



TWRA NEWS

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DATE: September 13, 2006

VACANCY WMA PERMITS NOW ON SALE

TWRA PROPOSING LIMIT REDUCTIONS FOR CRAPPIE, CREATING LIMIT FOR SHELLCRACKERS

APPLICATIONS FOR REELFOOT WHEELCHAIR WATERFOWL NOW AVAILABLE

TWRA REGION I FISHING REPORT

VACANCY WMA PERMITS NOW ON SALE

Leftover WMA permits will go on sale September 13, 2006, at 9:00 a.m. Eastern, 8:00 a.m. Central. Hunters should be aware of the following information when obtaining vacancy permits.

- 1) Permits can be purchased on-line and at any TWRA license agent. The receipt will serve as the permit; no permits will be mailed. **No phone orders will be accepted.**
- 2) Anyone who purchases a permit online must pay the \$3.25 internet-convenience fee, including Sportsman License holders. The \$3.25 internet-convenience fee will not be charged to persons purchasing leftover permits from a TWRA REAL license agent.
- 3) A permit fee will not be charged to Annual Sportsman (Type 004) or Lifetime Sportsman (Types 402 thru 405) license holders or Senior Citizen Hunters (Type 166) with an Annual Senior Citizen Permit (Type 167). For all other license holders, the cost is \$21.00 per permit (including agent fee).
- 4) Individuals can buy only one permit per hunt choice. Exp: a hunter can buy one permit for hunt choice 33, which is Laurel Hill Dec. 1-3. He/she may also buy permits for other available hunts as long as the hunt dates don't overlap. At TWRA REAL license agents, leftover permits will be sold at one per transaction.

5) Hunters cannot purchase leftover permits for an area from which they were selected in the quota drawing. If the available dates for different hunt choices are identical or overlap, the hunter may have only one of those hunt choices. Exp: hunt choices 9, 13, 25, and 34 have overlapping dates, so a person could only purchase a permit for one of the four hunt codes.

6) Hunters can purchase permits for others as long as they have all their pertinent information. The same 1 permit per hunt choice applies.

7) Youths can purchase leftovers for Young Sportsman Hunts as well as the regular hunts.

Remaining permits are as follows: To obtain a permit, you will need to know the Hunt Code for that permit.

WMA	Date	Hunt Code	Permits available
AEDC	Sept. 22-24	001	592
Catoosa/Genesis	Dec. 7-9	009	66
Catoosa/Bicolor	Dec. 7-9	013	599
Cheatham	Nov. 11-17	015	8
Cheatham Lake/Pardue	Nov. 11-17	016	122
Eagle Creek	Dec. 8-10	025	204
Laurel Hill	Dec. 1-3	033	174
Laurel Hill	Dec. 8-10	034	191
Prentice Cooper	Sept. 16-18	047	119

YOUTH HUNTS

Catoosa	Oct. 28-29	080	474
Tellico Lake/Niles Ferry	Nov. 11	091	7
Tellico Lake/Niles Ferry	Nov. 12	092	29

For more information, go to the TWRA web page www.tnwildlife.org.

**TWRA PROPOSING LIMIT REDUCTIONS FOR CRAPPIE,
CREATING LIMIT FOR SHELLCRACKERS**

When it meets next month with its governing body, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) will propose a reduction in the crappie creel limit on many of the reservoirs and it will propose the creation of a creel limit for red-ear sunfish, a popular small game fish also know as a shellcracker.

The following is a list of recommendations released this week by the TWRA for its four designated regions:

Region I (West Tennessee)

Prohibit taking turtles (except snapping turtles) with sport license from Reelfoot Wildlife Management Area.

Barkley Reservoir-Prohibit snagging from the Cumberland Fossil Plant discharge channel.

Region II (Middle Tennessee)

Crappie daily creel reduced from 30 to 15 on Normandy, Tims Ford, and Woods. VFW Lake (Lawrence Co.)-Daily creel of 20 on bluegill and 14-inch minimum length limit on catfish.

Lewisburg and Dickson City Lakes-Daily creel limit of five on catfish.

Region III (Cumberland Plateau)

Crappie daily creel reduced from 30 to 15 on all reservoirs except Guntersville.

Remove Sylco and Sheeds creeks from trout special regulations in Polk County.

Region IV (East Tennessee)

Crappie daily creel reduced from 30 to 15 on Melton Hill, Fort Loudoun, Tellico, Calderwood, and Chilhowee.

City of Gatlinburg-Children's Streams (may only be fished by children 12 and under-unless posted otherwise). The creel limit is two trout per day in Children's Streams.

Lower boundary of the "wild trout." regulation for Beaverdam Creek at Tank Hollow Road (USFS Rd. 6044). Change to (USFS Rd. 300).

Lake at Kefauver Park (Madisonville): daily creel and length limits as follows: two (2) bass, 14-inch minimum length; and five (5) catfish.

Statewide

Redear daily creel limit-20 (except Kentucky Lake at 30).

Agency Lakes-nonresident youth not required to purchase lake permit- make same as resident.

Allow crossbows as a legal method for harvesting non-game fish.

These proposals will be considered by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission at its meeting in Knoxville on October 18 and 19. Any changes will take effect on March 1, 2007.

APPLICATIONS FOR REELFOOT WHEELCHAIR WATERFOWL BLINDS NOW AVAILABLE

Waterfowl blinds #RWC1 and #RWC2 on Reelfoot Lake Wildlife Management Area are reserved for wheelchair-bound hunters during the Reelfoot (state) duck season. Persons interested in reserving one of these blinds for a portion of the upcoming duck season may apply by application for a use permit from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA).

A hand-held drawing will be conducted on October 27, 2006, to determine successful applicants. Hunters selected must be accompanied by a minimum of one hunting assistant, but no more than three hunting assistants (at least one assistant must be age 16 or older). Hunters must have the appropriate statewide licenses and the correct Reelfoot Preservation Permit. All rules and regulations that apply to Reelfoot Lake WMA must be followed.

Only one (1) application may be submitted per person per area. No fee is required to apply. Persons who were issued a permit for a waterfowl blind on the first Saturday in August on any WMA are not eligible to participate.

Wheelchair blind applications are available at the Reelfoot Wildlife Management Area office or from the TWRA Region I office (731-423-5725 or 1-800-372-3928) in Jackson, TN.

TWRA REGION I FISHING REPORT

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 slow. 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 fair, 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 upper 80'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 upper 80'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 upper 80'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 upper 80'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.

