



Hook and Cook event
Page 4

Carp Madness II 'Bowfishing Edition' Recap

On June 23-24, 2018, the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the Bowfishing Association of America partnered together to conduct the first agency sponsored bowfishing tournament deemed "Carp Madness 2: Bowfishing Edition." Following in the footsteps of Carp Madness 1, a commercial fishing tournament, this event was a great success by removing large numbers of invasive carp, and informing and engaging the public in the fight to protect our waters.

Bowfishers traveled from 11 states across the country to compete for the \$23,000 offered in awards. Kentucky Dam State Park hosted the tournament, which included 81 bowfishing teams, with 2-4 individuals per team. Bowfishers could enter in one of two divisions; Lakes (Kentucky and Barkley Lakes), or Rivers (lower Cumberland River and lower Tennessee River).

The Rivers division had 48 teams, which harvested 8,453 pounds of Asian carp. Descalin, a team from Kentucky, placed in the top spot with 1,007 pounds harvested. Team Grizz Fish earned the "Big Fish" award with a Bighead carp weighing 48 pounds.

In the Lakes division, 33 teams competed for the prize money bringing in 8,370 pounds of Asian Carp. An Indiana



team, Making Moves, placed first with 1,104 pounds.

In all, bowfishers harvested 16,823 pounds of Asian carp during the tournament. There was also an estimated 3,000-

5,000 pounds of Asian carp brought in that jumped into boats during the tournament, which brings the total pounds of

[See 'Madness,' page 2](#)

INSIDE:



3 Turkey app



5 Goose banding



6 Black carp

WE GET MAIL

Letters to the Commissioner's Office

Bryan Hanson sent this email: "I just wanted to write a quick note to thank the KYDFW staff for all of the information you provide on websites, town hall meetings and Kentucky Afield videos and articles.

I did a lot of hunting and fishing in the western states and it is always a challenge to understand the rules, locations and hunting areas. Basically, you are on your own to find somewhere to fish or hunt, much less any advice on tactics or specific baits.

Kentucky does an excellent job of posting fishing and hunting access on your website. In the past few years I have had a successful elk draw and hunt and several

enjoyable trips on waterways I would not have even known existed if it were not for the information that you provide."

Scott Watson sent this email to Acting Commissioner Jemley:

"I am emailing you to let you know how pleased I am with the service provided by your Wildlife Biologist, Kirk Greenfield.

First, I want to say that I had never met Kirk before inquiring about the EQIP program. NRCS referred me to Kirk to see if we could do any beneficial wildlife improvement on my property in Caldwell County.

We planted the Pollinator Habitat

this past Saturday right before the rain. I can safely say this project would not have happened and would not have been a success without Kirk's hard work, long hours, patience, wisdom and professionalism. On top of all that, he is just an enjoyable guy to work with on a project like this. His performance brings great honor to your agency.

Kirk far exceeded my expectations. The success of this project was because of the hard work he put into it. I think he is very good at what he does because he enjoys it.

If I can ever be a reference or any type of resource for Kirk or your agency, I would be delighted to do so."

New Salato team leader named

Heather "Teach" Teachey was recently named Administrative Branch Manager for the Salato Wildlife Education Center.

Teachey most recently served in the Information and Education Division of the department in aquatic education of the R3 Branch. Prior to that, she worked as a seasonal employee for Salato's educational staff.

A graduate of Eastern Kentucky University with a degree in Recreation and Park Administration,



she began her career as a Program Facilitator at Life Adventure Center coordinating summer camps, outdoor adventure trips and the high ropes challenge course.

In 2017, she served as a Park Ranger for U.S. Fish and Wild-

life, where she was an active part of the

Black Footed Ferret restoration efforts.

Teachey is a Navy veteran, having served five years as an aviation electrician's mate maintaining E-2C Hawkeyes, Naval spy planes. She served one deployment aboard the CVN-74 John C. Stennis Aircraft Carrier and spent 11 months in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, as a detention operations specialist and escort.

"I have a strong passion for the outdoors and all things conservation," Teachey said. "I love adventures and trying new things, I am very excited to commence on this professional journey and contribute to the ongoing mission of KDFWR."

'Madness,' continued

Asian carp removed to more than 20,000 pounds. Heavy rain and a reported tornado would not stop these bowfishers.

The Asian carp harvested from this tournament were donated to processing fa-

cilities that use them for making fertilizer or fishmeal products.

Matt Combs and KDFWR's Critical Species Investigation division coordinated the tournament with assistance from Rachel Crume and Sharon Sparrow, with the

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services also assisted on the day of the tournament. The Kentucky Afield television show covered the event, with host Chad Miles announcing winners at the tournament weigh in.

