

AGENDA
Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting

Public Meeting: **Monday, January 3, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**
Enid Board of Education Administrative Services Center
500 S. Independence Avenue
Enid, Oklahoma 73701

In compliance with the Open Meeting Act, this meeting is scheduled to be recorded and streamed following the meeting at www.youtube.com/user/outdooroklahoma.

The Commission may vote to approve, disapprove or take other action on any of the following items. The Commission may vote to authorize public comment on any agenda item requesting a rule change.

1. Call to Order – Chairwoman Leigh Gaddis
2. Roll Call – Rhonda Hurst
3. Invocation – Bill Dinkines
4. Pledge of Allegiance – Bill Dinkines
5. Introduction of Guests
6. Presentation of Awards

Mike Plunkett, Regional Supervisor – 40 years.

7. Consideration and vote to approve, amend, reject or take other action on minutes of the November 1, 2021 Commission meeting.
8. Director's Report – J.D. Strong
 - a. Federal and Congressional Update
 - Oklahoma Legislative Update – Corey Jager, Legislative Liaison
 - b. Calendar Items – discussion of upcoming department calendar items.
 - c. Agency Update – an update on current activity within each division of the agency.
9. Consideration and vote to approve, amend, reject or take other action on a written Position Statement from the Commission pertaining to license related legislation - Corey Jager.
10. Presentation of the October 31 and November 30, 2021 Financial Statements and consideration and vote to approve, amend or reject miscellaneous donations – Amanda Storck, CFO and Chief of Administration.
11. Consideration and vote to approve, amend, reject or take other action on a budget revision for FY22 – Amanda Storck.
12. Discussion of the Appraisal and/or Purchase of Certain Real Property located in Atoka County, which the Commission by majority vote may decide to discuss in Executive session Pursuant to 25 O.S. 307(B)(3); with any action thereon to take place through discussion, consideration and vote in open session – Bill Dinkines, Chief of Wildlife.

13. New Business – Discussion of any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
14. Announce the date for the next regular Commission Meeting on Monday, February 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
15. Commission and Staff have been invited to the Groendyke Lodge in Enid, Oklahoma following adjournment of this meeting for a luncheon and pheasant hunt. A quorum may or may not be present. No official business will be conducted and no action will be taken following the adjournment of the regular Wildlife Conservation Commission meeting January 3, 2022.
16. Adjourn

People with disabilities may request accommodations by calling 405-522-6279 at least three days before the meeting.

MINUTES

Of the Regular Meeting on November 1, 2021 of the

OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Held at the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, November 1, 2021. Commission meeting dates are filed with the Secretary of State, Office of Administrative Rules before December 15, annually. The Agenda is listed on the Department's website and was posted at the entrance of the Wildlife Department Building on October 26, 2021 at 12:30 p.m.

In compliance with the Open Meeting Act, this meeting was streamed live and recorded at www.youtube.com/user/outdooroklahoma

Chairwoman Leigh Gaddis called the Commission in session at 9:00 a.m.

Rhonda Hurst, Executive Assistant, called the roll.

MEMBERS PRESENT: LEIGH A. GADDIS, Chairwoman
 JAMES V. BARWICK, Vice-Chairman
 C. RICK HOLDER, Secretary
 BRUCE MABREY, Member
 JOHN P. ZELBST, Member
 D. CHAD DILLINGHAM, Member
 JESS M. KANE, Member

MEMBER ABSENT: BILL K. BREWSTER, Member

J.D. Strong, Director, introduced the following guests: Jerry Hamersley, Altus Intermediate School; Ed Fowlkes, Moore Public Schools; John Weir, Oklahoma Prescribed Burn Association; Robin Siegfried, Shikar-Safari Club International; Rick Grundman, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation.

Nels Rodefeld, Chief of Communication and Education Division and Kelly Boyer, Communication and Education Specialist recognized the students from Altus and Moore schools on their achievements at the National Archery in the Schools Program national tournament.

Bill Dinkines, Chief of Wildlife Division and Tell Judkins, Upland Game Biologist recognized and presented John Wier and the Oklahoma Prescribed Burn Association as the Oklahoma winner of the 2021 NBCI Firebird Award. Mr. Wier addressed the commission thanking the department for the award and continued partnership. If anyone needs prescribed burn assistance, they can go to www.ok-pba.org.

Amanda Storck, CFO and Chief of Administration and Karla Beatty, Human Resource Officer recognized the ODWC Leadership Development Program participants and outlined the curriculum for the program. Twenty-four employees completed the 2-year program. Game Warden Mark Hannah spoke for the group to praise the program and Karla Beatty for her hard work and guidance.

Director Strong recognized Tom Cartwright, Law Enforcement District Chief, for 35 years of service.

Director Strong announced the first recipient of the Spirit of ODWC Award winner as Andrea Crews, Federal Aid Coordinator. This award was created for all employees who are not eligible for other awards given within the agency. Ms. Crews was unable to attend the meeting, but will be recognized at a later date.

Director Strong recognized Kelly Adams, Communication and Education Supervisor, as the winner of the Mark J. Reeff Award from the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Director Strong recognized Lance Meek, Communication and Education Senior Specialist, as the winner of the Special Recognition Award from the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

Nathan Erdman, Chief of Law Enforcement and Robin Siegfried, Shikar-Safari Club International recognized Game Warden Kenny Lawson as the Shikar-Safari Club International Officer of the Year.

Bill Dinkines and Jerry Shaw, Programs Supervisor and Flyway Council Representative presented Josh Richardson, Private Land Supervisor with a jacket from the Central Flyway Council in appreciate for his many years of service on the technical committee.

Motion was made by Mr. Dillingham, seconded by Mr. Zelbst to approve the minutes from the September 7, 2021 Commission meeting. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Director Strong gave a brief update and highlighted the Congressional report submitted by Brittnee Preston, the Department's part-time Federal and Congressional Liaison. This report was sent to all Commissioners and will be kept with the minutes of this meeting. He gave a Director's Report on calendar items and agency updates. This report was given to the Commission and will be kept with the minutes of this meeting. He mentioned that 65 bears were harvest this season. Forty-two males and twenty-three females and four were research bears. Director Strong introduced Rick Grundman, Executive Director of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation who gave an update on the first inaugural Hall of Fame Gala. This Gala honored John D. Groendyke as the first recipient into the Hall of Fame. The event grossed approximately \$400,000. Mr. Grundman thanks the Commission and ODWC employees for the help in producing a successful event.

Amanda Storck, CFO and Chief of Administration, presented the Financial Statement for August 31 and September 30, 2021. Motion was made by Mr. Zelbst, seconded by Mr. Holder to accept the financial statements as presented and approve miscellaneous contributions. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Amanda Storck requested Commission approval on a budget revision for FY22. Commission Holder, Chairman of the Finance Committee, said the committee met and reviewed the budget revisions and recommends them for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Zelbst to approve the FY22 budget revision as presented. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Amanda Storck requested Commission approval on the Investment Policy. She stated that representatives from Bank of Oklahoma had met with the Finance Committee to discuss bringing the Investment Policy up to date. The Policy needed housekeeping language revisions and definitions to bring it current. Commissioner Holder stated that the Finance Committee had met and reviewed the revisions and recommends the Policy for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Holder, seconded by Mr. Mabrey to approve the Investment Policy as presented. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Bill Dinkines and Tell Judkins presented the Quail and Pheasant Season Forecasts. Mr. Judkins handed out reports and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the roadside surveys results.

