

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT CONTEST

WILDLIFE HABITAT EVALUATION

Eligibility

- A. Read general rules
- B. Members may be enrolled in any 4-H project
- C. Two, four (4) member teams made of Novice and Two, four-member team of Juniors members per county. Novices may be moved up to a junior team.

Resource: Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Program Manual <http://www.whep.org/>

1. Wildlife Identification:

Wildlife ID: 25 slides 2 points per Power Point Slide. Total of 50 points Objective: To be able to identify wildlife species listed in the WHEP manual.

Wildlife managers must be able to identify the species for which they are managing. Photos of the species used in WHEP are readily available from a number of sources, including many field guides and websites. In this portion of the judging event contestants will be asked to identify wildlife species that are listed in the WHEP manual. A complete list is found in the most recent addition of the WHEP manual. There will be twenty-five species represented by a clear photograph of either the male or female in either the juvenile or adult stage. The format of this portion of the test is to write the number of the slide in the appropriate blank. If the judges cannot read the intent of the contestant, the answer will be considered incorrect. Each correct answer is worth two points.

Contestants are not allowed to have any electronic devices including cell phones with them in the test room.

- 2. General Wildlife Knowledge: 25 questions 2 points each. Total of 50 points Objective: To demonstrate knowledge of the wildlife species in the Hot Desert, Urban and Wetlands regions to be judged. Understand the biology and behaviors of the wildlife species found within the regions and the use of aerial photos in wildlife management.**

Questions can include information for any of the following in the WHEP manual:

- Wildlife species identification
- Wildlife foods
- Aerial photos
- Wildlife habitat requirements for a species

- Region specific questions (Hot Desert or Urban)
- Wildlife management concepts and terms
- Wildlife management practices (WM-P's)
- Glossary

The general knowledge portion tests the ability of participants to demonstrate their knowledge in these areas. The format will be set up as a practicum with 25 stations worth 2 points apiece. Wildlife foods definitions are provided in appendix A of the WHEP manual. For the purpose of WHEP, foods have been placed in groups. Participants should be prepared to indicate which foods are eaten by specific wildlife species and be familiar with the food group definitions. Foods charts are contained in the Eco-Regions portion of the text and further information on foods can be found in the Species section under the individual wildlife species. Learning to interpret aerial photos allows participants to view areas of the country where they may not have a chance to visit personally. From the photos, they can see the topography, get an idea of the amounts and kinds of cover available, and see the availability of water. Looking closer at the photos can show the amount and type of edge available, any barriers to migration that might exist, agricultural fields, grassland and forestlands. Programs like Google Earth, TerraServer and Google Maps can be helpful in understanding photos as a useful tool. In the "Species" section of the manual, each species has information on habitat requirements, management practices, habitat preferences and some incidental facts listed.

Scoring the Contest

1. **Wildlife Identification-** Total of 50 points, 2 points per Power Point Slide. Incorrect answers or illegible answers will be marked wrong.
2. **General Knowledge-** The practicum general knowledge activity is worth a total of 50 points with each station worth 2 points apiece.

The wildlife contest is worth a total of 100 points.

Birds

American bittern
American black duck
American kestrel
American robin
American wigeon
American woodcock
barred owl
black-backed woodpecker
black bellied whistling duck
black-capped chickadee
black-throated sparrow
blue-winged teal
Brewer's sparrow
broad-winged hawk
brown thrasher
California quail
California thrasher
Canada goose
common nighthawk
crested caracara
crissal thrasher
dickcissel
dusky grouse
eastern bluebird
eastern meadowlark
European starling
ferruginous hawk
Gambel's quail
golden eagle
golden-cheeked warbler
golden-fronted woodpecker
golden-winged warbler
grasshopper sparrow
great horned owl
greater prairie-chicken
greater roadrunner
greater sage-grouse
hairy woodpecker
house finch
house sparrow
house wren

ladder-backed woodpecker
lark bunting
Lawrence's goldfinch
loggerhead shrike
long-billed thrasher
mallard
marbled murrelet
mountain bluebird
mourning dove
northern bobwhite
northern flicker
northern goshawk
northern harrier
northern pintail
Nuttall's woodpecker
ovenbird
peregrine falcon
prairie falcon
prothonotary warbler
pyrrhuloxia
red-cockaded woodpecker
red-eyed vireo
red-tailed hawk
redhead
ring-necked pheasant
rock pigeon
ruby-throated hummingbird
ruffed grouse
sage thrasher
scaled quail
sharp-tailed grouse
song sparrow
sooty grouse
southwest willow flycatcher
spotted sandpiper
spotted towhee
Virginia rail
western bluebird
western kingbird
white-tailed ptarmigan
white-winged dove
wild turkey

