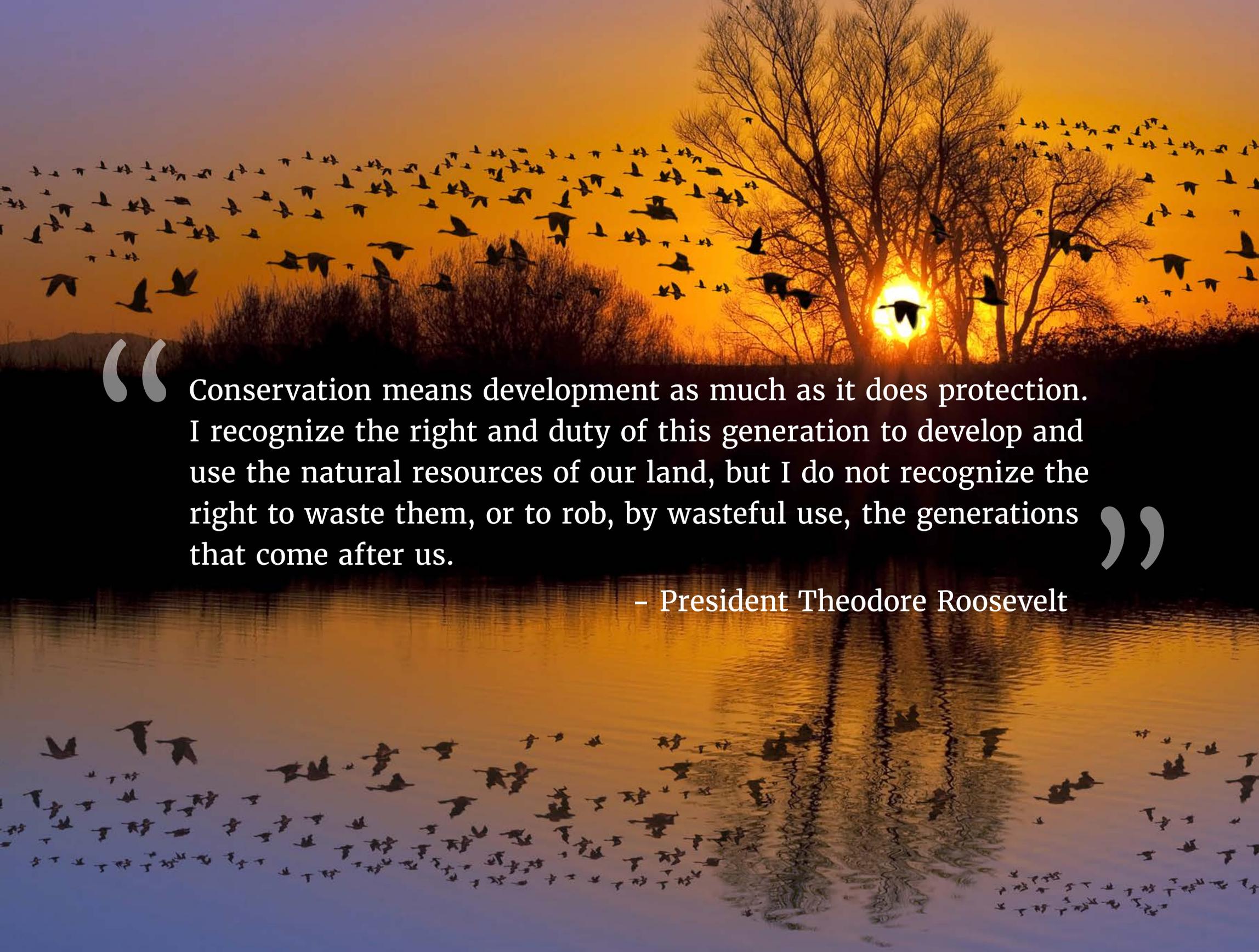




Leaving a Legacy





“ Conservation means development as much as it does protection. I recognize the right and duty of this generation to develop and use the natural resources of our land, but I do not recognize the right to waste them, or to rob, by wasteful use, the generations that come after us. ”

- President Theodore Roosevelt

Mission

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.