He said the season outlook for quail is up slightly with a fair and patchy forecast. The survey results show pheasant numbers are down this year.

Barry Bolton, Chief of Fisheries Division, introduced Brandon Brown, Fisheries Supervisor and Jason Schooley, Senior Biologist. Mr. Brown gave a report on the 2021 Paddlefish Research Center season. He stated that 1,100 paddlefish were processed through the center and 3,500 lbs of caviar were harvested. Mr. Schooley gave a presentation on the ecology of the paddlefish, continuing research and regulations. He said we are very active with other states and share research. The illegal activity regarding the caviar has gone down in the past few years thanks to the efforts of Law Enforcement.

Motion was made by Mr. Barwick, Seconded by Mr. Zelbst to enter into Executive Session. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Motion was made by Mr. Barwick, seconded by Mr. Holder to enter into Open Session. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Motion was made by Mr. Zelbst, seconded by Mr. Barwick to give the Director authority to settle a legal claim up to the Risk Management retention amount. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Motion was made by Mr. Zelbst, seconded by Mr. Barwick to approve the 2022 Wildlife Commission meeting dates as follows: January 3, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 5 (Tuesday), August 1, September 6 (Tuesday), October 3, November 7, December 5. Motion carried with Commissioners Barwick, Mabrey, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Chairwoman Gaddis announced the December 6, 2021 Commission meeting will be cancelled.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Leigh A. Gaddis, CHAIRWOMAN

ATTEST:

C. Rick Holder, SECRETARY



JANUARY 2022 DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CALENDAR ITEMS:

Jan 6-9 WAFWA Mid-Winter Meeting, Tucson, AZ
Jan 18-22 SHOT Show/SCI Convention, Las Vegas, NV
Jan 24 OK Wildlife Conservation Foundation Board Meeting, ODWC-HQ
Feb 7 Opening day of Oklahoma Legislative Session

AGENCY UPDATE

LEGISLATURE:

- OK Representative and Sportsmen's Caucus Co-Chair, Kevin Wallace, Representative Dean Davis, and ODWC Legislative Liaison, Corey Jager, attended the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses Annual Summit in Little Rock, AR. The focus of this year's summit was "Shifting Demographics: Challenges and Opportunities for Advancing our Time-Honored Traditions."



- After the December 10th bill request deadline, there were a total of 3,019 new requests (3,800 requested last year); there are a total of 2,520 carryovers from 2021.
- The final bill filing deadline is January 20th.

HUMAN DIMENSIONS

- Invited 11,000 women to participate in ODWC's Women and Hunting Survey. Data collection closed on December 22 and analysis will begin in January.

- Circulated final drafts of the 2021 Game Harvest Survey. The survey has been submitted to the printers and will be sent to 6,000 hunters in late January.
- Attended the Tableau Virtual Conference- a conference discussing data visualization techniques and best practices for sharing data
- Worked with fisheries division to distribute educational information on aquatic nuisance species (ANS) and reviewed/helped with the distribution of an ANS survey in partnership with Texas A&M University and the Invasive Species Action Network.

ADMINISTRATION

- Accounting
 - Number of Claims Audited and Paid - 386
 - Total Dollar Amount of Claims Paid - \$2,213,555.35
 - Total # Agency Cardholders - 191 (21 approving officials)
 - Total Agency Spending Limit - \$367,000
 - Number of P/Card Transactions Processed -502
 - Number of In-depth Audited Transactions - 75
 - Total Dollar Amount of P/Card Purchases - \$122,433.99
 - Number of PCard Spending Limit Increase Requests Approved - 20
 - OMES documentation requests for PCard transactions - 0
 - New and Refresher PCard-holder and Approver Training Completed 4 Sent
 - Number of Purchase Orders/CO issued - 151
 - IT Acquisitions Processed - 23
 - OMES Surveys Completed - 0
 - Risk Management Cases Reported - 2 new ODWC vehicle accident/incident reports: Fish (1) Wildlife (1)
 - 1 pending 3rd party vehicle claims Law(1)
 - 2 pending ODWC property claims: OKC HQ Freeze/Pipes, PRC Freeze/Pipes, Jenks Burglary
 - 2 emergency declaration repairs: HQ power outage and HQ stairwell
 - Construction Site Visits: JA Manning Construction Progress Meeting - 11/04/2021, Adriana Bustamante - San Bois WMA PreBid Meeting for New Road Construction - 11/17/2021
- Human Resources
 - Open Full-time Positions, November - 16, December - 15
 - Positions Interviewed 2 Candidates interviewed 7
 - Positions Announced, 9
 - See included personnel report that shows personnel actions for the month.
 - Temporary Employees Processed (Interns & Aids), 3
 - LDP Graduation Ceremony at Nov. Commission meeting
 - New Employee Orientation for 3 new employees
 - 3 – ODWC Biweekly Computer Trainings
 - 1 – Recruiting event at Holdenville High School
 - 1 – Recruiting event at NWOSU
 - 1 – Quarterly Safety Training for Central Office
 - WRP Class visit to Packsaddle WMA for Upland Game Birds
 - 4 BrightPath transition calls

- IT
 - IT took 79 inbound tickets this month and has closed 73 so far.
 - Roughly 85 inbound calls and text messages were taken as well.
 - Rodney took a short time off to welcome a new baby; "Gabriel Derrick"
 - Rodney has been working with OMES and HR to get the new Bright app working.
 - Drew made a road trip to Byron to work on ongoing printing and PC issues.
 - We have deployed 4/5ths of the laptops that were ordered and have appointments set for the rest.
 - We tested and ordered docking stations for the laptops recently purchased.
 - We continued work with OMES to get a secured Wi-Fi setup to work on the preexisting routers that have been in place in the central office since we have moved in.
 - We had our intern Anthony working on projects like updating computers in our stock and getting them ready for Betsey's yearly survey project.
 - We staged and were ready to deploy 120 laptops for Law enforcement however, they were the wrong model. We sent them back to NTT. Awaiting the new batch for staging again.
 - IT will also be saying goodbye to David Southerland who will be retiring at the end of the month. He has led the team for over 14 years and oversaw too many projects to list. David was able to take his lifetime experience of hunting and fishing, paired with his experience in IT and project management to deliver a holistic approach to solving the ODWC's IT hurdles.
- License
 - For October 2021, License Section:
 - Processed over 778 orders, including 701 licenses and 316 hard card orders (mail and walk-in orders) - \$87,000 in revenue
 - Shipped over 700 merchandise items (hats, books, etc), totaling almost \$8,500 in revenue.
 - Processed almost \$70,000 in miscellaneous revenue, such lease payments, fines restitution, etc.
 - For November 2021, License Section:
 - Processed over 686 orders, including 653 licenses and 288 hard card orders (mail and walk-in orders) - \$108,000 in revenue
 - Shipped over 450 merchandise items (hats, books, etc), totaling over \$6,000 in revenue.
 - Processed \$30,000 in miscellaneous revenue, such lease payments, fines restitution, etc.
- Property
 - Bill Knight Ford delivered 1 new truck for Wildlife Division
 - Bob Howard Dodge delivered 2 new trucks for Fish Division
 - Lost two phases of power at the Central Office building on 10/28. The outage fried two aquarium pump motors and one waterfall pump motor. Still working with Lewis Electric, Harrison Orr and Under the Sea to get all repairs completed.
 - Repairs were made on the aquariums and waterfall, they are back up and running. 12/6/2021
 - Registered and titled the 11 new Super Duty trucks.

