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Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Mike Knoedl
Director

September 26, 2014

Since 2004, Arkansas bowhunters have collected thousands of hours of wildlife observation data. These data provide wildlife biologists information regarding density, distribution, and trends of wildlife populations. In recent years, we have added feral hogs to provide data on their increasing ranges.

As technology increases so does our methods for data collection. The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is excited to reveal an upgrade to the iPhone and Android app which allows hunters to directly record their observations on their smart phone while hunting. If your smart phone does not have a signal while you are hunting, the application has the ability to store your observations and submit them once signal is restored.

As we move towards utilizing technology for data collections we do anticipate additional upgrades in the future. For example, we have requested the next upgrade provide observation summary reports for each individual hunter. This would allow hunters to collect data and then review their observations to assist with planning their next hunting trip. We are also interested in the apps ability to collect location data. This would allow us to compare observation data with a variety of habitat types within a deer zone or county.

On behalf of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, I thank you for being a partner. The information you have collected since 2004 has been beneficial in our management efforts. If you have any questions concerning the app or suggestions for improvement, please feel free to contact me. Also, if you are not an owner of a smart phone and wish to collect observation data using paper, please let us know. We hope to be able to still print a limited amount of collection booklets. Thank you again, and I wish you all the best hunting season!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cory Gray".

Cory Gray
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The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's mission is to conserve and enhance Arkansas's fish and wildlife and their habitats while promoting sustainable use, public understanding and support.