A Century of Conservation

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission plays an important role in keeping The Natural State true to its name. During the last 100 years, the agency has overseen the protection, conservation and preservation of various species of fish and wildlife in Arkansas.

Much of an Arkansan's outdoor experience is thanks to the conservation efforts of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and the people that have supported them. The white-tailed deer and black bear populations, for example, were nearing depletion in Arkansas a century ago. Today deer and bear thrive across the state, due to work done by Commission staff and other hardworking Arkansans that have made it their mission to conserve each species for future generations. Tedious work and decisions based on scientific research are continually improving wildlife habitats despite a shrinking wilderness. This enormous effort cannot be accomplished alone.

Conservation Timeline



1836

Arkansas attains statehood.

1915

Act 124 creates the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.



Late 1920s

White-tailed deer restoration program begins.

1945

Amendment 35 gives the AGFC the autonomy to develop a modern conservation model.



1951

Construction of Lake Conway is completed.

1873

Arkansas Legislature passes first game laws.



1928

Construction of Joe Hogan State Fish Hatchery, the first state hatchery, begins in Lonoke.

1937

Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration (Pittman-Robertson) Act signed.



1950

The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson) Act is signed.



1959

Black bear restoration program begins.



1967

The first Florida largemouth bass are stocked in Arkansas.



1997

Collection of the Amendment 75 Conservation Sales Tax begins.



2015

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission celebrates 100 years.

1970

The AGFC and the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department agree to establish the Marine Fuel Tax, providing funding to increase access to waterbodies statewide.

1982

The Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation is formed.

1998

The first elk hunting season opens in Arkansas.



2013

Arkansas deer harvest reaches 200,000.



2022

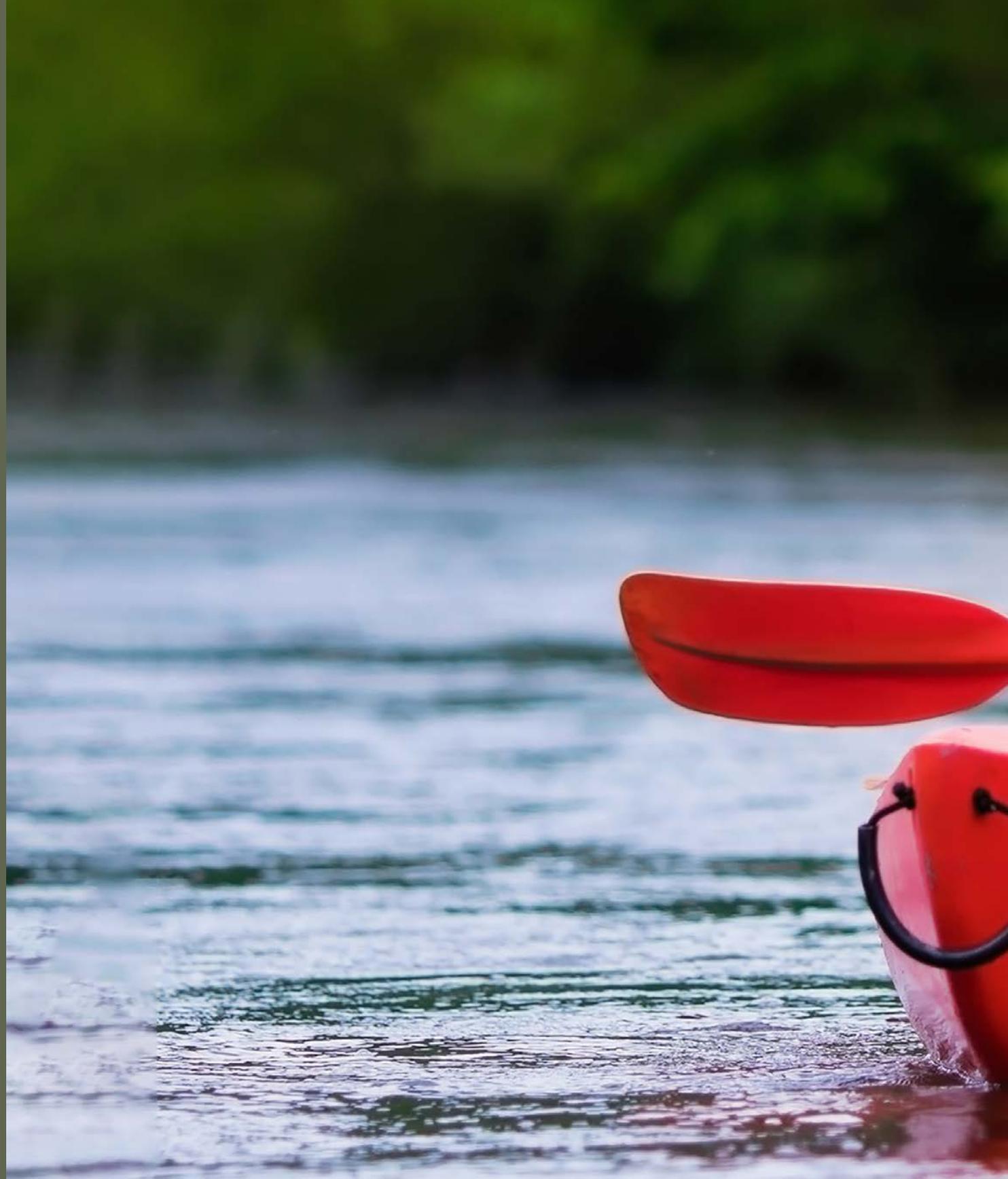
Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation celebrates 40 years.

Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation

Established in 1982, The Arkansas Game and Fish Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization committed to supporting the mission of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and assist the Commission in all its needs. Foundation support includes the acquisition and financial support of properties and facilities for conservation education programs, wildlife habitat, and land for game and fish management programs through gifts, donations, bequests and grants.

Throughout the years, the Foundation has worked in lockstep with the Commission to ensure the future of quality hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities in Arkansas. In celebration of the long-standing partnership between the Commission and the Foundation, we honor those conservationists who are

Leaving a Legacy.









The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's mission can be broken into three main objectives:

- Enhance Arkansas's fish and wildlife and their habitats.
- Promote sustainable and responsible access to public lands.
- Connect Arkansans with outdoor recreation opportunities in their own communities.

This approach has shaped the three pillars of Leaving a Legacy: Habitat, Access and Recreation.

Leaving a Legacy supporters will have the opportunity to designate how their contributions aid the Commission in the achievement of these goals through support in these pillars.

Habitat

The core conservation focus of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission is to maintain the diversity and quality of habitat and ecosystems in the state. Conserving habitat is much more than protection. It includes active management such as managing hydrology, managing and improving forests and reintroducing fire. Using an adaptive approach ensures the best management of species and ecological systems.

Conserving habitat – both public and private – is essential to conserving biodiversity. The Commission manages over 3.2 million acres of land on wildlife management areas, as well as 600,000 acres of lakes and more than 90,000 miles of rivers and streams. Through the Private Lands Habitat program, the Commission provides habitat assistance to landowners over more than one million privately owned acres annually.





Critical projects benefiting habitat include:

- Restoration and maintenance of lakes, rivers and streams
- Improvement and management of forests and prairies
- Improvement and management of wildlife management areas
- Continued protection of fish and wildlife populations
- Renovation of greentree reservoirs
- Revitalization of wetlands and watersheds
- Maintenance of water-control structures
- Private lands habitat cultivation and improvement
- Conserving habitat for species of greatest conservation need
- Controlling and removing invasive species
- Improvements to habitats for pollinators and game birds
- Surveillance of fish and wildlife diseases

Access

Empowering Arkansans and getting them unplugged and engaged in the outdoors is essential to continuing traditions that have been passed down through generations. These traditions exemplify Leaving a Legacy. Bringing new people into the outdoors is a cornerstone of the agency's commitment to expanding opportunities in underserved regions.

