

AGENDA
Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission
Regular Meeting

Public Meeting: **Monday, March 4th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.**
Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
1801 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

In compliance with the Open Meeting Act, this meeting is scheduled to be streamed live and recorded 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 Gaddis
2. Roll Call – Rhonda Hurst
3. Invocation – Micah Holmes
4. Pledge of Allegiance – Micah Holmes
5. Introduction of Guests

6. Update and Presentation on Pronghorn Management in Oklahoma – Bill Dinkines, Chief of Wildlife Division and Dallas Barber, Big Game Biologist.

7. Update and Presentation on Pronghorn Research in Oklahoma – Bill Dinkines and Matt Turnkey, Oklahoma State University Department of Natural Resources Ecology and Management.

8. Presentation of Oklahoma Chapter of The Wildlife Society Publication and Creativity Award to the Wildlife Diversity Program and Don P. Brown, Communication and Education Specialist, for the May/June issue of Outdoor Oklahoma magazine – Nels Rodefeld, Chief of Communication and Education Division.

9. Consideration and vote to approve, amend, reject, or take other action on minutes from the February 5, 2024, regular Commission meeting.

10. Director's Report
 - a. Federal and Congressional Update
 - Oklahoma Legislative Update
 - b. Calendar Items – discussion of upcoming department calendar items.
 - c. Agency Update – an update on current activity within each division of the agency.

11. Presentation of January 31, 2024, Financial Statement and consideration and vote to approve, amend, or reject miscellaneous donations – Lindsey Presley, Accounting Supervisor, Comptroller.

12. New Business – Discussion of any matter not known about, or which could not have been reasonably foreseen 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.
13. Announce the April 1, 2024, Commission meeting will be in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
14. Adjourn

This agency receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and thus prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, age, and sex (gender) pursuant to Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. To request accommodation or informational material in an alternative format, please contact the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation, (405) 521-3851. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any facility, program, or activity, or if you need more information, please write to **Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St. NW, Washington, DC**

MINUTES

Of the Regular Meeting on February 5, 2024, of the

OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Held at the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on February 5, 2024. 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 January 29, 2024, at 11:22 a.m.

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
 D. CHAD DILLINGHAM, Member
 MARK H. MABREY, Member
 JESS M. KANE, Member
 TIM DIEHL, Member
 JOHN P. ZELBST, Member

Chairwoman Gaddis introduced the following guests: Rick Grundman, Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation (OWCF); Niki Batt, Assistant Attorney General; Will Funk, WildCare Oklahoma; Karel Brewster, Oklahoma Rifle Association; Peter Churchbourne, National Rifle Association; Jeffery Hawkins, 89er's Chapter Quail Forever; Laura McIver, James Dietch and Troy Ellefson, Quail Forever; and Juliana Lopez, OKC Latina.

Nathan Erdman, Chief of Law Enforcement Division, introduced Marshall Reigh, President of the Oklahoma State Game Warden Association. Mr. Reigh presented a check for \$1,250 to Juliana Lopez, OKC Latina, to replace the grant funding they lost for fishing clinics open to all but focused on the Hispanic/Latino population.

Bill Dinkines, Chief of Wildlife Division, introduced Laura McIver, Regional Representative of Quail Forever/Pheasants Forever, who presented a donation of \$11,182 from the Cherokee Strip, Central Oklahoma 89'ers and the Plainsmen Chapters of Quail Forever/Pheasants Forever to be used to support the Stars and Stripes Program and equipment to be used for prescribed burns and habitat management on northwest Wildlife Management Areas. Motion was made by Commissioner Barwick, seconded by Commissioner Dillingham to approve the donation as presented. Motion carried with Commissioners Mabrey, Diehl, Barwick, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane, and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Nels Rodefeld, Chief of Communication and Education Division, introduced Amanda Thomas, Shooting Range Coordinator. Ms. Thomas gave a brief overview of the shooting range program and introduced Peter Churchbourne, Director of Hunter's Leadership Forum of the National Rifle Association. Mr. Churchbourne presented the Department with a \$25,000 donation for shooting range development. Motion was made by Commissioner Dillingham, seconded by Commissioner Zelbst to approve the donation as presented. Motion carried with Commissioners Mabrey, Diehl, Barwick, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane, and Gaddis voting "Yes".

Motion was made by Commissioner Barwick, seconded by Commissioner Diehl to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2024 Commission meeting. Motion carried with Commissioners Mabrey, Diehl, Barwick, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane, and Gaddis voting “Yes”.

Catherine Appling Pooler, Legislative Liaison, gave an overview of wildlife related legislation currently moving through the 2024 Oklahoma Legislative Session. You can follow the progression of these proposed bills on the department website under Legislative Tracker. Interim Director Free referenced 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. Mr. Free updated the Commission on upcoming calendar items found on the Director's Report, highlighting the March 6 Rack Madness event held at ODWC and the March 22 Bass Master Classic. This report was given to the Commission and will be kept with the minutes of this meeting.

Lindsey Presley, Accounting Supervisor and Comptroller, presented the Financial Statement for December 31, 2023. Motion was made by Commissioner Holder, seconded by Commissioner Barwick to accept the financial statements as presented and approve miscellaneous contributions. Motion carried with Commissioners Mabrey, Diehl, Barwick, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane, and Gaddis voting “Yes”.

Motion was made by Commissioner Barwick, seconded by Commissioner Zelbst to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of confidential communications between the Board and counsel from the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General concerning threatened, anticipated, or potential legal challenges regarding an open records request from Oklahoma Voice, where counsel has determined that disclosure of information related to the claim(s) or action(s) will seriously impair the ability of the Board to process or conduct litigation in this matter, provided that any action taken shall be in open session. Motion carried with Commissioners Mabrey, Diehl, Barwick, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane, and Gaddis voting “Yes”.

