reservoir (Howard and Sevier counties).</li> <li>(6) Largemouth bass less than 13 inches <u>on DeGray Lake and</u> within the boundaries of Felsenthal NWR.</li> </ol> <p><b>EXCEPTION:</b> No restriction in Woodland Trail Pond - located at the Felsenthal NWR Headquarters on Hwy 82 (Ashley County); Locust Ridge Pond – located at Locust Ridge on Hwy 82 (Union County); Eagle Lake Pond- located north of Eagle Lake on Bradley Road 53 (Bradley County); and Shallow Lake Field Pond located west of Shallow Lake (Union County). Person(s) keeping largemouth bass less than 13 inches from these waters must exit the NWR boundaries immediately upon leaving these ponds and may not enter NWR campgrounds or fish other NWR waters with largemouth bass less than 13 inches from these four ponds in their possession.</p>

- (7) Largemouth bass less than 14 inches on the Arkansas River and its tributaries.
  - (8) Smallmouth bass less than 15 inches on Beaver, Bull Shoals, Norfolk and Table Rock lakes.
  - (9) Largemouth bass less than 15 inches on Beaver Lake, Big Lake NWR, Blue Mountain, Bull Shoals, Georgia Pacific, Greers Ferry, Kingfisher, Norfolk, Shady and Table Rock lakes; Caddo Fishing Pond; Upper and Lower Lake Chicot (including Connerly Bayou downstream from Connerly Dam to the bayou's mouth and Ditch Bayou from the inlet on Lake Chicot to Ditch Bayou Dam); Lake Greenlee, Mercer Bayou (Sulphur River WMA); and Moss Creek Pond.
  - (10) Black bass greater than 16 inches in Lake Winona.
  - (11) Largemouth bass 16-21 inches on Lake Atkins. Daily limit four (only one of which may be longer than 21 inches).
  - (12) Largemouth bass 16-21 inches on Tommy L. Sproles Lake Pickthorne. Daily limit two (only one of which may be longer than 21 inches).
  - (13) Largemouth bass daily limit ten (only one of which may be longer than 20 inches) on Lake Columbia.
  - (14) Largemouth bass daily limit 10 (only one of which may be longer than 18 inches) on Lake SWEPCO.
  - (15) Smallmouth bass less than 18 inches on the lower Little Missouri River from Narrows Dam to its mouth. Daily limit one.
  - (16) Largemouth bass less than 21 inches on Mallard Lake. Daily limit one.
  - (17) Largemouth bass 19-22 inches on Lake Monticello. Daily limit eight, only one of which may be longer than 22 inches.
  - (18) Largemouth Bass less than 16 inches on Lower White Oak Lake. Daily limit five.
- (B) **CRAPPIE:** It is unlawful to possess crappie as follows:
- (1) Less than 10 inches in Beaver, Table Rock, Bull Shoals and Norfolk Reservoirs; Cane Creek Lake in Lincoln County; Lake Chicot (including Connerly Bayou downstream from Connerly Dam to the bayou's mouth and Ditch Bayou from the inlet on Lake Chicot to Ditch Bayou Dam); Lake Charles, Lake Conway, Lake Monticello, **Lake Overcup and Harris Brake Lake**.
  - (2) Less than 9 inches on Blue Mountain **and Harris Brake lakes**.
- EXCEPTION:**
- (1) From December-February, the minimum length limit is waived on Lake Monticello and the harvest is regulated by a 20-fish daily limit. The first 20 crappie caught, regardless of size, must be kept. Culling is not permitted. From March-November, harvest is controlled by a 10-inch minimum length, daily limit of 20.
- (C) **CATFISH** (channel, blue and flathead):
- (1) It is unlawful to possess flathead catfish less than 20 inches on the Ouachita River from Sandy Beach Access (Ouachita County) to Rammel Dam.
- (D) **STRIPED BASS:** It is unlawful to possess striped bass less than 20 inches on Lake Norfolk and Beaver Lake.
- (E) **SHOVELNOSE STURGEON:** It is unlawful to possess shovelnose sturgeon less than 21 inches. Shovelnose sturgeon may not be taken from the Mississippi River.
- EXCEPTION:**

- (1) Sportfish may be snagged (except in catch-and-release areas) in compliance with Codes 26.05; 26.17 and within the restrictive size limits in this addendum chapter.