Those who wish to aid the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission through the access pillar could contribute to projects that include:

- Facility and amenity maintenance, renovation and replacement
- Adoption of access areas and providing routine maintenance and monitoring of those areas
- Development of additional recreational shooting ranges across the state, increasing access to quality facilities
- Expanding opportunities in regions of the state that need additional access to AGFC programs or properties
- Increasing fishing access through additional bank fishing locations
- Increasing diversity, equity and inclusion efforts agency-wide





Recreation

Recreational opportunities are a central focus of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. The recreation pillar of Leaving a Legacy aligns with AGFC programming, bolstering currently provided activities for Arkansans to enjoy as well as giving them new ways to experience The Natural State. In addition to traditional hunting and fishing, recreational opportunities include hiking, biking, paddling, watching wildlife, recreational shooting and other exciting outdoor activities.

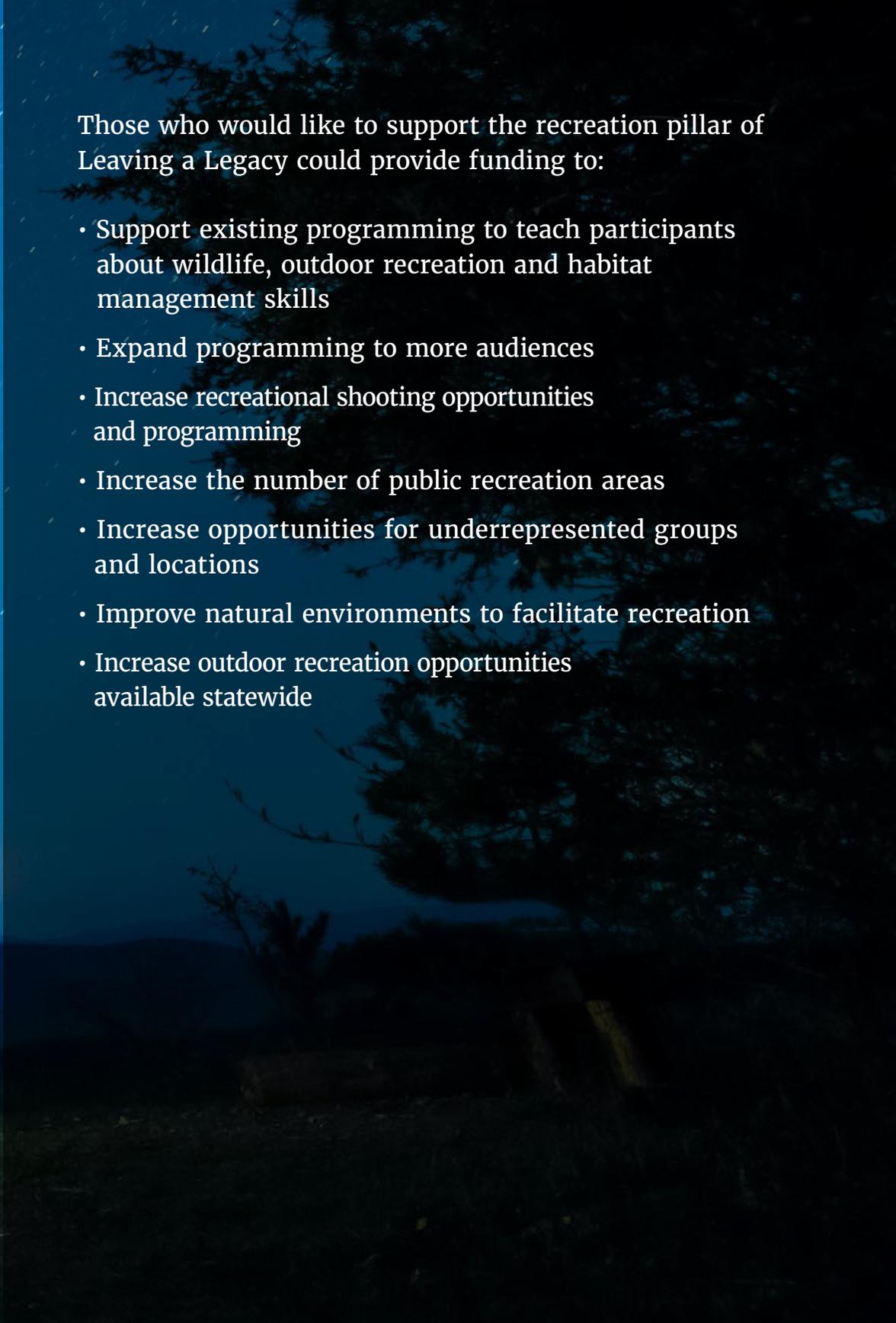
AGFC continues to invest in education and recreation opportunities for all Arkansans. With beginner programming for the uninitiated, advanced classes for avid outdoors enthusiasts and increased offerings in more communities, the Commission strives to offer a variety of programming and workshops suited to a plethora of interests and skill levels.