Motion was made by Commissioner Barwick, seconded by Commissioner Zelbst to return to open session. Motion carried with Commissioners Mabrey, Diehl, Barwick, Holder, Zelbst, Dillingham, Kane, and Gaddis voting “Yes”. No action was taken.

Chairwoman Gaddis announced the March 4, 2024, Wildlife Commission meeting will be held in Oklahoma City.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

OKLAHOMA WILDLIFE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Leigh A. Gaddis, CHAIRWOMAN

ATTEST:

C. Rick Holder, SECRETARY

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

For the period July 1, 2023 Through January 31, 2024

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Balance Sheet - All Fund Types and Accounts Groups
January 31, 2024

| | Governmental Fund Types | | Fiduciary | Account Groups | | | |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | General | Capital Projects | Fund Types | General Fixed Assets | General Long-Term Debt | 01/31/2024 | 01/31/2023 |
| | | | Trust | | | Totals | Totals |
| Assets and Other Debits: | | | | | | | |
| Cash | 15,035,335 | | 4,530,374 | | | 19,565,709 | 19,568,622 |
| Investments | 0 | | 277,135,489 | | | 277,135,489 | 256,585,906 |
| Accounts Receivable | 2,210,428 | | | | | 2,210,428 | 2,454,250 |
| Monthly Lifetime License | | | 186,800 | | | 186,800 | 224,600 |
| Legacy Permit / Operation game Thief | 6,910,757 | | 7,000 | | | 6,917,757.00 | 5,975,965.00 |
| Fixed Assets | | | | 78,466,802 | | 78,466,802 | 78,200,275 |
| Land | | | | 106,273,449 | | 106,273,449 | 104,652,938 |
| Other Debits: | | | | | | | |
| Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Compensated Absences | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Amount To Be Provided For Payment of Net Pension Obligation | | | | | 21,202,403 | 21,202,403 | 21,202,403 |
| | 24,156,520 | 0 | 281,859,663 | 184,740,251 | 21,202,403 | 511,958,837 | 482,895,994 |
| Liabilities and Fund Balance: | | | | | | | |
| Liabilities: | | | | | | | |
| Accounts Payable (accrual) | 1,130,178 | | | | | 1,130,178 | 362,792 |
| Due to Other Funds (current month Lifetimes) | 186,800 | | | | | 186,800 | 224,600 |
| Compensated Absences Payable (leave accrual) | | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Pension Obligation | | | | | 21,202,403 | 21,202,403 | 21,202,403 |
| Total Liabilities | 1,316,978 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 21,202,403 | 22,519,381 | 21,789,795 |
| Fund Balance: | | | | | | | |
| Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits | | | 132,231,318 | | | 132,231,318 | 124,395,285 |
| Reserved for Defined Contribution Benefits (DC) | | | 8,198,102 | | | 8,198,102 | 6,742,490 |
| Investment in General Fixed Assets | | | | 184,740,251 | | 184,740,251 | 182,853,213 |
| Fund Balance | 22,839,542 | | 141,430,243 | | | 164,269,785 | 147,115,211 |
| Total Fund Balance | 22,839,542 | 0 | 281,859,663 | 184,740,251 | 0 | 489,439,456 | 461,106,199 |
| Total Liabilities and Fund Balance | 24,156,520 | 0 | 281,859,663 | 184,740,251 | 21,202,403 | 511,958,837 | 482,895,994 |

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Trust Funds

Combining Balance Sheets
January 31, 2024

| | Expendable Trust | Nonexpendable Trust | Pension Trust | DC Trust | 01/31/2024 Totals | 01/31/2023 Totals |
|--|---------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Assets: | | | | | | |
| Cash (Wildlife Heritage) | 565,671 | 3,964,703 | | | 4,530,374 | 4,228,376 |
| Investments | 36,099,854 | 100,606,215 | 132,231,318 | 8,198,102 | 277,135,489 | 263,328,396 |
| Due From Other Funds | | 186,800 | | | 186,800 | 224,600 |
| Restricted Assets (OP. Game Thief) | | 7,000 | | | 7,000 | 7,000 |
| | 36,665,525 | 104,764,718 | 132,231,318 | 8,198,102 | 281,859,663 | 267,788,372 |
| Fund Balance: | | | | | | |
| Fund Balance Reserved for Employee Pension Benefits | | | 132,231,318 | 8,198,102 | 140,429,420 | 131,137,775 |
| Fund Balance | 36,665,525 | 104,764,718 | | | 141,430,243 | 136,650,597 |
| Total Fund Balance | 36,665,525 | 104,764,718 | 132,231,318 | 8,198,102 | 281,859,663 | 267,788,372 |

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, 2023 Through January 31, 2024