Annual turkey counts go high tech

Apps now available to allow more people to participate in research

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources has added a smart phone app and a web-based survey to make it easier for people to report turkeys and poults spotted in the summer.

“Since 1984, this survey has provided data on turkey productivity and survival in Kentucky,” said Zak Danks, ruffed grouse and wild turkey program coordinator. “Traditionally, we’ve asked people to fill out surveys then mail them in. Adding apps and the web-based survey makes it faster and more convenient for people to help out with this important research.”

Hunters, wildlife watchers and anyone who spends time traveling the state is invited to participate in the survey. The department gathers survey information in July and August.

Survey results help researchers determine if weather conditions in the spring have affected the number of young turkeys surviving into the summer.



For those wishing to participate in the turkey survey, visit the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife website at fw.ky.gov. Click the “seasons” tab, then use the pull-down menu for “hunt” on the top left corner of

the page. Select “game species” followed by “spring turkey.” This page has links to a print and mail survey, a web-based survey and the app for Apple or Android smart phones.



HATCHERY TOUR

When eMars was down for a few days the grants staff took advantage and visited Pfeiffer Fish Hatchery. Tricia Orme, Ben Robinson, Mary Nickles and Allison George look on as Hatchery Manager Josh Pennington talks about the catfish raised for the FINs program. Special thanks to Josh and the Hatchery staff for taking time out of their busy harvesting schedules to show off the hatchery.



Above: Outdoor Afro of Louisville attended a Hook and Cook workshop at Otter Creek in May. Several KDFWR employees made the event a success. Right: Alex Cline, a Camp Wallace counselor, teaches a participant the finer points of filleting a fish.

Hook and Cook workshop reintroduces group to the outdoors

A Hook and Cook workshop at Otter Creek reintroduced the outdoors to a group dedicated to celebrating and inspiring African American connections and leadership in nature.

In May, Outdoor Afro of Louisville brought 14 adults and their children to learn from Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources employees about fishing regulations, equipment selection, rod and reel set-up, fish identification and bait selection.

After the classroom work, participants went to the creek, had a fish fry lunch and learned to fillet catfish and sunfish. At the end of the day, participants practiced what they learned by fishing in the creek.

"It has been a joy to work with Samantha Seaton and her crew from KDFWR. This was our second year partnering with KDFWR on a fishing event. During each event Outdoor Afro Kentucky participants have shared their childhood memories of fishing trips and have been excited to expose this cherished pastime with their children and loved ones," said Alicia Hurle, Outdoor Afro of Louisville event coordinator. "KDFWR made every-

thing really accessible to our participants who are new to fishing and everyone left ready to plan their next fishing trip. We're even hoping to partner with KDFWR for a fly fishing event this fall. The Hook & Cook program is a wonderful opportunity to learn fishing skills and more about

Kentucky's aquatic wildlife."

Seaton, an R3 Specialist, and Conservation Educators Heather "Teach" Teachey and Jason Martin, from the Aquatic Education section, helped with the workshop. The Pfeiffer Fish Hatchery donated the fish participants filleted.



After the workshop, participants got to test their new skills by fishing in Otter Creek.

2018 Canada goose banding

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Resources' Migratory Bird Program staff took advantage of molting season for Canada geese this June to band more than a 1,600 birds.

During molting season Canada geese are unable to fly, which makes this task a little easier. During this period, the Migratory Bird Program staff start working with the regions to find large concentrations of geese to round up. Being flightless, the birds are herded together and an aluminum band with a unique identification

number is placed on each goose's leg.

Banding data is critical for managers to monitor how hunting impacts Kentucky's temperate nesting Canada goose population. It is important to band in several locations across the state, to ensure data gathered gives an accurate representation of the statewide population. This year geese were banded in Paducah, Cave Run Lake, Shaker Village, Bowling Green, Northern Kentucky, various locations within the Bluegrass Region and in

Louisville.

This year 1,646 new birds were banded, 203 of which were goslings. There were also 324 birds recaptured that were banded in previous years.

Any recovered band should be reported by going to www.reportband.gov. This website will gather data that will influence goose management in Kentucky, throughout the U.S. and Canada.

More photos on page 6



KDFWR employee Michael "Catfish" Hutcheison applies a band to a goose during the Bowling Green event. This was the last goose Catfish banded and the last in a long career as a wildlife tech at Sloughs WMA as he will retire soon.



Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife employees herd geese toward a corral on a farm in Shelby County. The geese are held in the corral prior to banding.



