

**REPORT OF THE
GAME AND FISH/STATE POLICE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**

DECEMBER 16, 2011

Co-Chairs:

Your Game and Fish/State Police Subcommittee met with representatives of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) on Tuesday, December 6, 2011, and reports the discussion and consideration of the following presentations and items by the noted speakers:

- A. Eric Brinkman, District Fisheries Supervisor, AGFC, presented an update on the renovation and water control tower repairs of the White Oak Lake. Renovations including draining the lake, gate repair, and habitat improvement projects necessary to enhance the largemouth bass population.
- B. In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated §15-11-709, Loren Hitchcock, Director, AGFC, and Bryan Kellar, Outdoor Recreation Grants Program Director, Department of Parks and Tourism, reported on the implementation of Act 686 of 2009, the Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program. To date, 13 Wildlife Observation Trails Pilot Program grant projects have been approved for funding up to \$1 million. The pilot program is funded from gas lease revenues.
- C. In accordance with Arkansas Code Annotated §15-47-105, Loren Hitchcock, Director, AGFC, and Butch Calhoun, Director, Department of Rural Services, reported on the implementation of Act 687 of 2009, the Wildlife Recreation Facilities Pilot Program. To date, 12 Wildlife Recreation Facilities Pilot Program grant projects have been approved for funding up to \$500,000. The pilot program is funded from gas lease revenues.
- D. Loren Hitchcock, Director, AGFC, presented an update on the Marine Fuel Tax Program. Marine Fuel Tax is spent to improve boating access in Arkansas. The annual allotment for marine fuel tax is approximately \$1.5 million. Marine Fuel Tax Program projects include access roads, boat launching ramps, and parking lots.
- E. Discussion on the disposal of remains from deer processing.

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator David Wyatt, Co-Chair

Representative Garry L. Smith, Co-Chair