| | Governmental Fund Types | | Fiduciary Fund Type | 01/31/2024 | 01/31/2023 | Percent of Inc. or Dec. |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| | General | Capital Projects | Expendable Trust | Totals | Totals | |
| Revenues: | | | | | | |
| Licenses (without Lifetimes) | 14,018,941 | | | 14,018,941 | 15,056,840 | -6.89% |
| Other Wildlife Sales | 1,604,340 | | | 1,604,340 | 1,802,262 | -10.98% |
| Agriculture and Oil Lease | 470,663 | | | 470,663 | 488,867 | -3.72% |
| Grant Revenue | 15,173,711 | | | 15,173,711 | 15,291,380 | -0.77% |
| Investment Income | 275,220 | | 69,949 | 345,169 | 170,796 | 102.09% |
| Miscellaneous | 523,841 | | | 523,841 | 726,676 | -27.91% |
| Total Revenues | 32,066,716 | 0 | 69,949 | 32,136,665 | 33,536,821 | -4.17% |
| Expenditures: | | | | | | |
| Administration | 6,003,672 | | | 6,003,672 | 4,503,012 | 33.33% |
| Wildlife | 8,919,362 | | | 8,919,362 | 9,298,746 | -4.08% |
| Fish | 6,134,635 | | | 6,134,635 | 5,601,861 | 9.51% |
| Law Enforcement | 8,473,652 | | | 8,473,652 | 6,791,473 | 24.77% |
| Information and Education | 1,896,887 | | | 1,896,887 | 1,873,235 | 1.26% |
| Capital Improvements | 2,373,985 | | | 2,373,985 | 3,486,995 | -31.92% |
| Land Acquisitions | | 1,409,383 | | 1,409,383 | 1,077,649 | 30.78% |
| Total Expenditures | 33,802,193 | 1,409,383 | | 35,211,576 | 32,632,971 | 7.90% |
| Excess(deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures | (1,735,477) | (1,409,383) | 69,949 | (3,074,911) | 903,850 | 440.20% |
| Other Financing Sources(uses): | | | | | | |
| Sale of General Fixed Assets | 0 | | | 0 | 0 | 0.00% |
| Operating Transfers In | 5,153,316 | 1,409,383 | 7,036,148 | 13,598,847 | 12,991,301 | 4.68% |
| Operating Transfers Out | (1,409,383) | | (5,153,316) | (6,562,699) | (5,222,587) | 25.66% |
| Operating Transfers Out (215) | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00 |
| Total Other Financing Sources(uses) | 3,743,933 | 1,409,383 | 1,882,832 | 7,036,148 | 7,768,714 | -9.43% |
| Excess of revenues & other financing sources over expenditures & other financing uses | 2,008,456 | 0 | 1,952,781 | 3,961,237 | 8,672,564 | -54.32% |
| Fund Balances, Beginning of Year: | 20,831,086 | 0 | 34,712,744 | 55,543,830 | 43,010,699 | 29.14% |
| Fund Balances January 31, 2024: | 22,839,542 | 0 | 36,665,525 | 59,505,067 | 51,683,263 | 15.13% |

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
Trust Funds
For the Period July 1, 2023 Through January 31, 2024

| | Fiduciary Fund Types | | | 01/31/2024 Totals | 01/31/2023 Totals |
|--|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | Nonexpendable Trust | Pension Trust | DC Trust | | |
| Operating Revenues: | | | | | |
| Licenses (Lifetime) | 1,854,300 | | | 1,854,300 | 1,512,625 |
| Other Sales (Senior Citizen Licenses) | 86,795 | | | 86,795 | 99,595 |
| Interest and Investment Income | 0 | 7,127,364 | 410,374 | 7,537,738 | 8,911,544 |
| Employer Contributions | | 1,400,000 | 410,782 | 1,810,782 | 2,077,504 |
| Employee Contributions | | 300,930 | 280,731 | 581,661 | 563,262 |
| Total Operating Revenues | 1,941,095 | 8,828,294 | 1,101,887 | 11,871,276 | 13,164,530 |
| Operating Expenses: | | | | | |
| Administration | | 188,770 | 3,990 | 192,760 | 223,747 |
| Benefits and Participant Refunds | 0 | 5,376,584 | 243,485 | 5,620,069 | 5,350,791 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 0 | 5,565,354 | 247,475 | 5,812,829 | 5,574,538 |
| Operating Income | 1,941,095 | 3,262,940 | 854,412 | 6,058,447 | 7,589,992 |
| Nonoperating Expenses: | | | | | |
| Transfers Out | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Nonoperating Expenses | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Net Income | 1,941,095 | 3,262,940 | 854,412 | 6,058,447 | 7,589,992 |
| Fund Balances, Beginning | 102,823,623 | 128,968,378 | 7,343,690 | 239,135,691 | 224,948,696 |
| Fund Balances, January 31, 2024 | 104,764,718 | 132,231,318 | 8,198,102 | 245,194,138 | 232,538,688 |



Wildlife Contributions Report

January 2024

| Total Payment Amount | Name Of Individual Or Business | Description Of Contribution |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| \$10,000.00 | NWTF | C&E Division - OKNASP & OKSSSP |
| \$2,000.00 | Grand National Quail Foundation | C&E Division - youth shooting |
| \$12,000.00 | Total | |



J. KEVIN STITT, GOVERNOR

WADE FREE, DIRECTOR

Wildlife Conservation Commission

Leigh Gaddis

Chairman

James V. Barwick

Vice Chairman

Rick Holder

Secretary

Tim Diehl

D. Chad Dillingham

Jess Kane

Mark H. Mabrey

John P. Zelbst

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2024

TO: OK Department of Wildlife Commission and Staff

FROM: Brittnee Preston

RE: Report on February Federal and Congressional Issues for March Commission Meeting

Congress:

General activity –

- > The House passed [H.R. 5009](#), the Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Reauthorization (WILD) Act. This bill reauthorizes the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program and the Multinational Species Conservation Fund. It also includes the SHARKED Act, which creates a task force on the grown shark depredation issue. The bill now heads to the Senate for consideration.
- > The Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee introduced the [America's Conservation Enhancement \(ACE\) Act](#). The bill includes:
 - Black vulture depredation language and a study on take levels in partnership with APHIS,
 - A reauthorization of the Chronic Wasting Disease Task Force at Department of the Interior, and
 - Fish Habitat Program reforms.
- > The House Natural Resources subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife held a hearing on several bills including:
 - [H.R. 6784](#) (Rep. Stauber), "*ESA Flexibility Act*"; This bill extends the 4d rule for threatened species to be applied for endangered species.
 - [H.R. 6854](#) (Rep. Fischbach), "*Habitat Enhancement Now (HEN) Act*"; this bill creates grant programs for migratory birds in the Prairie Pothole region (North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Iowa, and Minnesota)
 - [H.R. 7157](#) (Rep. Duarte), "*Strengthen Wood Product Supply Chains Act*". This bill is on the Lacey Act Amendments.

Appropriations –

- > Congress passed a short-term fund deal extending appropriations to March 1st and March 8th.
- > The stopgap measure passed with bipartisan support. Below is a list of the appropriations bills that expire on each date. Most of ODWC's issues fall within the Agriculture, Energy and Water and Interior and Environment bills.