KDFWR staff work to band geese. Bryan Cobban, private lands wildlife biologist, and Allysa Brady, Administrative Specialist, work to determine the sex of the geese during the banding process. Wildlife biologist Dave Frederick is in the background.

Black carp

On June 11, 2018, Steve Tabor shot this Black Carp in the tailwaters of Lake Barkley.

Black Carp are an Asian carp species invasive to Kentucky's waters. They differ from other Asian carp species that feed on plankton as they are molluscivores, feeding on snails and mussels. Black Carp are a relatively new invasive threat to Kentucky with few reported captures. This fish was only the second Black Carp captured in the Cumberland River system, the first was caught by a commercial fisherman using nets in Lake Barkley in November 2017.

This was also the first Black Carp reported shot by a bow fisher. When Tabor shot the fish and reeled it into the bank, he realized it looked different than most carp. He researched on KDFWR's Asian carp webpage and found the section on identifying Black Carp. Tabor then messaged a KDFWR fisheries biologist through



the Western Kentucky Facebook page to determine if this was in fact a Black Carp.

Critical Species Investigations Fisheries biologist Josh Tompkins met with Tabor and positively identified the fish. After acquiring an official weight for the

bow fishing record books and taking some pictures, Tabor gave the fish to KDFWR for data collection.

If you capture a Black Carp, please keep the fish on ice and call a KDFWR Fisheries Biologist at (270)759-5295.

“Banding,” continued



Kentucky Fish and Wildlife employees help with this year's goose banding. Employees Bill Shipley, right, and Chris Garland, center, helped with the banding along with Garland's son, Lucas, left. At right, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife employee Terri Brunjes speaks with her grandson, Parker Buchanan, about the geese. Many employees invited their families to participate.

Kentucky Wild members participate in first 'wildlife experience'

Kentucky Wild hosted the program's first wildlife experience on June 30. Five members and their guests assisted with a Canada Goose roundup at Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville. Participants selected for the event were from Louisville, Shelbyville, Wilmore and Philpot, Kentucky. John Brunjes, Wes Little and Bryan Cobban instructed the group in proper goose herding and handling. Third district Commissioner Rusty Gailor also stopped by to lend a hand. By the end of the morning, the group captured and worked up 123 birds.

The Kentucky Wild program was unveiled on June 1 and provides a partnership opportunity for constituents that enjoy Kentucky's wildlife, but are not necessarily hunters or anglers. All income generated through Kentucky Wild memberships and sponsorships goes directly to projects within the Wildlife Diversity Program. In just over a month, Kentucky Wild already has members from 12 states.

Those interested in learning more about the program or becoming a member can go to fw.ky.gov/kywild.



Above: Kentucky Wild hosted the program's first wildlife experience on June 30 at Cave Hill Cemetery in Louisville. The group captured and banded 123 Canada geese. Below: Kentucky Wild member Rebecca Grau, left, and her guest Kayla Franck helped herd and band Canada geese.



NRA seeking applicants for public range grants

The NRA Public Range Grant is open to any city or county government, or state or federal agency that plans to build or improve any public range. Grants are awarded on a 50/50 matching basis with 50 percent of the cost of the project being provided by the applicant and the other 50 percent awarded from the NRA.