- French drain/Water proofing project is complete except for the repairs to damaged sprinkler lines and sprinkler heads and install new sod.
- Sent out new Comdata cards to Wildlife, C & E and Admin. Old cards expired 10/31/21.
- Ordered 43 new trucks for FY22.
- Received purchase orders for all 43 trucks 11/1/21
- Had meeting with Greg Herring @ Bill Knight Ford went over PO's before placing FY22 truck order.
- Order was placed in the Ford bank @ Bill Knight Ford for 42 Ford trucks and 1 Ford Explorer. 11/5/2021.
- Pick up department mail daily. Work mail; send up to license to be validated.
- Working with Purple Wave Auction Company to schedule a vehicle sale that will start mid-January and close February 15. We'll be auctioning off approximately 32-35 trucks and 2 boats and 2 ATV's.

FISHERIES DIVISION

October-November

Statewide Fish Stockings

Species	Number Fish	Size	Number Locations
Bluegill	71,960	1"	1
Brown trout	7,784	9"	2
Channel catfish	36,965	7-9"	34
Hybrid sunfish	44,550	1"	1
Hybrid sunfish	1,500	6"	6
Rainbow trout	17,195	9-11"	3
Rainbow trout	225	14-24"	1

Meeting attended

- Participated in the annual conference of the American Fisheries Society, November 6-10 in Baltimore, MD.
- Participated online in the annual conference of the North American Lake Management Society, November 15-18.
- Participated in monthly AFWA fisheries chief's video conference calls.

Activities

- Staff participated in the Oklahoma and Texas Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus by giving a tour of the Durant SFH and participating in discussions regarding aquatic nuisance species in Oklahoma.
- Attended pay meeting for the Manning SFH pump station project, provided oversight on the project, and worked with construction and properties and engineering staff to resolve construction issues. This project is nearing completion
- An engineering design contract was prepared for the phase 2 renovation project at Manning SFH.

- Grounds maintenance at all hatcheries continues, and all fish houses, ponds, buildings, and equipment were winterized.
- A cooperative agreement was drafted between ODWC and ODOT to allow fishing access at Eldon Bridge over the Barren Fork east of Tahlequah.
- Maintenance was conducted on the Lake Nanih Waiya water control structure.
- Erosion maintenance and tree removal were conducted at Raymond Gary Lake.
- An initial planning meeting was conducted for the Jap Beaver Dam renovation project.
- Meetings were held with engineers and geotechnical engineers to finalize a path forward for remediation of the Watonga dam. The boat ramp at Watonga was resurfaced while lake levels are low.
- Culverts at the Blue River PFHA were repaired and maintained.
- Barricades were installed at Lake Burtschi to help control illegal activity around the lake.
- Active boating and fishing access projects statewide were inspected and deficiencies were noted.
- Grounds maintenance, including mowing and picking up trash, continues at all Department lakes and fishing areas.
- Gravel was used to create habitat, both in the form of piles and spawning substrate at Eagle Lake.
- Artificial fish habitat structures were installed at five sites on Lake Watonga.
- Catfish spawning structures were installed at 15 sites in Okmulgee Lake.
- Construction began on a heavy equipment building at Canton WMA.
- Oversight continues on the Ponca Office shop renovation.
- Research is being conducted to determine the minimum power level needed to elicit a surfacing response by Blue Catfish. To date, 332 blue catfish have been tested at a range of power levels (0.0000113 - 1.093 $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^3$). Preliminary results suggest that the minimum power level applied to the fish for a surfacing response is between 0.0000113 - 0.0000214 $\mu\text{W}/\text{cm}^3$.
- Species management committees are meeting to discuss new proposed regulation changes, identify future research needs, and develop species management plans.
- Standardized surveys were conducted on 35 reservoirs statewide. Otoliths were removed from a subsample of collected fish for future analysis.
- Fin clips of smallmouth bass were collected from multiple locations on the upper Illinois River as part of an ongoing genetics study.
- A tour of the OFRL facilities was conducted for the OU Ichthyology class describing ongoing projects, including age and growth analysis, fish sampling techniques, blue catfish electrofishing demonstrations in a tank setting.
- In cooperation with Wildlife Division staff, assisted with an outdoor classroom day at Pawnee Lake.

- Provided interviews to several outdoor sports writers on the proposed changes to the black bass regulations and Lake Texoma winter fishing opportunities.

C&E DIVISION

- Kelly Boyer distributed information to coaches regarding virtual qualifying scores for both OKNASP and Varsity Archery. Schools that want to participate in a state shoot must submit scores during the weeks of Dec. 10-19, Jan. 7-14 and Jan. 15-23. After all scores have been submitted we use them to determine which shoot the schools will attend, either a Regional State Tier 2 or Grand State.
- OKNASP and Varsity Archery State Shoot dates are as follows:
 - Tier 2 Western Region State Shoot, OKC Fairgrounds Feb. 15.
 - Tier 2 Central Region State Shoot, OKC Fairgrounds Feb. 16.
 - Tier 2 Eastern Region State Shoot, Tulsa Fairgrounds Feb. 23.
 - Grand State Shoot, Tulsa Fairgrounds Feb. 24.
- Damon Springer and Shawn Gee conducted an OKSSSP teacher training course at OKC Gun Club for new schools and current schools that had new teachers.
- The Outdoor Oklahoma Adventure Raffle for the Ft. Sill elk hunt has closed raising nearly \$330,000. The winner is Daniel Ivey of Tecumseh.
- Michael Bergin and Don Brown produced several email packages. Emails included information for waterfowl season, deer gun season, rut report, upland game season and antlerless harvest. Accompanying tactics included a text message and push notification to hunters promoting the deer gun season and encouraging antlerless harvest.
- Colin Berg and Kelly Boyer hosted virtual hunting courses on Upland Game Hunting, Small Game Hunting and the Holiday Antlerless Deer Gun Season along with Tell Judkins, Jeff Pennington and Dallas Barber.
- Communication staff worked with fisheries division to provide information to the public about an upcoming rule change proposal aimed at increasing harvest of smaller bass.
- Jennifer Benge worked with a couple of outside groups to submit applications for the Vamos a Pescar grants from the RBFF.
- Jena Donnell produced content for a social media campaign aimed at raising awareness of Oklahoma's native fish. Titled, "25 Days of Fishmas", the campaign highlights a different species every day leading up to Christmas.
- Damon Springer finalized the regional shoots and state shoot for OKSSSP. Locations and Dates are below:
 - SW Regional Shoot, Duncan Gun Club, March 23rd.
 - SE Regional Shoot, Oil Capital Gun Club Coweta, March 29th.
 - NE Regional Shoot, Oil Capital Gun Club Coweta, March 30th.
 - NW Regional Shoot, Grand National Gun Club Enid, April 5th.
 - State Shoot, Oklahoma Trap Association El Reno, April 13th.
- Communication staff worked to promote the benefits on antlerless harvest. Several strategies and tactics were used to encourage the harvest of antlerless deer.