We manage and protect fish and wildlife, along with their habitats, while also growing our community of hunters and anglers, partnering with those who love the outdoors, and fostering stewardship with those who care for the land.

- Bills expiring on March 1:
 1. Military Construction-VA,
 2. Agriculture,
 3. Energy-Water
 4. Transportation-HUD bills
 - Bills expiring March 8:
 1. Commerce, Justice and Science
 2. Defense
 3. Financial Services
 4. Homeland Security
 5. Interior and Environment
 6. Labor, Health and Human Services and Education
 7. Legislative Branch
 8. State and Foreign Ops
- > Appropriation hurdles:
- While Congress tries to come together on a long-term spending bill, several issues have stood in the way of movement to fund the government for the remainder of the 2024 fiscal year.
 - The White House is still pushing Congress to supply Ukraine with aid. Congressional members are split on what to do with supplementary aid. Several attempts to pass supplementary aid packages have been made by both the House and Senate but an agreement for a path forward has not been reached yet.
 - Border security negotiations have been a major hold up. This issue took center stage over the last few months. Oklahoma's senior Senator, James Lankford, lead the republican position in the negotiations. In early February, an agreement was put forward but it ultimately failed to garner the needed support to pass the Senate. This has a direct link to FY 24 appropriations negotiations because the House Republicans say they will not vote for a funding bill without border security reforms, but the package put forward by Lankford and the other negotiators was not an acceptable solution.
 - The House passed a bipartisan, \$79 billion family and business tax break package earlier this week surprising everyone. The bill is now sitting in the Senate.

Farm bill –

- > A one-year extension of the Farm bill was included in the Continuing Resolution passed in November. The Farm bill is now set to expire on September 30, 2024.
- > The House and Senate Agriculture chairs are pushing to get floor time as early as this spring. Unfortunately, the additional continuing resolution pushing funding deadlines into March will inevitably push the Farm bill and other policy issues into the summer. Some members of Congress have mentioned they think the best time for a Farm bill movement will be in the lame duck Congress after the election in November.
- > In the interim, the House Agriculture Committee held a hearing on the Farm bill. Chairman Glenn “G.T.” Thompson (R-PA) emphasized the importance of the next Farm bill’s passage to provide certainty for

producers. There was discussion on the new EPA air quality standard. Secretary Vilsack noted that there is now a memorandum of understanding between the USDA and the EPA that includes shared objectives to collaborate with states, tribes, and stakeholders on this new standard.

Agencies:

- > The USFWS issued a [notice](#) of initiation of the 5-year review on the American Burying Beetle. The Service requested that any new information be submitted to them by February 26, 2024 but noted that they will continue to accept information on any listed species at any time.
- > The USFWS [announced](#) a proposed rulemaking on “the biological integrity, diversity, and environmental health (BIDEH) of the National Wildlife Refuge System are maintained, and where appropriate, restored and enhanced, in accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997.” Comments are due by March 4, 2024.
- > The USFWS’s announced a decision to delist the gray wolf. The Service’s findings are specifically for the Northern Rocky Mountains and the Western United States.
- > The USFWS [proposed](#) to establish hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds for the 2024–25 hunting season.
- > The USFWS [announced](#) a grant opportunity under the 2024 State and Interstate Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan Grant Program. This is open to any state, tribe, or groups of states who have an approved ANS management plan. Pre-proposals are due March 13, 2024. For 2024, the application due date is May 8, 2024, but this may be negotiable for a later date with the appropriate Regional AIS Coordinator.
- > The USFWS [announced](#) the FY2024 Implementation of the Quagga and Zebra Mussel Action Plan (QZAP) in the Western United States.
- > The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced a webinar and due dates for the 2024 America the Beautiful pre-proposals and proposals.

Coming up...

- > The FARM bill expires on September 30, 2024
- > The current CR expires on March 1st and March 8th

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
Wade Free, Interim Director

Personnel Actions
February 2024

New Hires

Taima Rolle – Administration, Procurement Officer, 2/20/24

Promotions

Joshua Luft – WL OLAP Technician to Biologist, 2/1/24

Transfers

Resignations/Terminations

Bradley Magby – Warden, Creek County, 2/16/24

Amanda Storck – CFO, 2/29/24

Retirements

March 2024 DIRECTOR'S REPORT



OKLAHOMA
DEPARTMENT OF
**WILDLIFE
CONSERVATION**

CALENDAR ITEMS:

March 6 Rack Madness, ODWC Headquarters, OKC
April 1 Oklahoma Wildlife Commission Meeting in OKC @ 9:00 a.m.
April 1 Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation meeting @ 2:00 p.m.

AGENCY UPDATE

ADMINISTRATION

Accounting

Accounts Payable:

of Claims Audited and Paid 296

Total Dollar Amount of Claims Paid \$2,796,291.25

Purchase Card Program:

Total # Agency Cardholders 195

Total # Agency Approvers (no cards) 13

Total Agency Monthly Standard Spending Limits \$450,500.00

Total Agency Spending Limits w/ Approved Increase Requests \$460,000.00

of PCard Spending Limit Increase Requests Approved 25

of P/Card Transactions Processed 691

of ODWC In-depth Audited Transactions 74

OMES documentation requests for PCard transactions 5

Total Dollar Amount of P/Card Purchases \$178,641.95

PCard Program Refresher Training 1

New Approver Training at OMES 0

New Cardholder Training at OMES 2

Risk Management:

OMES Surveys or Premiums Completed 0

New Cases Reported 2

Purchasing:

of Purchase Orders/CO issued 31

IT Acquisitions Processed 5

Construction Site Visits: 0

Federal Aid

- Federal Reimbursement Request: \$3,259,987.20
- Program Income: \$29,453.90
- In-Kind Contributions: \$20,619.00

- Ongoing Federal Audit Repayment: \$1,054,411.28 cumulative (now complete)
- New Grants or Amendments Submitted: 2
- Grant Reports Submitted: 17
- Fisheries and Wildlife division Pcard charges sorted into 325 unique combinations of Fund / Division / Grant number / Project number / Product Code / Area / Object Code for claim jacket preparation
- Key Meetings / Milestones: New grant kickoff meeting with Rogers State University (bat research project)

