



# TWRA NEWS

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## **TWRC TO SET WATERFOWL SEASONS AUGUST 23-24**

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission (TWRC) will meet in Nashville on August 23 and 24, 2006, and the major item on the agenda will be the setting of the 2006-2007 waterfowl hunting seasons. The meeting will be held at the TWRA Region II office located at the Ellington Agricultural Center.

Committee meetings will be conducted during the afternoon on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, beginning at 1:00 p.m. C.S.T. and the Commission meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. C.S.T. on Thursday, August 24th.

The TWRC sets waterfowl seasons each year within guidelines determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The TWRC is the governing body of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). The meetings are open to the public and all hunters, anglers, and media are encouraged to attend.

## **SQUIRREL SEASON OPENS AUGUST 26**

Tennessee's hunting season for gray, fox and red squirrels opens on Saturday, August 26, 2006 according to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). The season continues through February 28, 2007 with a daily bag limit of 10.

The hunting season for squirrels is one of the longest fall seasons and one of the most underutilized. All that is needed to hunt squirrels is a \$28 combination hunting license. This is a small price to pay for months of enjoyment and relaxation.

Two of the most productive ways to hunt squirrels are still-hunting (slowly walking through the woods watching for squirrels) and stand-hunting (sitting near food trees). Squirrel hunting with dogs has been gaining popularity in recent years. The best hunting with dogs generally occurs from November through February after the trees shed their leaves.

Squirrels are abundant in most areas where patches of woods are available. Excellent squirrel hunting can be found on many of TWRA's wildlife management areas.

Squirrel hunting is one of the best ways to introduce a young hunter to the outdoors and squirrels are known for their excellent table fare. Most recipe books have a variety of recipes for squirrel, with fried squirrel and squirrel and dumplings being two traditional southern favorites.

For more information on Tennessee hunting seasons go online at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org).

### **HUNTERS WILL BE ABLE TO CLICK FOR DOVE FIELDS**

With Tennessee's 2006 dove season beginning at 12 noon on Friday, September 1, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) has made looking for a dove field in Tennessee a little easier. Starting around the middle of August, hunters can just click on [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org) and find a list of public fields on TWRA's Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), plus dove fields that TWRA has leased. The web page will include maps of each region with the dove fields identified, along with additional information about each field.

The page will be updated as new information becomes available. Hunters who do not have access to TWRA's website, contact the TWRA Regional Office in your area for dove field information. In West Tennessee call 1-800-372-3928 or (731) 423-5725.

### **HEAVY RAINS FLOOD TWO WEST TENNESSEE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS**

Heavy rains in the headwaters of the Big Sandy River have caused major flooding on two West Tennessee Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), according to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA).

Big Sandy WMA and Gin Creek WMA, which are primarily managed for waterfowl, flooded the first week of August due to the 6 to 10 inches of rain that fell over the last weekend in July.

"This severe flooding will probably effect the crops planted on these two WMAs," stated Dan Fuqua, TWRA Region I Waterfowl Biologist. "At the present, these two WMAs have 124 acres of corn and 10 acres of rice under 8 feet of water. This water will have to be pumped out and it will take about three weeks to do it."

Fuqua noted that another problem is going to come once the water recedes.

"It will take about two weeks for the ground to dry after the water is gone. This means the earliest date that trucks or tractors can get into the fields will be around the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September. This will make it difficult to complete the work on duck blinds by the deadline of the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in October."

### **TWRA REGION I FISHING REPORT**

High temperatures have slowed fishing. Best fishing is early morning or late afternoon.

**BROWNS CREEK LAKE (located ten miles south of I-40 in Natchez Trace State Park):**  
**Creel Limits-** Bass- 5 (16"-21" PLR) only one per day greater than 21", Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie - 30 ( 10" minimum). Bass fishing is slow, fish are being caught on plastic worms and lizards.

Crappie fishing is slow. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair. Fish being caught deep on crickets and red worms.

**CARROLL LAKE (located on Hwy. 22 between McKenzie and Huntingdon):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass- 5, Blue and Channel Catfish -5, Crappie - 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is slow, fish are being caught on spinner baits early morning or late afternoon.. Crappie fishing is slow. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair. Fish being caught on wax worms and crickets.

**DAVY CROCKETT LAKE (located 4 miles west of Humboldt off Hwy. 152):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass-10, Blue and Channel Catfish- 5, Crappie-30 (10" minimum). ). Catfish are being caught chicken/turkey livers and night crawlers. Bass fishing is fair in deep water using plastic lizards. Crappie fishing is slow, fish being caught in deep water on small minnows and white/chartreuse jigs. Bluegill/shellcrackers are being caught on wax worms and crickets.

**GARRETT LAKE (located on Hwy. 190 near Dresden ):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass- 5, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie-30 (10" minimum). ). Catfish are being caught chicken/turkey livers and night crawlers. Bass fishing is slow using plastic worms. Crappie fishing is slow Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair on crickets and red worms.