- Blake, Todd and Darrin worked with various staff including Dallas Barber (W) and Joe Alexander (LE) on a special premier episode of Outdoor Oklahoma. The episode aired the weekend before the deer gun season opener and focused on antlerless harvest benefits, safe hunting practices and regulations.
- Sarah Southerland and Darrin Hill worked with Jerrod Davis to produce a segment highlighting various methods of trapping.
- Sarah Southerland attended Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow's annual workshop in Georgia.
- Darrin worked with Marcus Thibodeaux (W) to produce a video featuring a mentored deer hunt.

WILDLIFE DIVISION

- Hunters are seeing some success on pheasant in NW and panhandle, quail are more hit and miss.
- Deer rifle season saw unseasonably warm weather and intermittent bouts of high winds.
 - Rifle season total at end of gun season: 57,103 with 33% of that being antlerless
 - Compare same numbers from 20-21: 61,803 with 36% of that being antlerless
 - Overall Harvest Totals at end of gun season: 104,424 with 36% of that being antlerless
 - Compare from this time last year: 112,462 with 38% antlerless.
- Holiday Antlerless season ran from Dec 18 to the 31st, provided two "bonus" antlerless deer to hunters bag limits. Archery season continues through Jan. 15th.
- WMA staff are starting to prep for the upcoming dormant burn season by laying out burn plans, fireguards, etc.
- Fall plantings on WMAs have been completed. On some WMAs particularly in SW Oklahoma, extremely dry conditions reduced the normal number of acres planted.
- Staff continues to monitor hunting activity for waterfowl, quail and deer seasons.
- Some wetland units were flooded prior to waterfowl seasons and some additional water was added during the split in duck hunting seasons. Other units were only partially flooded due to lack of available water caused by drought.
- Most controlled hunts have been completed.
- Two Youth Trapper Camps will be hosted by the Oklahoma Fur Bearers Alliance (OFBA) and supplemented by ODWC support on December 17-19 at Lake Carl Blackwell and December 31 - January 2 at Waurika Lake. These are educational opportunities for young people to be introduced to the basics of trapping.
- Midwinter aerial waterfowl survey planning is underway to begin this week (first week in January). This survey is important for many aspects:
 - assess/plan work for migratory bird joint ventures,
 - zones and splits decision support,
 - public outreach,
 - assessment of waterfowl densities, overall numbers, and distribution,
 - harvest management (cooperative flyway goose management), and
 - habitat classification, status, and condition, among others.
- The second half of waterfowl season runs through Jan 5th (panhandle) and January 30th (remainder of the state)

- Waterfowl hunting success was better than expected during the first two weeks of waterfowl season, given the low production year in the prairie pothole region. However, overall harvest and numbers of waterfowl are anticipated to be lower than average. As of mid-December, Oklahoma, along with Texas and Kansas have reported very few ducks and moderate numbers of geese. Large numbers of sandhill cranes are present in the panhandle and typical overwintering areas in the state (i.e., Canton, Salt Plains). Mild winters and abundant forage in the Northern part of the central flyway are likely delaying large migrations southward.
- Waterfowl and shorebird habitat conditions are deteriorating with the lack of rainfall. Statewide, native and planted/managed forage production was average to below average during early fall, as a result of flooding conditions in the summer. The forage that was produced is now largely unavailable to waterbirds, as rain dependent wetlands, watersheds, and lakes are mostly below normal pool or mostly dry.
- Staff has received much praise from our constituents regarding the regularly updated (every two weeks) wetland status and waterfowl reports. Reports are available at this link:
<https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/hunting/species/waterfowl/wdu>
- Youth waterfowl hunts will be under way beginning in early December. We had 66 total applicants for 16 youth hunts offered around the state with assistance provided by Wildlife Division staff.
- ODWC Migratory Bird Program and USFWS Branch of Monitoring and Data Management collaborated on a restructuring of how HIP and Diary surveys are analyzed and implemented for our state regarding Sandhill Crane hunters and harvest. We will have a much better (more robust and accurate) analysis of harvest and hunter participation in our state moving forward. Sandhill crane hunting is becoming more popular with our constituents and as participation and harvest increases, we will need to keep a close eye on this resource.
- The winter Central Flyway Waterfowl Technical Committee Meeting has been scheduled for January, and will be conducted via video conference.
- James Morel, Wetlands and Migratory Bird Biologist, has been voted in as the Vice-Chair for The Wildlife Society's Wetlands Working Group. He will serve in this capacity for 1 year, before chairing the working group the following year.
- Wetland development projects are making slow, but steady progress. Coal Creek 404 permitting is in public review and bidding process for restoration/development plans can now begin. Drummond Flats restoration has met with the Garfield County Commissioner to discuss plans - next steps are town hall meetings, then moving forward with permitting processes. Huge thanks to Commissioner Dillingham for facilitating county engagement. Neosho Bottoms project and funding has been approved through the Tar Creek Trustee Council. Land acquisition and protection planning efforts (i.e., identifying willing landowners) within the project area will be the next step toward restoration and development goals.
- Private Lands staff will be finishing up assisting with youth deer hunts in December
- OLAP having good success with the new "Limited Access" system. Work has begun on NRDA projects at Atoka and James Collins, a bathroom project at McGee Creek WMA, and a road project on Wister.

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

- **November Law Enforcement numbers for the state:**
 - Total miles driven: 239,365
 - Citations issued: 462
 - Field Licenses issued: 40
 - Written Warnings issued: 131
 - Administrative Fines issued: 364
 - Total number of sportsman checks: 6,028
 - Number of hours spent on investigations: 1747
 - Number of hours spent on general patrol: 13,709
- **D2 Wardens and USFWS held a special emphasis on waterfowl hunters on Sequoyah NWR on 11/13/2021. Results were:**
 - Total contacts were 265
 - Violation notices were as follows:
 - 5 ADF for unplugged shotguns
 - 1 warning for unplugged shotgun
 - 1 fed citation for unplugged shotgun
 - 1 fed citation for lead shot
 - 9 warnings for littering on refuge (shot shells)
 - 12 warnings for fed duck stamp issues, unsigned, etc
 - 33 verbal warnings for not having federal stamps after the 45 day expiration of online sale
- **D6 conducted two different night flight operations with the following results:**
 - DATE(S) OF AIRCRAFT PATROL: 11-19-21
 - PATROL LOCATION(S): Grady County and Stephens County
 - AIRCRAFT PROVIDED BY: OHP
 - TOTAL HOURS FLOWN: 5hrs TOTAL COST: \$0.00
 - TOTAL NUMBER OF WARDENS INVOLVED IN PATROL: 7
 - PATROL ACTIVITY:
 - TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTACTS MADE DURING PATROL: 3
 - ARRESTS: 3 WARNINGS: 0 TOTAL: 3
 - TOTAL FINES AND COSTS FOR PATROL: \$1,467.00
 - PATROL SUMMARY: Worked an aircraft assignment over parts of Grady County and Stephens County working illegal night hunters. There was two contacts made during the assignment on vehicles that were engaged in headlighting. One was pursuing raccoons that were legal in all their activities and another was pursuing feral pigs without a night hunting exemption. The other contact was made without the assistance of the aircraft that apprehended a subject hunting with the aid of a thermal device.
- **DATE(S) OF AIRCRAFT PATROL: 11-27-21**
 - PATROL LOCATION(S): Caddo County, Candian County and Grady County
 - AIRCRAFT PROVIDED BY: OHP

TOTAL HOURS FLOWN: 4hrs TOTAL COST: \$0.00
TOTAL NUMBER OF WARDENS INVOLVED IN PATROL: 9
PATROL ACTIVITY:

TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTACTS MADE DURING PATROL: 1

ARRESTS: 0 WARNINGS: 0 TOTAL: 0

TOTAL FINES AND COSTS FOR PATROL: \$0.00

PATROL SUMMARY: Worked an aircraft assignment over parts of Caddo, Canadian and Grady County working illegal night hunters. There was only one contact made during the assignment on a vehicle that was working for an oilfield company.