Human Resources

Open Full-time Positions - 22

Positions Interviewed - 7

Candidates interviewed - 30

Positions Announced – 2

Candidates Screened – 79

Filled Positions – 2 (1 new hires, 1 promotions)

See included personnel report that shows personnel actions for the month

Temporary Employees Processed (Interns & Aids), - 4

Full time employees on March payroll - 334

DB Plan Members – 149

DC Plan Members – 186

Hourly employees on supplemental payroll – 33

Retirement meetings and / or calculations - 5

Work Comp Injuries - 1

Other misc:

- Coffee chat presentations on transition to PS GPC module
- Assistance to employees and supervisors with performance evaluations
- Assisted with production of training video for new procedures for PCard transactions.
- Set-up and announced in-house mandatory supervisor training classes.
- Planning for LDP level two workshop in April
- Assisted with updates to HR procedures manual.
- Next Level Team meeting

IT

Total of 93 tickets so far for February. This is a big increase month over month but is similar to year-over-year trends. Adobe pushed out an update, Zscaler authentication issues, and intermittent infrastructure downtime were all drivers for the increased ticket count. On a more personal note. We say goodbye to Charles Cowell at the end of the month when he officially retires. His job roles have changed several times over the 35 years of service. He has always stepped up and worked hard to make sure our department functions smoothly.

- Upcoming and Ongoing Projects:
- Charles Cowell will retire at the end of the month with over 35 years of service to the department.
- Our six-month server hardware, software, and database migration is now complete.
- Further Preparation into Rack Maddess Setup.
- Ongoing efforts to making the Peoplesoft to Workday transition as easy as possible.

- A new batch of laptops will be dropped off and prepared for deployment.
- Coordinating and testing for the PeopleSoft implementation.

License

- Processed over 700 orders, including 574 licenses/permits and 414 hard cards (mail and walk-in orders) - \$62,901 in revenue
- Shipped 176 in-house merchandise items (patches, books, etc), totaling over \$2,000 in revenue.
- Processed over \$66,000 in miscellaneous revenue, such lease payments, fines restitution, etc.
- Reviewed 1,389 online and paper applications for various licenses and permits.

January License Review

Recreational Licenses were down 26% for the month compared to January 2023. Large decreases are likely attributed to the first renewal period for the 365-day licenses varying by month, so we should see renewals spread over the course of the year.

Notables include:

| License Type | Pct Change MTD (# Sold) |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Resident Hunting | -26% (2,268) |
| Resident Fishing | -62% (4,282) |
| Resident Combo | -38% (2,136) |
| Resident Youth Hunting | -60% (73) |
| Resident Youth Fishing | -69% (113) |
| Oklahoma Waterfowl Stamp | +5% (6,461) |

Lifetime License sales are down 28% for the month compared to January 2023 (479 less lifetimes sold). Reasons for the downturn are unclear, but we'll be watching future months.

Notables include:

| License Type | Pct Change MTD (# Sold) |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Lifetime Combo | -18% (200) |
| 60-100% Disabled Vet Combo | -12% (90) |
| Senior Citizen Combo | -28% (589) |

Mid-February License Review (Sales through Feb. 13)

Recreational Licenses were down 16% for the first 13 days of the month compared to February 2023.

Notables include:

| License Type | Pct Change MTD (# Sold) |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Resident Hunting | -13% (242) |
| Resident Fishing | -23% (2,850) |
| Resident Combo | -21% (461) |
| Resident Youth Fishing | -19% (121) |

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Paddlefish | -20% (2,384) |
| Lake Texoma | -22% (672) |
| Nonresident 1-Day Fishing | +7% (612) |
| Nonresident Fishing | -14% (1,100) |

Lifetime Licenses were down 11% for the first 13 days of the month compared to February 2023 (500 sold). February sales are close to 2020 and 2022 numbers for the first 13 days.

Notables include:

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| License Type | Pct Change MTD (# Sold) |
| Lifetime Combo | -9% (52) |
| Senior Citizen Fishing | -2% (124) |
| Senior Citizen Combo | -13% (221) |

Property

- Auction closed January 30th and pulled \$650,000 in sells.
- Coordinated pickups for auction items from buyers.
- A new uniform portal for staff launched, received first orders. Continue to work on adding additional items.
- Continued testing new asset management system.
- Additional preparation for new hire Warden trucks.

FISHERIES DIVISION

January 2024 Director highlights

| Statewide Fish Stocking, January 2024 | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|--------|-------------|
| Species | # Fish | Size | # Locations |
| Rainbow Trout, USFWS | 16,883 | 10+” | 2 |
| Rainbow Trout, Commercial | 8,580 | 9+” | 6 |
| Rainbow Trout, Commercial | 267 | 12” | 2 |
| Rainbow Trout, Commercial | 695 | 14-25” | 8 |
| Brown Trout, USFWS | 15,000 | 6+” | 1 |
| TOTAL | 41,425 | | |

Meetings

- Staff attended an on-site meeting at Watonga Lake to discuss the dam with Tracon.
- Attended meeting w/ TPWD to discuss Lake Texoma fisheries management.
- Attended SDAFS Chattanooga, TN where staff presented on the great work being done in the state, networked, helped other states with issues, and gained important knowledge to aid them in their current role in the form of training and learning for other state agencies.

Activities

- Staff continued working on hauling tank renovation project.