### **N1.03 SPECIFIC TROUT WATER REGULATIONS**

- 01-13 (A) **Beaver Tailwater** (White River from 100 yards below Beaver Dam to boundary signs at Houseman Access).
- (1) No fishing, boating or wading within 100 yards of Beaver Dam.
  - (2) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish other than as specified for the paddlefish-snagging season.
  - (3) Bait fishing allowed only with a single, hooking point.
  - (4) From April 15-June 15, snagging game fish is legal only from 100 yards below Beaver Dam from the Corps of Engineers “No Fishing Beyond This Point” sign downstream to the first Corps of Engineers boat ramp on the left descending bank to the first boat-launching ramp. Snagging must cease after half the daily limit of any game fish has been snagged. Snagged fish of any species shall not be released.
  - (5) Special Regulation Area:  
Artificial Lures Only Area/No Bait Zone from approximately 0.5 mile below Beaver Dam to approximately 100 yards upstream of Parker Bend Access, as indicated by signs.
    - (a) Only artificial lures or flies shall be used. All hooking points must be barbless. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (b) Chumming is prohibited.
- (B) **Bull Shoals Tailwater** (White River from 100 yards below Bull Shoals Dam to Arkansas Highway 58 Bridge at Guion).
- (1) No fishing, boating or wading within 100 yards of Bull Shoals Dam.
  - (2) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
  - (3) Special Regulation Areas:
    - (a) Bull Shoals Dam Catch-and-Release Area – Open to fishing from Feb. 1-Oct. 31 from 100 yards below Bull Shoals Dam to the upstream boundary of Bull Shoals/White River State Park, as indicated by signs.
      - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
      - (2) Only artificial lures or flies shall be used. All hooking points must be barbless. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
      - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
    - (b) Bull Shoals Dam Closed Area – the area 100 yards below Bull Shoals Dam to the wing dike at the Bull Shoals/White River State Park Trout Dock. This area is closed to fishing or wading Nov. 1-Jan. 31.
    - (c) Bull Shoals Dam Seasonal Brown Trout Catch-and-Release Area, Nov. 1-Jan. 31. From the wing dike at Bull Shoals/White River State Park Trout Dock to the downstream boundary of the Bull Shoals/White River State Park.
      - (1) All brown trout must be immediately released.

- (2) Only artificial lures or flies shall be used. All hooking points must be barbless. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
    - (4) No fishing 30 minutes after sunset-30 minutes before sunrise.
  - (d) Rim Shoals Catch-and-Release Area (near Cotter). From sign immediately above mouth of Jenkins Creek to the first electric power line downstream, as indicated by signs.
    - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
    - (2) Only artificial lures or flies shall be used. All hooking points must be barbless. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
  - (e) Monkey Island Catch-and-Release Area (between Reds Landing Access and Chesmond Ferry Access), from the upstream end of Monkey Island to mouth of Moccasin Creek, as indicated by signs.
    - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
    - (2) Only artificial lures or flies shall be used. All hooking points must be barbless. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
- (C) **Norfork Tailwater** (North Fork of the White River from 100 yards below Norfork Dam to the confluence of the White River).
  - (1) No fishing, boating or wading within 100 yards below Norfork Dam.
  - (2) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
  - (3) Chain dragging is prohibited. It is unlawful to drag chains or other objects from boats, capable of destroying aquatic vegetation.
  - (4) Special Regulation Areas:
    - (a) Norfork Catch-and-Release Area – from the downstream end of Long Hole to the Bill Ackerman River Ridge Walk-in Access (about 1-2 miles), as indicated by signs.
      - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
      - (2) Only artificial lures or flies shall be used. All hooking points must be barbless. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
      - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
- (D) **Greers Ferry Tailwater** (Little Red River from 100 yards below Greers Ferry Dam to the Arkansas Highway 305 Bridge).
  - (1) No fishing, boating or wading within 100 yards of Greers Ferry Dam.
  - (2) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish. Only a single hooking point per pole may be used for bait-fishing.
  - (3) Special Regulation Areas:
    - (a) JFK Special Regulations Area (at John F. Kennedy Park below Greers Ferry Dam) – from 100 yards downstream from Greers Ferry Dam to approximately 0.5 miles downstream to the last Greer's Ferry National Fish Hatchery effluent outfall in John F. Kennedy Park, as indicated by signs.
      - (1) Only artificial lures with barbless hooks shall be used.