- **D1 conducted an overpass operation on Nov. 20th of deer dun season with the following results:**

1100-1400hrs

15 Hunters checked with 10 deer

1 warning and 1 Administrative fine was issued.

- **D4 worked a special emphasis with USF&W in the south end of the 4th District Combined totals for November 4th and 5th, 2021**

Hunter Contacts: 119

Citations Issued: 20 Total

7 Hunting w/o State waterfowl stamp

1 Take w/ Shotgun capable of holding more than (3) shells

1 Fish w/o a State license

1 Hunting w/o a State hunting license

6 Hunting waterfowl w/o a Federal duck stamp

3 Operate motor vehicle off a maintained roadway

1 Illegal possession of an untagged deer

Warnings Issued: 32 Total

5 Hunting in Closed Area. (Tishomingo NWR, Cottonwood Pond)

4 Take w/o Harvest Information Permit

17 Unsigned Federal Duck Stamp

1 Take w/ Shotgun capable of holding more than (3) shells

1 Deer hunting w/o required hunter orange

1 Hunting waterfowl w/o a Federal duck stamp

3 Illegal groundfire (Tish NWR, HQ boat ramp)

Leigh Gaddis CHAIRMAN	D. Chad Dillingham MEMBER
James V. Barwick VICE CHAIRMAN	Jess Kane MEMBER
Rick Holder SECRETARY	Bruce Mabrey MEMBER
Bill Brewster MEMBER	John P. Zelbst MEMBER



J. KEVIN STITT, GOVERNOR
J.D. STRONG, DIRECTOR

P.O. Box 53465 Oklahoma City, OK 73152 PH. (405) 521-3851

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 16, 2021

TO: OK Department of Wildlife Commission and Staff

FROM: Brittnee Preston

RE: Report on November and December Federal and Congressional Issues for January Commission Meeting

State of Play:

President –

- Over the last couple of months, the President hosted Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Sen. Manchin at his house to discuss the reconciliation package and negotiate the final funding number. He also has hosted multiple members of leadership and members of Congress to discuss the major priorities left outstanding ahead of the end of the year. This includes: the debt ceiling, the infrastructure package, the reconciliation package as well as funding the government. At the time of this report, some of these items have been addressed, some simply extended, and some are still waiting in the queue.

Infrastructure package –

- > President Biden signed the infrastructure bill into law. It is a \$1 trillion bill that reauthorizes highway programs and the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Safety Act, provides funding for broadband, water infrastructure, and airports to name a few. Oklahoma is set to receive roughly \$5 billion from the bill. Among the components of this eight-year public-projects bill the following are wildlife and conservation provisions:
 - Reauthorized the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Safety Act through 2026.
 - Creates a Wildlife Crossings pilot program
 - Creates a National Culvert Removal, Replacement and Restoration grant program to improve and restore fish passage

Reconciliation package –

- > The Reconciliation package passed the on a bipartisan vote after Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy successfully delayed the vote by a night taking to the floor for a “magic minute” speech that enables leadership to essentially filibuster by speaking for an unlimited amount of time. McCarthy spoke from around 8:30pm to a little after 5:00am the next morning. The House voted to pass the bill a few hours later that morning.
- > Additionally, the Congressional Budget Office release their cost estimate just before the vote noting the “legislation would result in a net increase in the deficit totaling \$367 billion over the 2022-2031 period, not counting any additional revenue that may be generated by additional funding for tax enforcement.”
- > The total of the bill was decreased from \$3.5 trillion to \$1.75 trillion in spending a few weeks ago. The bill also includes \$500 billion for climate change. Below are highlights pertaining to wildlife and conservation issues:
 - The Interior and Agriculture departments would be authorized to receive \$2.13 billion over five years for ecosystem restoration activities.
 - \$28 billion for USDA Conservation programs. This funding gives the Secretary discretion on projects focused on climate change.
 - Environmental Quality Incentives Program (“EQIP”), the Conservation Stewardship Program (“CSP”), USDA conservation easements (“ACEP”), and the Regional

Conservation Partnership Program (“RCPP”) in the amounts of \$9 billion, \$4.1 billion, \$1.7 billion, and \$7.5 billion.

- The EQIP program authorization funding was increased to \$50 million for the life of the program, which is a number we have asked to see for years and makes the program consistent with the FARM bill.
- \$200 million to the Natural Resources Conservation Service to provide conservation technical assistance; \$50 million to USDA to promote climate change adaptation and mitigation through regional climate hubs; \$600 million to the Natural Resources Conservation Service to engage in the quantification of carbon sequestration and greenhouse gas emissions
- \$40 billion for forestry programs, including \$9 billion for forest restoration and resilience grants and \$4.5 billion for the Agriculture Department’s portion of a Civilian Climate Corps.
- \$18.7 billion for rural development programs, including \$9.7 billion for green upgrades to rural utilities.
- \$7.75 billion for agricultural research.
- \$4,850,000 to make direct expenditures, award grants, and enter into contracts and cooperative agreements for the purposes of conserving endangered species and threatened species of pollinators.
- Natural resources:
 - The measure would provide around \$31 billion over a decade for climate resilience, conservation, and other environmental initiatives. That total would be partially offset by increased fees on oil and gas companies to reach the \$25.6 billion net spending target set by the budget resolution.
 - \$180 M for carrying out species recovery plans under the ESA in FY 2022
 - \$4,850,000 to conserve endangered species and threatened species of freshwater mussels.
 - \$242.5 M for the purpose of rebuilding and restoring units of the National Wildlife Refuge System and State wildlife management areas, including by—
 - addressing the threat of invasive species;
 - increasing the resiliency and capacity of habitats and infrastructure to withstand climate-induced weather events; and
 - reducing the amount of damage caused by climate-induced weather events
 - \$9.7 M for Wildlife Corridor Conservation efforts
 - \$38.8 M for Grassland habitat restoration

Recovering America’s Wildlife –

- > The House version of the bill has 138 co-sponsors and the Senate version of the bill has 32 co-sponsors.
- > The Senate EPW Committee held a hearing on the bill on December 8th. The hearing overall was very positive with only a few members raising ideas to help better the bill. More details on this hearing are below.

Congress:

General Congressional actions:

- > GOVERNMENT FUNDING:
 - Congress passed a government funding extension through February 18, 2022 avoiding a government shutdown.
 - This will cause government funding for FY22 to run into the FY23 preparation process early next year.
 - It is possible that Congress will pass another extension for FY22, which would just continue the current level of funding through the end of the fiscal year or potentially even beyond the midterm elections.
 - Time will tell how Congress will proceed.