**GIBSON CO. LAKE (located at Trenton)**

**Creel Limits** – Bass – 5 (14"-18" PLR) only 1 bass per day greater than 18", Bluegill/Redear (in combination) – 20, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Catfishing is fair. Fish being caught on night crawlers and turkey livers. Bass fishing is slow, fish being caught using plastic lizards. Crappie fishing is slow. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair using wax worms, crickets and red worms.

**GLENN SPRINGS LAKE (located on Glenn Springs Rd, 12 miles northeast of Millington):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass - 5 (14"-18" PLR) only one per day greater than 18", Bluegill/Redear (in combination) – 20, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Catfish are being caught chicken/turkey livers and night crawlers. Bass fishing is slow, some fish being caught using crank baits and plastic lizards. Crappie fishing is slow. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is good. Fish are being caught on red worms, crickets and jigs tipped with wax worms.

**HERB PARSONS LAKE (located 8 miles north of Collierville off Collierville-Arlington Road):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass - 10 (14"-18" PLR) only one per day greater than 18", Blue and Channel Catfish -5, Crappie - 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is slow. Catfishing is good, being caught on chicken/turkey liver. Crappie is slow. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair. Fish being caught on wax worms, red worms and crickets.

**LAKE GRAHAM (located 5 miles east of Jackson on Cotton Grove Road):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass - 10 (14"-18" PLR) only one bass per day greater than 18", Blue and Channel Catfish -5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish being caught on plastic lizards. Crappie fishing is slow. Catfishing is fair, some being caught on turkey livers and night crawlers. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair. Fish being caught using red worms and small jigs tipped with wax worms.

**MAPLES CREEK LAKE (located 4 miles north of I-40 in Nathez Trace State Park):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass -5, Blue and Channel Catfish - 5, Crappie - 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is fair, fish are being caught on plastic worms. Crappie fishing is slow. Catfish are being caught on turkey livers. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is fair. Fish being caught on red worms and crickets.

**WHITEVILLE LAKE (located 2 miles south of Whiteville off Hwy. 64):**

**Creel Limits-** Bass - 5, Blue and Channel Catfish- 5, Crappie- 30 (10" minimum). Bass fishing is slow. Fish being caught on plastic lizards. Catfishing is fair. Fish being caught on night crawlers and turkey livers. Crappie is slow. Some fish being caught on small minnows. Bluegill and shellcracker fishing is fair. Fish are being caught on red worms, crickets and wax worms.

**REELFOOT LAKE:**

**Creel Limits-** Bass – 5 (minimum length 15 inches), Crappie – 30 (no size limit). Water temps in the upper 80's, which has slowed fishing. Lake level is below summer pool. Bass fishing is good. Fish being caught on spinner baits and plastic worms early and late around stumps in 3-4 ft water. Crappie fishing is slow. Some fish being caught in 6-8 ft. water. Bluegill fishing is fair, fish being caught on jigs tipped with wax worms. Catfish are good, some are being caught on nightcrawlers.

**KENTUCKY LAKE:**

**Creel Limits-** Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass – 5 (minimum length 15 inches), Crappie – 30 (minimum length 10 inches) Sauger – 10 (minimum length 14 inches), Catfish (only one catfish over 34 inches per day. No limit on fish under 34 inches)

North of I-40: Water temps in the low 90's. Bass fishing is slow. Fish being caught around weeds and logs on plastic lizards or worms early or late. Crappie fishing is slow. Catfishing is good. Fish being caught on turkey livers or night crawlers on main channel. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is slow. Fish being caught on gravel bars on jigs tipped with wax worms.

South of I-40: Water temps in the low 90's. Bass fishing is slow. Some fish being caught on main river points on plastic worms. Crappie fishing is slow. Some fish are being caught deep on minnows and jigs. Catfishing is fair. Fish being caught on the main channel using turkey liver. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing is slow.

**PICKWICK LAKE:**

**Creel Limits:** Largemouth Bass and Smallmouth Bass – 5 (15 inch minimum length limit on bass). Crappie – 30 (minimum length 9 inches). Water temps are in the low 90's. Largemouth bass fishing is fair. Fish being caught on plastic lizards or jigs. Smallmouth fishing is fair. Some fish being caught early and late around grass beds. Crappie fishing is slow. Bluegill/shellcracker fishing fair. Fish being caught on crickets and jigs tipped with waxworms.

**LAKE BARKLEY:**

**Creel Limits:** Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass – 5 (minimum length limit 15 inches on bass). Crappie – 30 (minimum length limit 10 inches). Water temps in the low 90's. Bass fishing is fair. Fish being caught on jigs and plastic worms along main river points. Crappie fishing is slow. Fish are scattered, some being taken around stumps and other cover in deep water along edge of creek channels on minnows. Catfishing is fair. Some fish being caught on night crawlers and turkey livers on main channel.