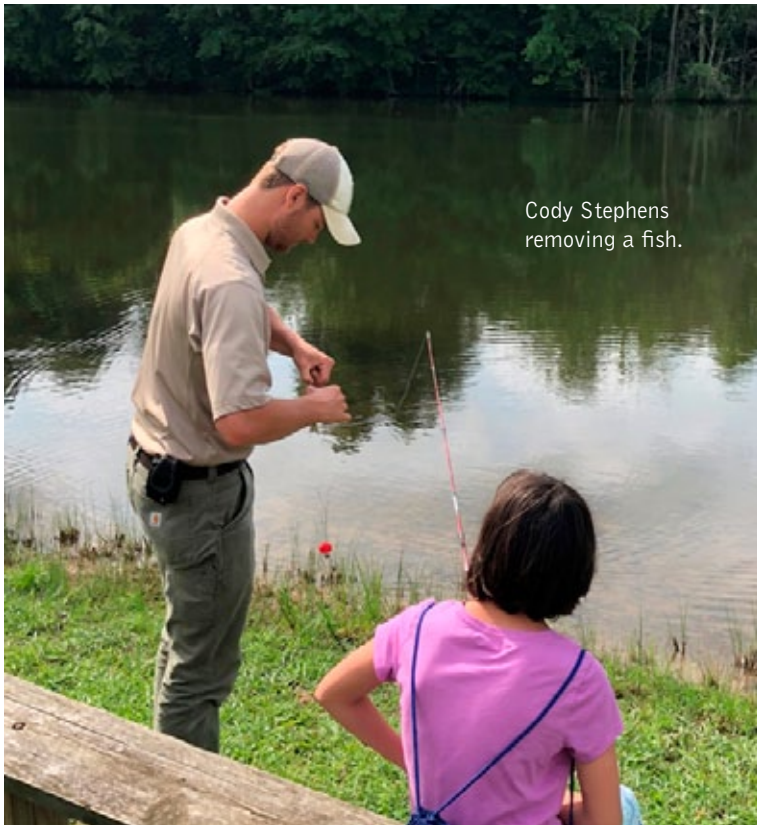
At the NRA's sole discretion, grants

are awarded to assist with the acquisition, development and improvement of public shooting facilities. Grants can also be awarded to assist qualifying agencies or local governments with projects designed to improve community relations and to address environmental issues related to range operations.

The maximum amount of funding is

\$25,000 per applicant. Any Final Reports from previous grants must be completed and submitted in order to be eligible for future grants.

Visit rangeservices.nra.org/funding-grants to apply today! If you have questions about qualifying projects, call the Range Services Department at 1-800-672-3888 x1278.



Cody Stephens
removing a fish.



Young man and his trophy bass.

KDFWR FARM BILL STAFF ASSIST WITH DAY CAMP

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Farm Bill Staff John Goodin, Cody Stephens, Brandon Jacobs and Jonah Price helped youth campers at the Glendale campground in June. The campground in southern Hardin County hosts a weeklong camp for local youth. Fifty campers spent one morning rotating between stations for crafts and other fun learning activities including conservation. KDFWR staff assisted with the fishing station helping campers learn to cast, bait hooks, take fish off, and getting lines unhooked from trees. The staff had a great time recruiting the next generation.



Brandon Jacobs helping
to remove a fish.



Jonah Price helping
bait hooks.

Employees attend National R3 Symposium



Far left: KDFWR employees, from left, Brent McCarty, Olivia Dangler, Samantha Seaton, Becky Wallen and Brian Clark, represented the Department at the first National R3 Symposium in Lincoln, Nebraska. At left: Assistant Director in Marketing Brian Clark leads a discussion during the National R3 Symposium.

“Perspective on Industries’ Futures,” “Data and R3,” “Marketing and R3,” “R3 in 21st Century Business Practices” and “Elevating R3 Impact through Strategic Partnerships.”

More than 325 individuals attended representing more than 100 organizations. The Symposium wrapped

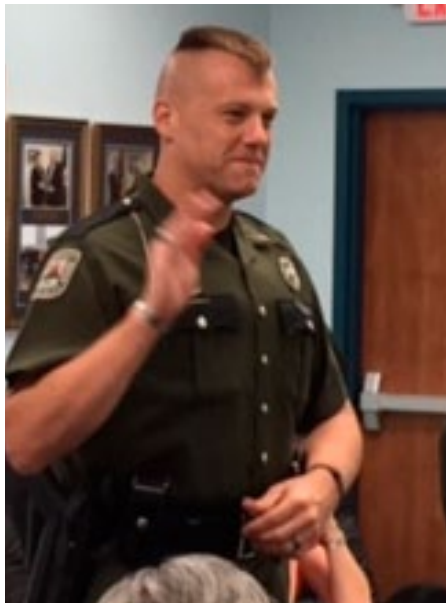
up with a SEAFWA breakout meeting to discuss priorities for the southeastern region.

KDFWR continues to be a national leader in having agency wide support, as well as, working with industry leaders and NGO partners to break down barriers that affect future participation in hunting, angling, target shooting and conservation in Kentucky.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife employees were in attendance for the first National R3 Symposium hosted in Lincoln, Nebraska, May 21-23.

Brent McCarty, Recruitment and Retention Branch Manager, Olivia Dangler, R3 State Coordinator, Becky Wallen and Samantha Seaton, both R3 Specialists, and Brian Clark, Assistant Director in Marketing, attended the symposium that focused on the resources and partnerships needed to protect the future of hunting, shooting sports, angling and boating.

The symposium served as a call to action for state fish and wildlife agencies, conservation non-government organizations and outdoor recreation industries to address changing participation rates in outdoor activities. Round table discussions were led by leaders of the hunting, shooting sports, angling and boating communities. A few topics of discussion included



CONSERVATION OFFICER ELECTED TO PERSONNEL BOARD

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Conservation Officer Richard Waite II was recently elected to the Kentucky Personnel Board. He was sworn in on July 13.