- (2) Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
  - (b) Cow Shoals Seasonal Catch-and-Release Area, Oct. 1-Dec. 31.  
From the head of Cow Shoals to the mouth of Canoe Creek, as indicated by signs.
    - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
    - (2) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point **per pole** shall be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
    - (4) Closed to night fishing (half hour before sunset to half hour before sunrise).
  - (c) Mossy Shoals Special Regulations Area – from the head of Dunham Shoals downstream to the end of Mossy Shoals, as indicated by signs.
    - (1) Only artificial lures with barbless hooks shall be used.
    - (2) Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
    - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
- (E) **Collins Creek** (from its source in John F. Kennedy Park below Greers Ferry Dam to the confluence of the Little Red River).
  - (1) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
  - (2) Catch-and-Release Stream. All trout caught must be immediately released.
  - (3) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point shall be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
  - (4) Chumming is prohibited.
  - (5) Fishing is limited to youths upstream of the wooden vehicle bridge in John F. Kennedy Park.
  - (6) Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset.
  - (7) Downstream of the wooden vehicle road bridge in John F. Kennedy Park, anglers with a fishing license and a trout permit may fish when accompanying a youth under age 16 in the act of fishing.
- (F) **Dry Run Creek** (from its source on the east side of Norfolk National Fish Hatchery below Norfolk Dam to the confluence with the North Fork of the White River).
  - (1) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
  - (2) Catch-and-Release Stream. All trout caught must be immediately released.
  - (3) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point shall be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
  - (4) Chumming is prohibited.
  - (5) Fishing is limited to youths and mobility impaired anglers.
  - (6) Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset.
  - (7) Mobility impaired anglers shall fish from the mobility impaired access pier or boardwalk only.
  - (8) Mobility-impaired card is required for mobility-impaired anglers in compliance with [Addendum C1.11](#).
- (G) **Blanchard Spring Mirror Lake** (in Ozark National Forest Blanchard Spring, from its source to the confluence with North Sylamore Creek, including Mirror Lake).

- (1) An angler shall use no more than two fishing rods or poles and must attend them at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
- (H) **Spring River**, from 100 yards below Dam No. 1 at Mammoth Spring State Park to the mouth of Myatt Creek.
  - (1) An angler shall use no more than two fishing rods or poles and must attend them at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
- (I) **Spavinaw Creek (Benton County)**, from its source downstream to the Arkansas Highway 59 bridge.
  - (1) An angler shall use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
  - (2) Catch and Release Stream. All trout caught must be immediately released.
  - (3) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point shall be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
  - (4) Chumming is prohibited.
- (J) **Narrows Tailwater – Little Missouri River** from 100 yards below Narrows Dam (Lake Greeson) downstream to the low-water bridge (Arkansas Highway 27 Bridge).
  - (1) An angler shall use no more than two fishing rods or poles and must attend them at all times. No other devices shall be used to catch fish.
  - (2) Special Regulation Areas:
    - (a) Narrows Catch-and-Release Area – from 100 yards below Narrows Dam downstream to the upstream boundary of Riverside Park Access.
      - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
      - (2) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point shall be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
      - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
    - (b) Narrows Summer Catch-and-Release Area – May 1-Oct. 15. Downstream from the upstream boundary of the Riverside Park Access to the gas line crossing above River Ridge Pool.
      - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
      - (2) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point shall be used. Natural or scented baits are not allowed.
      - (3) Chumming is not allowed.
    - (c) Narrows Winter Catch-and-Release Area – Oct. 16-April 30. From approximately 300 yards downstream of Hinds Bluff Access to approximately 300 yards upstream of Old Factory Site (Weir 2), as indicated by signs.
      - (1) All trout caught must be immediately released.
      - (2) Only artificial lures with a single, barbless hooking point shall be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
      - (3) Chumming is prohibited.
- (K) **Big Spring** (at Cotter) from its source to the confluence with the White River.
  - (1) Fishing is limited to youths and disabled anglers. Youths must be accompanied by an adult when fishing. Adult disabled anglers must carry proof they are 100 percent permanently and totally disabled ([Code 01.00-C Disabled](#)) and possess a sport fishing, lifetime fishing, or combination hunting and fishing license, plus a trout permit.
  - (2) An angler may use no more than one fishing rod or pole and must attend it at all times. No other devices may be used to catch fish.
  - (3) All fish caught must be released.