- Shipped approximately 13,000 3-inch Rainbow trout fingerlings to Holdenville Hatchery to be feed out to stocking size.
- Staff continued raising Rainbow trout fingerlings in round tanks in fish house.
- Monitored trail cameras for research project.
- Construction of spawning structures for minnows.
- Inventory and organize feed barn.
- Compiled and vetted ten years of bass data.
- Made plans for small reservoir repair.
- Hatching battery construction.
- Repair of airburst system on river station (outsourced).
- Biologists created PowerPoint presentations for the Southern Division of the American Fisheries Society annual meeting.
- NER Personnel assisted with paddlefish sampling on Eufaula Lake.
- NER Personnel gave several interviews to magazines for the upcoming 2024 Bassmaster Classic being held on Grand Lake March 22-24.
- NER Personnel spoke at the Fisheries Supervisor's meeting regarding Federal grant money for herbicide use in reservoirs and micro plastics in reservoirs and rivers.
- Personnel continued composing and editing extensive lake reports for multiple reservoirs in the region for Federal Aid Grant compliance and to ensure sampling data is up to date for each body of water. Personnel also updated the NER 5 year management plan with completed 2023 samplings and projects.
- Personnel completed and submitted compliance paperwork for Watonga Dam Renovation Project, along with composing environmental review responses for multiple proposed waterline projects within the State of Oklahoma.
- Personnel stocked trout into Veteran's Pond in Jenks, OK, to provide a unique fishing opportunity to anglers in the Tulsa metro area.
- Personnel took part in several fisheries committee meetings during January.
- Staff use the time to do routine annual equipment maintenance for upcoming years activity.
- Staff members prepared three presentations for the SDAFS annual meeting. Presentations included an update on Stream Program community sampling progress, an assessment of Redfin Darter distribution and conservation status, and a presentation over the management of Smallmouth Bass and Neosho Bass in the Illinois River watershed.
- Staff members reviewed two sportfish restoration and eight state wildlife grant research proposals to assist research committees with funding and study design decisions.
- The Southeast Aquatic Resource Partnership requested each state provide comprehensive crayfish, fish, and mussel species lists. Wildlife Diversity staff assisted with crayfish and mussel lists while the Stream Program staff used multiple resources to compile an exhaustive list of fish species found in Oklahoma that reflects all the recent taxonomic changes (i.e., species splitting and name changes) and submitted all the completed lists to SARP.
- Two-hundred fourteen Blue Catfish and Flathead Catfish otoliths were processed and aged to allow calculation of population dynamic analyses for the 2023 annual catfish report.

- Other duties conducted by staff included boat and generator maintenance, Muddy Boggy watershed historical data entry, assistance with Shiny creel application, reviewing scientific collector permit applications, and beginning the annual community sampling report. HQ aquaria and water feature upkeep continues
- OKC trout creel surveys continued
- Staff submitted lake / pond management reports for federal aid requirements.
- Reviewed OKC CTHFP MOU
- Prepared PP presentation for OHA workshop at AEC
- Responded to fish kill in Chickasha.

C&E DIVISION

- Michael Bergin reports nearly 72,000 license hard cards were sold in 2023. ODWC profits \$1.20 per card. Promotion for the 2024 license hard cards began in February with an immediate result of 1,621 cards sold in the first day.
- Amanda Thomas and other ODWC staff reviewed the bids that were received for the construction phase of the Atoka Gun Range project. She participated in many other meetings related to progress being made on engineering and EA's for a number of range projects across the state. Additional time was spent working on a process for reviewing future third party range projects.
- Damon Springer and Jason Smith conducted a teacher training course for OKSSSP schools. Work also continued on the Arcadia Archery range project as well as activities on the area.
- Lance Meek participated in several days of the Western Conservation Leadership Training Program. He also worked on reviewing and editing the Hunting R3 plan that will be the focus for our R3 efforts in 2024.
- Kelly Boyer organized and ran all of the OKNASP and Varsity Archery state shoots at OKC and Tulsa. Nearly 5,000 students participated in these shoots that were conducted with the assistance of over 30 ODWC staff and partner staff at each event. Several schools qualified to participate in the NASP national competitions as teams as well as individuals.
- C&E and Wildlife Division coordinated an "Open House" event at Lexington WMA. Participants practiced trap shooting at the gun range and learned how to squirrel hunt.
- Shawn Gee is working with the Jenks Community Education programming to offer beginning archery and beginning bow hunting courses this fall for adults in the Jenks community. This will be a pilot effort to begin adult introduction courses in the Tulsa area.
- Jennifer Bengtson is finalizing and getting information ready to send out for our next C&E Roadshow on May 22 Frisco Conference Center in Clinton, OK. Commissioners are welcome to attend.
- ODWC's TikTok account has collectively amassed more than 10 million likes.
- Heather Gaylord worked with the OHA group on a 101 Crappie course at Arcadia Lake that was similar in nature to the 101 deer hunting course that they have been conducting with the assistance of Department staff.
- Outdoor Adventure raffles went live on wildlifedepartment.com and gooutdoorsoklahoma.com

WILDLIFE DIVISION

- Winter Turkey flock surveys ended Feb 29. Results forthcoming shortly.