> DEBT CEILING:

- The debt ceiling was set to be reached by December 15th. The Congressional Budget Office echoed warnings by Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen that the federal government could run out of money after mid-December if lawmakers failed to raise the debt limit. The CBO noted that the Treasury plans to transfer \$118 billion to the Highway Trust Fund on Dec. 15 -- a move that follows the passage of President Biden's infrastructure package earlier this month.
- A debt ceiling agreement was reached in early December. Congress passed, a one-time filibuster exemption allowing the allow the Democrats to raise the debt ceiling without requiring the Republican's to vote to raise the ceiling. The agreement teed up a bill to move a one-time, filibuster proof, debt-hike vote. The House and Senate passed a \$2.5 trillion debt increase along party lines just before the Treasury and CBO's estimated deadline of December 15th. The new debt ceiling deadline is now set for early 2023.

House –

- > Several Western Caucus members introduced legislation to codify the two ESA rules the Biden Administration is proposing to rescind. The five bills are [H.R. 5740](#) by Rep. Newhouse (R-WA), [H.R. 5732](#) by Rep. Gosar (R-AZ), [H.R. 5733](#) by Rep. Herrell (R-NM), [H.R. 5708](#) by Rep. Bentz (R-OR), and [H.R. 5725](#) by Rep. Buck (R-CO).
- > The House moved a few natural resources bills off the House floor including:
 - [H.R. 5608](#) – Chronic Wasting Disease Research and Management Act (Rep. Kind – Agriculture); This bill directs the USDA to address CWD affecting deer, elk and moose populations. Specifically, it establishes a program to research and manage the disease as well as enter into agreements with state and tribal wildlife agencies, institutions of higher education and research centers.

Senate –

- > The President officially nominated Martha Williams to be the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and the Senate EPW Committee held a hearing on November 17th to consider her nomination. Ms. Williams seemed to play the middle ground between the two parties well in the hearing. She noted the need for federal regulations but recognized that states play a leading role in conservation. She said she believes conservation is a “shared responsibility.”
- > The Senate EPW Committee held a hearing on S. 2372, the Recovering America's Wildlife Act. Sarah Parker-Pauley testified on behalf of AFWA and the states' perspectives, Collin O'Mara testified on behalf of the National Wildlife Federation, Jonathan Wood testified from the landowner's perspective and former USFWS Secretary Dan Ashe. Mr. Ashe now serves as the President & CEO of the Association of Zoos & Aquariums. The hearing was very positive towards the bill. Sarah Parker-Pauley did a great job of representing the states' at the hearing and noting all the good work states do for conservation as boots on the ground. She also made great points to say that the states have done a lot of work and have put a lot of effort towards planning for the potential of the influx of funding for species conservation. While Former Secretary Ashe began off his testimony somewhat skeptical, his tone lightened throughout the hearing. A few members did voice some concerns about various provisions of the bill, which AFWA has committed to working on with the bill. Collin O'Mara had a great quote at the hearing that summed up the witnesses' motivation at the hearing: “inaction is the ally of extinction.”

Agencies:

- > U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)
 - The USFWS proposed rescinding the final rules titled [“Regulations for Listing Endangered and Threatened Species and Designating Critical Habitat”](#) and [“Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Regulations for Designating Critical Habitat”](#) that became effective in January 2021. The proposed rescission, if finalized, would remove the regulatory definition of “habitat” established by that rule.
 - USFWS announced that they will host a teleconference/web meeting of the [Aquatic Nuisance Species \(ANS\) Task Force](#) on November 16-18 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. each day (Eastern Time). Registration is required.

- The USFWS is [initiating](#) their 5 year status review under the ESA for three plants and three animals. The only one affecting OK is the Winged Maple Leaf.
- The USFWS [announced](#) a 12 month finding proposal to list the alligator snapping turtle as threatened. The comment period closes on January 10, 2022.
- The USFWS [announced](#) the Fiscal Year 2022 Competitive State Wildlife Grant (C-SWG) Program. Applications are due by February 19, 2022.

Coming up...

- > Build Back Better reconciliation package passage is possible before the end of the year.
- > Early next year...government funding

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation is the state agency responsible for managing fish and wildlife. The Wildlife Department receives no general tax appropriations and is supported by hunting and fishing license fees and federal excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment.

OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

POSITION STATEMENT

Proposed Legislation
Hunting and Fishing License Modernization

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (“ODWC”) and its governing body, the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission (“Commission”), were born as a non-appropriated agency shortly after statehood in 1909. Since its inception, ODWC’s primary funding mechanism has derived from hunters and anglers through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses. Federal excise taxes on sporting equipment were later created by the Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration Acts to ensure state fish and wildlife agencies, including ODWC, were never deprived of the necessary funding for fish and wildlife conservation activities. It was a vote of the people of Oklahoma in 1956 to amend the Oklahoma Constitution that solidified this system of dedicated funding to ensure sustainable wildlife populations for future generations of Oklahomans to enjoy. With its passage in 1956, Article 26 of the Oklahoma Constitution affirms that any money derived from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses shall only be used for the purpose of fulfilling the ODWC mission, thus securing a system of long-term funding for wildlife conservation in the state of Oklahoma.

In light of this Constitutional and historical directive, the Commission met in a regular open session before the public, with a quorum of the Commission present, to consider legislation proposed before the 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature and to discuss how such legislation might retain and bolster the traditional funding mechanisms for wildlife conservation in the state of Oklahoma. Pursuant to said discussion, a motion was made, duly seconded and approved by a vote of ___ to ___, and said Commission passed by a majority vote to adopt the following position regarding licensing policy.

It is the position of the Commission that legislation addressing the following categories would serve to benefit Oklahomans and the fish and wildlife resources entrusted to our care:

1. Legislation that allows the Commission to use the administrative rules process, including its robust public participation and legislative oversight opportunity, to develop a hunting and fishing license structure and associated fees that is more responsive to customer needs, current economic markets, inflation, and conservation needs.
2. Legislation that allows ODWC and the Commission to routinely review its regulations regarding licenses, permits and tags to ensure they are streamlined, simple to understand and that they remove barriers to hunter and angler participation.
3. Legislation that ensures all fees, monies, or funds arising from the operation and transactions of the Commission shall be expended and used by the Commission for the control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of fish and wildlife.

Done this 3rd day of January 2022

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Attest _____
Rick Holder, Sec.