Those who would like to support the recreation pillar of Leaving a Legacy could provide funding to:

- Support existing programming to teach participants about wildlife, outdoor recreation and habitat management skills
- Expand programming to more audiences
- Increase recreational shooting opportunities and programming
- Increase the number of public recreation areas
- Increase opportunities for underrepresented groups and locations
- Improve natural environments to facilitate recreation
- Increase outdoor recreation opportunities available statewide





Flexible by design, Leaving a Legacy allows for a wide array of giving opportunities that best align with a supporter's intent and passion to make a significant long-term impact on the efforts of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. Avenues available to contributors include endowment programs, immediate impacts and planned giving.



Endowment Programs

Legacy endowments are a great way to make a lasting contribution to the AGFC and its mission. Upon creation of an endowment program, the contributor can denote specific AGFC programs or objectives to benefit from the fund. The Foundation currently has endowment programs in honor of former director Steve N. Wilson and former president Steve Smith, among others.



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BOY'S PRAIRIE WINGS

CREEP

25

Immediate Impact

Renovation and rehabilitation projects are currently underway across the agency. Gifts made to current projects and projects on the horizon ensure future generations of Arkansans can enjoy the excitement and wonder only nature can provide.

Opportunities for renovation and rehabilitation works include:

- Modernization of Jim Hinkle Spring River State Fish Hatchery
- Renovations to greentree reservoir infrastructure
- Building additional recreational shooting facilities
- Protection of species of greatest conservation need
- Continued implementation of the Arkansas Wildlife Action Plan
- Restoration of AGFC-managed lakes
- Stabilization of stream banks
- Preservation of public access to wild places
- Sustainable aquifer alleviation in AGFC hatcheries
- Additional amenities in AGFC properties

A man and a woman are hiking through a forest. They are both wearing backpacks and looking towards the right. The man is holding a camera. The woman is wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt and a white vest. The man is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and a grey vest. They are both wearing khaki pants. The background is a dense forest with green foliage.

Planned Giving

A gift given today is a gift for tomorrow. Planned giving is a wonderful way to make a larger, lasting contribution that's sure to impact future generations of outdoor enthusiasts. Leaving a Legacy provides a range of planned gift options to help ensure that our donors find a match for their interests and their resources.

Planned gifts can include:

- A gift in a living will or trust
- Legacy endowments
- Gifts of securities
- Beneficiary designations
- Gifts of personal property
- Gifts of real estate
- Retirement plan assets
- Annual fund membership program
- Capital gifts
- Memorials and honorariums
- Gifts in-kind
- Corporate match gifts
- Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs)

Leaving Your Legacy in The Natural State

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's contribution to our state isn't abstract. Outdoor recreation brings 96,000 jobs to Arkansas, along with \$9 billion in economic benefit annually through consumer spending in the state.

Let us not get too comfortable, though – all of the progress made could be lost in a generation. It is imperative that we continue to move forward as the keepers of conservation, toward wiser use of water, earth and wildlife. We must ensure that the lifeblood of our wild places and wild things is preserved through continued education of our heritage and the culture of outdoor life in Arkansas.

This path could not be possible without the generosity and support of our Foundation partners and those Arkansans that pass on their love of the outdoors and this great state to the generations that follow, those that make their mark by Leaving a Legacy.