- The March roadside furbearer survey period is ongoing (March 1-31)
- Assigned staff have begun working on 2024 controlled hunt.
- All staff have been busy with Performance Reviews and inventory inspections.
- WMA's
 - Ag leases are front and center this time of year (payment reminder letters, processing payments, preparation and new bids being advertised /awarded).
 - Monitored and reported on status of wetland development units.
 - Grazing lease renewals and preparation for 2024 leases.
 - Prescribed burn prep and dormant season prescribed burning occurring as weather permits.
 - Maintenance / Repairs on MCWA house are wrapping up in preparation for a new technician starting 01 March.
 - The McGee Creek WMA prefab restroom delivery frame is early March. Plan to have installation complete prior to turkey season.
 - Activities over past month: ~15,000 acres prescribe burned, 51 miles of firebreak maintained, 4 acres of chemical control of invasive plants, 32 acres of disking to promote summer for growth, 27 mile of roads and 9 parking areas maintained, 92 acres of WDU disced for undesirable plant control and stimulation of native food plants, 153 acres of mulching to for brush and woody species control.
- Wrapped up pronghorn aerial surveys.
- Staff recently attended a number of conferences / events: NWTF annual conference, Panhandle Wildlife Conference, SE Deer Study Group, Oklahoma Chapter of The Wildlife Society annual meeting at Arcadia, and the annual Central Flyway "Wing-Bee".
- Cedar tree log harvest on James Collins has started its second year.
- The bear research group has started the final season of spring field work.
- The turkey researchers have started trapping and installing transmitters on hen turkeys in both southwest and southeast Oklahoma.
- Working with timber companies for a 1-year extension of current leases for Three Rivers/Honobia Creek WMA's.
- Three Land Trapping Workshops were recently held on Hulah January 20-21, James Collins Feb 3-4, and Packsaddle Feb 10-11. Attendance at all three workshops was good despite generally very poor weather conditions, and participant responses indicate tremendous success and popularity. The James Collins workshop was a packed house with 16 participants and a large contingent of Department personnel plus a few retired hands that showed up. Packsaddle workshop participants traveled from Tulsa, Owasso, Edmond, Yukon, and Ada to attend in what was slated to be a bad weather weekend. 14 of the 20 stayed over to Sunday and although there was some snow coming down, it was perfect weather to run a long line. Numerous Department staff assisted with the workshops
- Progress is being made on planned water control upgrades at Mt. Park WMA in partnership with Ducks Unlimited and needed compliance documentation has been received which is a crucial first step.
- GIS staff spent considerable time working with IT to switch out and upgrade the GIS server and migrate data onto the new server.
- Continuing to work on land asset and ag/grazing conversion and upload for upcoming transition to PeopleSoft.

- Private lands staff continue to prepare WHIP plans for review / selection of FY 25 participants
- Staff are working on private lands youth antlerless hunts for next year.
- ODWC staff assisted with coordination and capture of mule deer for the new OSU mule deer research project. 30 deer were captured and equipped with GPS collars at Beaver River WMA, and 39 deer were equipped with GPS collars in the downstate region of the study area (total of 79 mule deer with transmitter collars).
- The wildlife research committee met to review and evaluate research proposals (7) submitted to the 2023 Request For Proposals (RFP). The SWG team also met to discuss and evaluate all proposals (8) submitted in response to the 2023 RFP. Funding recommendations are being prepared based on results of these meetings.
- A winter raptor survey was conducted at Hackberry Flat WMA. 9 raptor species were recorded in addition to a single whooping crane just south of the WMA.
- Research Biologist Alex Cooper attended the Conservation Leaders for Tomorrow workshop at the USFWS National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia where he learned leadership skills associated with conservation organizations.
- Herd Health Evaluation efforts are going well. We have been successful at each location and plan to wrap up the project by the end of February. This effort has staff collecting antlerless deer and doing a thorough necropsy to determine relative herd health. Data collected is used to enhance management decisions and monitor general health. Results will be shared when the effort has been completed.
- Open house and squirrel hunt was conducted on Lexington WMA
- Quail wings from hunter harvested birds are being collected from collection boxes on selected WMA's around the state. More information about this effort can be found at this link: <https://www.wildlifedepartment.com/outdoorok/oj/whats-wing-what-odwc-biologists-can-learn-through-quail-wing-collection>
- The Oklahoma FurBearers Alliance (OFBA) will be hosting their Oklahoma Fur Auction on March 9th at the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds in Okmulgee, OK. This is where we gather some of the harvest data, as well as the pricing data, that goes in our annual reports. This event is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.
- The Migratory Bird biologist and technician are participating in a cackling geese banding effort underway by the Central Flyway Council. They are assisting with location, capture, and affixing GPS backpack units to these birds to better track their movements and habitat preferences. Updates will be made as the data begins to come in.

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

- Game Wardens kicked off the month of February by working a large booth at the 2024 Tulsa Boat Sport and Travel Show. This show hosts over 100,000 attendees and gives Wardens a chance to emphasize the importance of water safety for the summer ahead. The booth was sponsored by Fluid Boats, who are a manufacturer of Law Enforcement ribbed boats like the ones used on Lake Texoma and Grand Lake. It took many hands to make this booth happen over the 7-day event. Those who worked the show: Jason Adair, Chris Newkirk, Austin Jackson, Dale Stites, Garrett Harley, Riley Willman, Rylee Rolling, Bradley Magby, Cody Morris, Bailey Johnson, J.D. Stauffer, Hank Jenks, Billy Bob Walker, Kody Moore, Brandon Fulton, Stephen Paul, Jay Harvey (OSGWA), Carlos Gomez (OSGWA), and Rick Grundman (OWCF).

Special thanks to the Oklahoma Game Warden Association and the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Foundation for all the help!

- On February 9th Game Wardens participated in a Water Enforcement Tactics Class at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. This challenging class helps officers understand the high risk and extreme danger of enforcing laws on the water. They also learn how to get their duty belts off quickly, work together as a team, navigate obstacles under the water, save others, and even how to remove their pants, fill them with air, tie the ends, and use them for flotation just to name a few. Although this may not be a favorite class for many officers, it does teach Wardens to respect and know their limitations when working on or near the water.
- Wardens from the 1st and 2nd Districts came together to assist the Delaware County Sheriff's Office on a large-scale search for a 19-year-old subject from Kansas, OK, who has been missing since December. Riley Wilman, Chris Newkirk, Monte Reid, Cody Morris and Hank Jenks helped search a 2-mile X .5 mile sector as part of a team of over 250 searchers. Although the search did not yield Mr. Glass, it did help to clear some areas and the family was very appreciative of the efforts.
- The 1st District again came together to provide an OSGWA and Warden booth at the Mid-South Hunting and Boat Show in Pryor on February 15-18. The wardens manned a booth and helped score several deer with other ODWC personnel. Austin Jackson, Monte Reid, Riley Wilman, Lt Joe Alexander, Kody Moore, JD Stauffer, Rylee Rolling, Lt Paul Welch, Capt. Hank Jenks all helped to make this show a huge success.