By: _____
Leigh Gaddis, Chairwoman

***Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
Financial Statement***

For the period July 1, 2021 Through October 31, 2021

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Accounts Groups
October 31, 2021

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary	Account Groups			
	General	Capital Projects	Fund Types	General Fixed Assets	General Long-Term Debt	10/31/2021	10/31/2020
			Trust			Totals	Totals
Assets and Other Debits:							
Cash	14,509,050		3,914,920			18,423,970	17,156,649
Investments	0		288,026,496			288,026,496	236,376,534
Accounts Receivable	3,587,662					3,587,662	2,117,453
Monthly Lifetime License			378,000			378,000	393,775
Legacy Permit / Operation game Thief	5,357,400		7,000			5,364,400.00	4,444,897.00
Fixed Assets				75,993,261		75,993,261	70,697,200
Land				96,610,614		96,610,614	95,408,697
Other Debits:							
Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Compensated Absences					3,428,123	3,428,123	3,194,731
Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Net Pension Obligation					(3,924,890)	(3,924,890)	16,555,543
	23,454,112	0	292,326,416	172,603,875	(496,767)	487,887,636	441,907,582
Liabilities and Fund Balance:							
Liabilities:							
Accounts Payable (accrual)	931,864					931,864	98,497
Due to Other Funds (current month Lifetimes)	378,000					378,000	393,775
Compensated Absences Payable (leave accrual)					3,428,123	3,428,123	3,194,731
Net Pension Obligation					(3,924,890)	(3,924,890)	16,555,543
Total Liabilities	1,309,864	0	0	0	(496,767)	813,097	20,242,546
Fund Balance:							
Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits			143,847,044			143,847,044	122,537,587
Reserved for Defined Contribution Benefits (DC)			6,249,840			6,249,840	4,122,201
Investment in General Fixed Assets				172,603,875		172,603,875	166,105,897
Fund Balance	22,144,248		142,229,532			164,373,780	128,899,351
Total Fund Balance	22,144,248	0	292,326,416	172,603,875	0	487,074,539	421,665,036
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	23,454,112	0	292,326,416	172,603,875	(496,767)	487,887,636	441,907,582

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Trust Funds

Combining Balance Sheets
October 31, 2021

	Expendable Trust	Nonexpendable Trust	Pension Trust	DC Trust	10/31/2021 Totals	10/31/2020 Totals
Assets:						
Cash (Wildlife Heritage)	394,813	3,520,107			3,914,920	3,653,910
Investments	44,288,797	93,640,815	143,847,044	6,249,840	288,026,496	240,498,735
Due From Other Funds		378,000			378,000	393,775
Restricted Assets (OP. Game Thief)		7,000			7,000	7,000
	44,683,610	97,545,922	143,847,044	6,249,840	292,326,416	244,553,420
Fund Balance:						
Fund Balance Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits			143,847,044	6,249,840	150,096,884	126,659,788
Fund Balance	44,683,610	97,545,922			142,229,532	117,893,632
Total Fund Balance	44,683,610	97,545,922	143,847,044	6,249,840	292,326,416	244,553,420

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Fund
For the Period July 1, 2021 Through October 31, 2021

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	10/31/2021	10/31/2020	Percent of Inc. or Dec.
	General	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals	Totals	
Revenues:						
Licenses (without Lifetimes)	6,685,590			6,685,590	6,401,056	4.45%
Other Wildlife Sales	900,353			900,353	906,288	-0.65%
Agriculture and Oil Lease	317,279			317,279	374,771	-15.34%
Grant Revenue	8,130,837			8,130,837	7,600,675	6.98%
Investment Income	67,842		14,497	82,339	128,086	-35.72%
Miscellaneous	648,202			648,202	2,120,470	-69.43%
Total Revenues	16,750,103	0	14,497	16,764,600	17,531,346	-4.37%
Expenditures:						
Administration	2,283,025			2,283,025	1,861,332	22.66%
Wildlife	5,019,703			5,019,703	5,096,812	-1.51%
Fish	3,814,175			3,814,175	3,588,862	6.28%
Law Enforcement	4,318,934			4,318,934	4,087,234	5.67%
Information and Education	1,161,798			1,161,798	992,593	17.05%
Capital Improvements	2,849,974			2,849,974	3,166,180	-9.99%
Land Acquisitions		-		-	0	0.00%
Total Expenditures	19,447,609	0		19,447,609	18,793,013	3.48%
Excess(deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(2,697,506)	0	14,497	(2,683,009)	(1,261,667)	112.66%
Other Financing Sources(uses):						
Sale of General Fixed Assets	0			0	1,759,815	-100.00%
Operating Transfers In	1,612,543	0	4,011,051	5,623,594	3,614,248	55.60%
Operating Transfers Out	0		(1,612,543)	(1,612,543)	(94,458)	1,607.15%
Operating Transfers Out (215)			0	0	0	0.00
Total Other Financing Sources(uses)	1,612,543	0	2,398,508	4,011,051	5,279,605	-24.03%
Excess of revenues & other financing sources over expenditures & other financing uses	(1,084,963)	0	2,413,005	1,328,042	4,017,938	-66.95%
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year:	23,229,211	0	42,270,605	65,499,816	35,306,282	85.52%
Fund Balances October 31, 2021:	22,144,248	0	44,683,610	66,827,858	39,324,220	69.94%

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Trust Funds
For the Period July 1, 2021 Through October 31, 2021

	Fiduciary Fund Types			10/31/2021 Totals	10/31/2020 Totals
	Nonexpendable Trust	Pension Trust	DC Trust		
Operating Revenues:					
Licenses (Lifetime)	946,525			946,525	997,300
Other Sales (Senior Citizen Licenses)	57,714			57,714	64,955
Interest and Investment Income	0	4,230,237	191,532	4,421,769	4,453,860
Employer Contributions		625,000	186,712	811,712	2,624,120
Employee Contributions		192,816	134,179	326,995	299,524
Total Operating Revenues	1,004,239	5,048,053	512,423	6,564,715	8,439,759
Operating Expenses:					
Administration		128,903	1,370	130,273	120,772
Benefits and Participant Refunds	0	2,812,585	54,485	2,867,070	2,771,735
Total Operating Expenses	0	2,941,488	55,855	2,997,343	2,892,507
Operating Income	1,004,239	2,106,565	456,568	3,567,372	5,547,252
Nonoperating Expenses:					
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0	0
Total Nonoperating Expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Net Income	1,004,239	2,106,565	456,568	3,567,372	5,547,252
Fund Balances, Beginning	96,541,683	141,740,479	5,793,272	244,075,434	215,125,564
Fund Balances, October 31, 2021	97,545,922	143,847,044	6,249,840	247,642,806	220,672,816



Wildlife Contributions Report

Oct-21

Order ID	Order Date	Total Payment Amount	Name Of Individual Or Business	Description Of Contribution
20792817	10/21/2021 2:49 PM	\$50.00	Robyn Williams	In Memory of Gary James
20792739	10/21/2021 2:16 PM	\$1,200.00	Trout Unlimited - 89er Chapter	Fish Division/Dolese Park trout stocking
	Total:	\$1,250.00		

***Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
Financial Statement***

For the period July 1, 2021 Through November 30, 2021

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Accounts Groups
November 30, 2021

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Types	Account Groups			
	General	Capital Projects	Trust	General Fixed Assets	General Long-Term Debt	11/30/2021 Totals	11/30/2020 Totals
Assets and Other Debits:							
Cash	16,900,249		3,928,171			20,828,420	19,803,331
Investments	0		284,235,352			284,235,352	253,322,374
Accounts Receivable	7,623,620					7,623,620	3,014,551
Monthly Lifetime License			388,325			388,325	365,325
Legacy Permit / Operation game Thief	5,447,651		7,000			5,454,651.00	4,542,614.00
Fixed Assets				76,538,851		76,538,851	70,824,605
Land				96,610,614		96,610,614	95,408,697
Other Debits:							
Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Compensated Absences					3,456,409	3,456,409	3,223,665
Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Net Pension Obligation					(3,924,890)	(3,924,890)	16,555,543
	29,971,520	0	288,558,848	173,149,465	(468,481)	491,211,352	462,525,091
Liabilities and Fund Balance:							
Liabilities:							
Accounts Payable (accrual)	825,288					825,288	1,060,295
Due to Other Funds (current month Lifetimes)	388,325					388,325	365,325
Compensated Absences Payable (leave accrual)					3,456,409	3,456,409	3,223,665
Net Pension Obligation					(3,924,890)	(3,924,890)	16,555,543
Total Liabilities	1,213,613	0	0	0	(468,481)	745,132	21,204,828
Fund Balance:							
Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits			141,445,518			141,445,518	130,551,930
Reserved for Defined Contribution Benefits (DC)			6,168,999			6,168,999	4,644,310
Investment in General Fixed Assets				173,149,465		173,149,465	166,233,302
Fund Balance	28,757,907		140,944,331			169,702,238	139,890,721
Total Fund Balance	28,757,907	0	288,558,848	173,149,465	0	490,466,220	441,320,263
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	29,971,520	0	288,558,848	173,149,465	(468,481)	491,211,352	462,525,091