Wilson's snipe
wood duck
yellow-rumped warbler

Mammals

American beaver
American marten
big brown bat
black bear
black-tailed jackrabbit
black-tailed prairie dog
bobcat
Brazilian free-tailed bat
collared peccary
Columbian black-tailed deer
common muskrat
coyote
desert cottontail
eastern cottontail
eastern fox squirrel
eastern gray squirrel
elk
fisher
gray fox
Indiana bat
mink
moose
mountain cottontail
mountain lion
New England cottontail
pronghorn
raccoon
red fox
red squirrel
river otter
Rocky Mountain mule deer
snowshoe hare
white-tailed deer
wild pig

Reptiles

eastern box turtle
eastern indigo snake
eastern snapping turtle
Gila monster
gopher tortoise
plains hog-nosed snake
Texas horned lizard
timber rattlesnake
western diamond-backed rattlesnake

Amphibian's

American bullfrog
crawfish frog
Monterey salamander
northern red-legged frog
rough-skinned newt
tiger salamander
wood frog

Fish

bluegill
channel catfish
Coho salmon
cutthroat trout
largemouth bass
rainbow trout

Wildlife Habitat Species Score Sheet

Mark answers in the space provided at the right side of the column.

Birds

American bittern	_____	ladder-backed woodpecker	_____	Wilson's snipe	_____
American black duck	_____	lark bunting	_____	wood duck	_____
American kestrel	_____	Lawrence's goldfinch	_____	yellow-rumped warbler	_____
American robin	_____	loggerhead shrike	_____		
American wigeon	_____	long-billed thrasher	_____	<u>Mammals</u>	
American woodcock	_____	mallard	_____	American beaver	_____
barred owl	_____	marbled murrelet	_____	American marten	_____
black-backed woodpecker	_____	mountain bluebird	_____	big brown bat	_____
black bellied whistling duck	_____	mourning dove	_____	black bear	_____
black-capped chickadee	_____	northern bobwhite	_____	black-tailed jackrabbit	_____
black-throated sparrow	_____	northern flicker	_____	black-tailed prairie dog	_____
blue-winged teal	_____	northern goshawk	_____	Bobcat	_____
Brewer's sparrow	_____	northern harrier	_____	Brazilian free-tailed bat	_____
broad-winged hawk	_____	northern pintail	_____	collared peccary	_____
brown thrasher	_____	Nuttall's woodpecker	_____	Columbian black-tailed deer	_____
California quail	_____	ovenbird	_____	common muskrat	_____
California thrasher	_____	peregrine falcon	_____	coyote	_____
Canada goose	_____	prairie falcon	_____	desert cottontail	_____
common nighthawk	_____	prothonotary warbler	_____	eastern cottontail	_____
crested caracara	_____	pyrrhuloxia	_____	eastern fox squirrel	_____
crissal thrasher	_____	red-cockaded woodpecker	_____	eastern gray squirrel	_____
dickcissel	_____	red-eyed vireo	_____	elk	_____
dusky grouse	_____	red-tailed hawk	_____	fisher	_____
eastern bluebird	_____	redhead	_____	gray fox	_____
eastern meadowlark	_____	ring-necked pheasant	_____	Indiana bat	_____
European starling	_____	rock pigeon	_____	mink	_____
ferruginous hawk	_____	ruby-throated hummingbird	_____	moose	_____
Gambel's quail	_____	ruffed grouse	_____	mountain cottontail	_____
golden eagle	_____	sage thrasher	_____	mountain lion	_____
golden-cheeked warbler	_____	scaled quail	_____	New England cottontail	_____
golden-fronted woodpecker	_____	sharp-tailed grouse	_____	pronghorn	_____
golden-winged warbler	_____	song sparrow	_____	raccoon	_____
grasshopper sparrow	_____	sooty grouse	_____	red fox	_____
great horned owl	_____	southwest willow flycatcher	_____	red squirrel	_____
greater prairie-chicken	_____	spotted sandpiper	_____	river otter	_____
greater roadrunner	_____	spotted towhee	_____	Rocky Mountain mule deer	_____
greater sage-grouse	_____	Virginia rail	_____	snowshoe hare	_____
hairy woodpecker	_____	western bluebird	_____	white-tailed deer	_____
house finch	_____	western kingbird	_____	wild pig	_____
house sparrow	_____	white-tailed ptarmigan	_____		
house wren	_____	white-winged dove	_____		
		wild turkey	_____		

Wildlife Habitat Species Score Sheet

Reptiles

eastern box turtle _____
eastern indigo snake _____
eastern snapping turtle _____
Gila monster _____
gopher tortoise _____
plains hog-nosed snake _____
Texas horned lizard _____
timber rattlesnake _____
western diamond-backed rattlesnake _____

Amphibian's

American bullfrog _____
crawfish frog _____
Monterey salamander _____
northern red-legged frog _____
rough-skinned newt _____
tiger salamander _____
wood frog _____

Fish

bluegill _____
channel catfish _____
Coho salmon _____
cutthroat trout _____
largemouth bass _____
rainbow trout _____

Name: _____

Club: _____

County: _____

Age Division: _____

Wildlife General Knowledge

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

20. _____

21. _____

22. _____

23. _____

24. _____

25. _____