Dist. 2

- Wardens Cody Morris and Cody Youngblood assisted with the NWTf sponsored squirrel hunt at the Sequoyah State Park. They gave a safety program and a Q&A session.
- D2 hosted the annual Legislative 2-day STEP event at the Inhoff Ranch in Muskogee County. Wardens Dylan Langford, Cody Morris, Marvin Stanley, Jared Cramer, Jerry Henry, David Garrett, Allen Couch, Cody Youngblood, Logan Shimp, Matt Farris, Lt. Patrick Matlock, Lt. Gary Wilcox, and Capt. David Robertson participated.

Dist. 3

- Captain Tobey sat on an Oklahoma Highway Patrol Trooper to Lieutenant interview board on 2-7-2024 at the Emergency Operations Center in McAlester Oklahoma. We interviewed 11 troopers hoping to be promoted to a supervisory position.
- Several D3 Wardens assisted the Pushmataha County Sheriff's Office in searching for an elderly man missing in a portion of the Kiamichi Wilderness area near Antlers, OK. Unfortunately, the missing person was not found alive.
- D3 Warden, Andrew Potter made a couple of lifetime license fraud cases on two men who live in Texas. The men drove to our OKC, HQ in 2016 and provided false information to obtain Oklahoma Lifetime Hunting Licenses. Andrew conducted the investigation and presented the information to his ADA in Choctaw County thinking that the Statute of Limitations had expired, much to his surprise the Prosecuting Attorney found a somewhat obscure statute which in his opinion took precedence over the Statute of Limitations and proceeded to obtain confessions, with substantial penalties from both men who illegally obtained their Oklahoma Lifetime Hunting Licenses. Andrew sent you the details of this case and inquired about the court-administered sentence of substantial fines and probation instead of revocation.

- D3 Lt. Polk has set up and scheduled a special emphasis on the Lower Mountain Fork Trout Stream to curtail reports of bullying of fishermen by fishing guides who regularly use the area for commercial purposes. The operation is set for March 2, 2024, and will utilize both uniformed and non-uniformed wardens.

Dist. 4

- Game Warden Dale Stites completed the Water Enforcement Tactics training and assisted CLEET with LEDT training for the new Wardens. Game Warden Trae Taylor is in his last few weeks of training at CLEET in Ada. Trae recently completed crime scene investigations, simunition training, and is currently in LEDT.
- Game Warden Garret Harley is following up on e-check deer investigations that resulted in six citations issued and 26 fishing compliance checks on Konawa and Sportsman Lake. Warden Harley and Stites assisted the Canadian River Valley Ranch in Hughes Co. by overseeing a deer drive for their Commercial Hunt area.
- Game Wardens have been busy following up on late season deer cases, working predator hunts, checking fishermen, serving the public through public outreaches, and training. We completed 7 public outreach events that include the Tulsa Boat and Travel Show and the OKNASP west region tier 2 competition in Oklahoma City.

Dist. 5

- On Feb 13th, Josey, Dalton & myself assisted Lincoln Co SO serve a search warrant at a house west of Prague. Turned out the Polaris Razor the subject had been driving around with the thermal camera on top & IR lights for driving blackout with his night vision was stolen about a month before we checked him back in Oct of 2022. The Prague officer who ran the VIN left off 2 numbers.... after serving the search warrant, we did not find any illegal wildlife surprisingly but did recover 2 stolen M1-Garand rifles stolen from the VFW. We also found a Kel-Tech .223 bullpup with a thermal scope and several night vision scopes (none came back as stolen though). We also found the drone box and the FLIR camera box for the drone (we had reports he was using a drone with thermal to find deer with).
- Saturday, the 17th, Chad, Brian, Mike, Dalton, and Vince did a STEP program at the department's 1st Learning to Squirrel Hunt workshop at Lexington WMA.

Dist. 6

- Justin Cornett worked a case on a non-resident from Texas who has been using his brother-in-law's address and his SSN (used SSN as an Oklahoma DL#) and has been buying resident licenses in Oklahoma since 2009 as far as Justin could tell. He was charged with 8 counts of obtaining a license by providing false information and two 5-411s on deer. There were lots of other cases but the statute of limitations had run out on them. The guy pled out and paid \$2700 in fines and \$600 in restitution. Probably cheap compared to what he saved over all of those years buying resident licenses. Justin says he has just started investigating another person for the same thing.
- Dylan King assisted Mustang PD serve a warrant on a guy who was a hunting guide and was taking money for hunts (elk, deer, waterfowl) and never delivering the hunts.
- Dylan also investigated a case made from Facebook. A hunter posted a photo of himself posing with his harvested game on a piece of private property. A person who saw the photo on Facebook recognized the property as his own and called Dylan since the person in the photo did not have permission to hunt there. The subject was written up for hunting without landowner consent.

Dist. 7

- Warden Tucker Blackburn received a call on his day off and responded, he caught three individuals shooting quail from a public roadway and unlawful possession of wildlife not legally taken.
- Clint Carpenter assisted OKDAFF Agent Paul Cornett in locating and individual wanted by the US Forest Service for possible rape in the Grand Canyon National Park.
- Lt. Edwards assisted with OKNASP shoot in OKC. Lt. Edwards backed up a Beckham Co. Deputy on the arrest of a woman with CDS and possession of a firearm, she also had an outstanding warrant and he also assisted Sayre PD on a domestic at Hutch's in Sayre.
- Lt. Smith wrote two individuals for shooting from the road at sandhill cranes, AR .223 rifle and a shotgun with 00 buckshot, two citations each.

Dist. 8

- Feb. 21st D8 wardens hosted a score your deer event at Autry Tech center. Wardens Blake Cottrill, Capt. Ben Bickerstaff and Lt. Stephen Paul were all in attendance. Tri State Archery also donated a \$1500.00 Bow Tech bow package to be given away by drawing for all those attending the event.
- Lt. Mike Baker has been working a good trespassing case on some CLO land in Cimarron County as well.