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Trust Funds

Combining Balance Sheets
November 30, 2021

	Expendable Trust	Nonexpendable Trust	Pension Trust	DC Trust	11/30/2021 Totals	11/30/2020 Totals
Assets:						
Cash (Wildlife Heritage)	398,248	3,529,923			3,928,171	3,670,208
Investments	42,602,020	94,018,815	141,445,518	6,168,999	284,235,352	257,966,684
Due From Other Funds		388,325			388,325	365,325
Restricted Assets (OP. Game Thief)		7,000			7,000	7,000
	<u>43,000,268</u>	<u>97,944,063</u>	<u>141,445,518</u>	<u>6,168,999</u>	<u>288,558,848</u>	<u>262,009,217</u>
Fund Balance:						
Fund Balance Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits			141,445,518	6,168,999	147,614,517	135,196,240
Fund Balance	43,000,268	97,944,063			140,944,331	126,812,977
	<u>43,000,268</u>	<u>97,944,063</u>	<u>141,445,518</u>	<u>6,168,999</u>	<u>288,558,848</u>	<u>262,009,217</u>

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Fund
For the Period July 1, 2021 Through November 30, 2021

	Governmental Fund Types		Fiduciary Fund Type	11/30/2021	11/30/2020	Percent of Inc. or Dec.
	General	Capital Projects	Expendable Trust	Totals	Totals	
Revenues:						
Licenses (without Lifetimes)	10,428,224			10,428,224	11,143,429	-6.42%
Other Wildlife Sales	1,237,103			1,237,103	1,252,968	-1.27%
Agriculture and Oil Lease	358,834			358,834	388,118	-7.55%
Grant Revenue	14,419,669			14,419,669	10,322,802	39.69%
Investment Income	81,146		17,932	99,078	155,244	-36.18%
Miscellaneous	794,842			794,842	2,200,497	-63.88%
Total Revenues	27,319,818	0	17,932	27,337,750	25,463,058	7.36%
Expenditures:						
Administration	2,944,881			2,944,881	2,981,439	-1.23%
Wildlife	6,057,001			6,057,001	6,185,165	-2.07%
Fish	4,732,441			4,732,441	4,437,625	6.64%
Law Enforcement	5,198,559			5,198,559	4,905,742	5.97%
Information and Education	1,355,454			1,355,454	1,267,578	6.93%
Capital Improvements	3,115,329			3,115,329	4,249,872	-26.70%
Land Acquisitions		-		-	0	0.00%
Total Expenditures	23,403,665	0		23,403,665	24,027,421	-2.60%
Excess(deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	3,916,153	0	17,932	3,934,085	1,435,637	174.03%
Other Financing Sources(uses):						
Sale of General Fixed Assets	0			0	1,759,815	-100.00%
Operating Transfers In	1,612,543	0	2,324,274	3,936,817	12,023,636	-67.26%
Operating Transfers Out	0		(1,612,543)	(1,612,543)	(94,458)	1,607.15%
Operating Transfers Out (215)			0	0	0	0.00
Total Other Financing Sources(uses)	1,612,543	0	711,731	2,324,274	13,688,993	-83.02%
Excess of revenues & other financing sources over expenditures & other financing uses	5,528,696	0	729,663	6,258,359	15,124,630	-58.62%
Fund Balances, Beginning of Year:	23,229,211	0	42,270,605	65,499,816	35,306,282	85.52%
Fund Balances November 30, 2021:	28,757,907	0	43,000,268	71,758,175	50,430,912	42.29%

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Trust Funds

For the Period July 1, 2021 Through November 30, 2021

	Fiduciary Fund Types			11/30/2021 Totals	11/30/2020 Totals
	Nonexpendable Trust	Pension Trust	DC Trust		
Operating Revenues:					
Licenses (Lifetime)	1,334,850			1,334,850	968,850
Other Sales (Senior Citizen Licenses)	67,530			67,530	75,800
Interest and Investment Income	0	2,484,515	28,302	2,512,817	13,564,221
Employer Contributions		625,000	235,473	860,473	2,664,600
Employee Contributions		239,448	169,057	408,505	374,234
Total Operating Revenues	1,402,380	3,348,963	432,832	5,184,175	17,647,705
Operating Expenses:					
Administration		129,274	2,620	131,894	121,533
Benefits and Participant Refunds	0	3,514,650	54,485	3,569,135	3,460,073
Total Operating Expenses	0	3,643,924	57,105	3,701,029	3,581,606
Operating Income	1,402,380	(294,961)	375,727	1,483,146	14,066,099
Nonoperating Expenses:					
Transfers Out	0	0	0	0	0
Total Nonoperating Expenses	0	0	0	0	0
Net Income	1,402,380	(294,961)	375,727	1,483,146	14,066,099
Fund Balances, Beginning	96,541,683	141,740,479	5,793,272	244,075,434	215,125,564
Fund Balances, November 30, 2021	97,944,063	141,445,518	6,168,999	245,558,580	229,191,663



Wildlife Contributions Report

Nov-21

Order ID	Total Payment Amount	Name Of Individual Or Business	Description Of Contribution
20839937	\$2,000.00	Quail Forever Homesteaders	Wildlife Division/Beaver River donation for purchase of ATV

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
J.D. Strong, Director

Personnel Actions
November 2021

New Hires

Zack Fielder – Hatchery Technician, Byron SFH, 11/1/2021

Promotions

Transfers

Brayden Hicks – Game Warden, Caddo County to Game Warden, Blaine County,
11/1/2021

Resignations/Terminations

Carolyn Rosa Lee Walker – Wildlife Biologist, NE Region, Private Lands,
11/12/2021

SaraJane Koehler – Grants Assistant, Central Office, 11/17/2021

Retirements

Larry Wiemers – Wildlife Biologist, Cimarron Hills WMA, 11/1/2021

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
J.D. Strong, Director

Personnel Actions
December 2021

New Hires

Elaine Ewigman – Fish Technician ANS, Porter Office, 12/13/2021

Promotions

Jerrod Davis – Wildlife Biologist Programs to Senior Biologist Programs,
12/1/2021

Kyle Johnson – Wildlife Biologist Private Lands to Senior Biologist Private Lands,
12/15/2021

Transfers

Resignations/Terminations

Retirements

Dane Polk – Game Warden, Pushmataha County, 12/01/2021

Max Routledge – Fish Technician, South Central Region, 12/01/2021