Location of Symposium:
(map to La. Tech campus and Student Center)

Sixth Ark-La-Miss Wildlife Management Symposium

The Louisiana Black Bear: Biology, Restoration and Management.
Louisiana Tech Student Center.
12 February, 2011

Symposium Sponsored by:
Ark-La-Miss Wildlife Group
School of Forestry, Louisiana Tech University
LSU Ag Center
Department of Biology, The University of Louisiana-Monroe
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Populations of this large omnivore were abundant in Louisiana in the 1700’s, but declined substantially afterwards due to human settlement, habitat loss, and overharvest. The Louisiana Black Bear was listed as Threatened in 1992 under provisions of the Endangered Species Act but recent restocking efforts, protection and reforested habitat have all contributed to population increases. So what do we know about them and how do we manage them? An array of accomplished expert speakers will provide timely information based on their many years of research and management experience. The morning session focuses on early conservation efforts, biology, research, genetics, and population estimates. The afternoon session features management: populations, habitat, conflicts, and another state’s perspective. You can learn a lot in one day about Teddy Roosevelt’s bear.

### Program Agenda

**8:00 – 8:45** Registration, pick up forms for continuing education credits, complete pre-test.

**8:45 – 9:00** Welcome, Introductions and Door Prizes. **Session Moderator:** Dr. James G. Dickson, Professor, School of Forestry, Louisiana Tech University, Ruston.

**9:00 – 9:30** History and Early Conservation: Mr. Paul Davidson- Executive Director, Black Bear Conservation Coalition

**9:30 – 9:50** Mississippi Alluvial Valley Bear Biology: Dr. Joseph D. Clark- Branch Chief, USGS Southern Appalachian Research Branch, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**9:50 – 10:20** Break and Door Prizes **Session Moderator:** Dr. Don Reed

**10:20 – 11:00** Addressing Recovery Criteria for the Louisiana Black Bear: Mr. Jared Laufenberg- Ph.D. Candidate, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**11:00 -11:30** Research Progress Report: Mr. Mike Hooker- Biologist, Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, Ms. Carrie Lowe, and Mr. Jared Laufenberg – University of Tennessee, Knoxville

**11:30 – 1:00** Lunch, Recognitions, Door and Raffle Prizes, Presentation of John D. Newsom Land Stewardship Award

**1:00 – 1:30** Programs for Habitat Enhancement: Mr. John Pitre- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service

**1:30 – 2:00** Managing Black Bears in Louisiana: Ms. Maria Davidson- Large Carnivore Program Manager, Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

**2:00 – 2:30** Resolving Bear-People Conflicts: Mr. Walter Cotton- USDA APHIS Wildlife Services

**2:30 – 3:00** Break and Door Prizes

**3:00 – 3:30** Federal Status and Future: Ms. Debbie Fuller- Biologist, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ecological Services

**3:30 – 4:00** Bear Management in Arkansas: Mr. Myron Means- Bear Program Coordinator, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission,

**4:00** RETURN POST TEST, DOOR AND RAFFLE PRIZES, ADJOURN

### Session Moderator: Dr. Kim Tolson

Ark-La-Miss Wildlife Group: George Chandler, William Colvin, Jim Dickson, John Dickson, Gypsy Hanks, Don Reed, Larry Savage, Kim Tolson, John Pitre, Pat Stinson

**Program Sponsors:**
- Weyerhaeuser
- La. Forestry Association
- Natural Gear
- Marion State Bank

### Registration

Name(s)____________________________
Address____________________________
City_______________________________  State_____________Zip_______________
Telephone (            )__________________
E-mail_____________________________

**Registration fee $25**

Late Registration (after February 9, 2011) $40

Make checks payable to: ARK-LA-MISS WILDLIFE GROUP

Return by February 9, 2011 to: Dr. Jim Dickson P.O. Box 10138 Ruston, La. 71272

For further information call 318-257-4985 or e-mail jdickson@latech.edu.

Cancellation and refund policy: Requests for refunds are honored if received before February 9, 2011. Substitutions are accepted at any time for prepaid registrants. The Ark-La-Miss Wildlife Group reserves the right to cancel any program because of insufficient enrollment or other unforeseen circumstances. Refunds will be issued to all prepaid registrants if the workshop is canceled or postponed.