- (4) Only artificial lures with barbless hook(s) may be used. Natural or scented baits are prohibited.
- (5) Chumming is prohibited.
- (6) Fishing is allowed from sunrise to sunset.
- (7) No fishing in the swimming hole at the upstream end of Big Spring, as indicated by signs.
- (8) No motorized boats allowed in Big Spring.
- (9) Fishing derbies must be requested, and permitted in writing by AGFC District 2 fisheries biologist, and can include fishing with natural or scented baits, and harvest of trout.

## FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY  
(Attach additional pages if needed)

**DEPARTMENT:** Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

**BUREAU:** Fisheries

**PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT:** Cody Wyatt

**TELEPHONE #:** (877) 425-7521

**FAX #:** (870) 425-6596

**EMAIL:**

Christopher.Wyatt@agfc.ar.gov

**SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE:** 2016 Fisheries Regulations Proposals

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation have a financial impact?  
Yes: No: **X**
2. Do you believe that the development of a financial impact statement is so speculative as to be cost prohibitive? Yes: No: **X** If "Yes", please explain:
3. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a **federal** rule or regulation, please give the incremental cost for implementing the regulation. Please indicate if the cost provided is the cost of the program.

### Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue	\$	
Federal Funds	\$	
Cash Funds	\$	<b>N/A</b>
Special Revenue	\$	
Other (Identify)	\$	
Total	\$	

### Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue	\$	
Federal Funds	\$	
Cash Funds	\$	<b>N/A</b>
Special Revenue	\$	
Other (Identify)	\$	
Total	\$	

4. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any **party** subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? (Estimated cost includes fees, administrative penalties, reporting, record keeping, equipment, construction, labor, professional services, revenue loss, or other costs associated with compliance.) Identify the **party** subject to the proposed rule, and explain how they are impacted.

**Current Fiscal Year:** \$ **N/A**

**Next Fiscal Year:** \$ **N/A**

Party Subject to Rule: **Anglers in Arkansas**

Effect on Party Subject to Rule: **Positive**

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to the **agency** to implement this rule? Explain the financial benefit to the agency from implementing this rule.

**Current Fiscal Year:** \$ **N/A**

**Next Fiscal Year:** \$ **N/A**

Financial Benefit to Agency: **N/A**

6. Do alternative means exist for accomplishing the objectives of the rules that might be less burdensome to small business? Yes: No: **X**

Why were such alternatives not proposed:

7. Compare this rule with federal and state counterparts:



## **INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM:**

1. ECONOMIC IMPACT - In compliance with Governor's Proclamation EO 05-04, this form must be completed for **commercial licenses and permits** and submitted at the time a regulation is proposed to the Commission. The form will be forwarded to the Chief of Fiscal Services Division for review. After review, the form will be submitted to:

Director  
Arkansas Department of Economic Development  
One Capitol Mall  
Little Rock, AR 72201

2. FINANCIAL IMPACT - After passage of any regulation changes which have a financial impact (including all sport, lifetime, and commercial licenses) this form must be completed and submitted to the Chief of the Legal Division. The form is required for filing regulation changes with the Secretary of State.