



[TOP](#)

MDC Adds 39

MAY 29TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

MDC Adds 39

*Submitted by
Beth Farrah, SMT Writer*

Carter County, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) added 20 adult cow elk, 16 yearling cow elk, three yearling bull elk and one newborn male calf to its elk restoration project in the Ozarks Tuesday morning.

Transported via livestock trailer from Kentucky, where they spent the past four months quarantined in a holding pen, the elk arrived at temporary holding pens on MDC's Peck Ranch Conservation Area at first light. MDC staff quickly ushered the hooved cargo into spacious holding pens, and within an hour Missouri's newest four-legged residents were resting in the shade and grazing on lush clover.

Thirty-nine elk started the journey west, which ended with 40. MDC's Jake Rieken, who made the trip west with the elk after spending the past four months caring for them in Kentucky, got a wonderful surprise when the convoy stopped so staff could check on the animals. He discovered that one of the pregnant cows had delivered a male calf. To avoid injury to the newborn, Rieken and other MDC staff removed it through a side door in the trailer. They placed it in a large animal crate in the bed of a pickup truck, secured the blanket-covered crate, and continued the trip. The newborn calf, nicknamed "Plus-1," was reunited with its mother in a holding pen at Peck Ranch.

"He is doing very well," said MDC State Wildlife Veterinarian Kelly Straka. "He looks good and his heartbeat sounded fantastic."

Dr. Straka added that all of the elk underwent extensive health and disease testing in Kentucky before being brought to Missouri.

The elk will remain in the holding pens at Peck Ranch for up to several weeks as they acclimate to the area and MDC staff continue to monitor them. Some cows will begin dropping calves while in the holding pens.

“We’ve divided the pregnant cows into small groups in various pens to give them privacy and reduce their stress,” said Dr. Straka. “Those that do not calve before being released from the holding pens will seek out secluded spots to give birth. Most calves should be born by mid-June. This year’s group of 40 elk will add to the approximately 70 already living in the restoration zone. We expect several dozen new calves this spring from established elk, plus more calves from this year’s group.”

The Missouri restoration of this once-native species began with MDC bringing elk from Kentucky in May 2011 and again in May 2012 to the Department’s elk restoration zone covering 221,000 acres in parts of Shannon, Carter, and Reynolds counties.

This year, MDC again worked with Kentucky and Virginia state wildlife agencies to trap elk in January from the Appalachian Mountains of southeastern Kentucky. The effort resulted in 51 elk being trapped with Missouri getting 39, plus the newborn calf. Virginia will receive the remaining elk for its restoration effort.

As done in the previous two years of trapping, Missouri-bound elk received radio collars right before their trip west as part of a research project between MDC and the University of Missouri. The collars help track movement patterns and preferred habitat. The research project is funded by Federal Aid from the Wildlife Restoration Program administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation helped fund the 2013 capture and care of the elk in Kentucky. RMEF also donated materials and volunteer help at both Kentucky and Missouri holding facilities.

“This restoration effort is another conservation legacy, for us and for future generations, that could not have been possible without the enormous help and support from our staff and many conservation partners including The Nature Conservancy, National Park Service, LADD Foundation and Forest Service,” said MDC Deputy Director Tom Draper.

“On behalf of MDC leadership,” Draper continued, “we continue to be impressed with the passion, talent and dedication of MDC staff, and thankful for their ongoing hard work on this project. We are also grateful to the states of Kentucky and Virginia for their partnerships in elk restoration. We also thank the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Safari Club International, Big Game Hunters Foundation and Bass Pro Shops for their generous funding and support of this project. We are grateful to the many local landowners who have shown their support by creating elk habitat on their nearby properties, and to the communities of Eminence, Winona, Ellington and Van Buren, which have embraced the effort. We are also appreciative of The University of Missouri and the University of Kentucky for providing research support for the project.”

As in the past two years of elk restoration efforts, the 12,000-acre Refuge Area at Peck Ranch, where elk tend to congregate, is closed into July as new elk acclimate and cows give birth. MDC will open the area to elk driving tours later this summer.

For more information on elk restoration in Missouri, visit mdc.mo.gov.

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 29TH 2013 BY BETH FARRAH

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/up38/MDC-Adds-39->

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Absentee Ballot Deadline is TODAY!

MAY 29TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

Absentee Ballot Deadline is TODAY!

*Submitted by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

Dexter, Missouri - Missouri Secretary of State Jason Kander today reminded voters that the deadline to request an absentee ballot by mail or fax for the June 4, 2013 Special Election is **Wednesday, May 29**. Voters may vote absentee in person at their local election authority's office until 5:00 pm on Monday, June 3.

To receive an absentee ballot by mail, eligible voters must complete an absentee ballot application and mail it or fax it to their local election authority. Applications must be received by the local election authority no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, May 29.

If requesting an absentee ballot by mail, first time voters must provide a copy of their personal identification in order to vote. Local election authorities will be open for limited hours on Saturday, June 1 for absentee voting. Please contact your local election authority to inquire about their Saturday hours.

The application form and contact information for Missouri's local election authorities are available online at www.GoVoteMissouri.com.

Registered Missouri voters are eligible to vote absentee if they expect to be prevented from going to the polls to vote on Election Day due to:

- (1) Absence on Election Day from the jurisdiction of the election authority in which such voter is registered to vote;
- (2) Incapacity or confinement due to illness or physical disability, including a person who is primarily responsible for the physical care of someone who is incapacitated or confined due to illness or disability;
- (3) Religious belief or practice;
- (4) Employment as an election authority, as a member of an election authority, or by an election authority at a location other than such voter's polling place;

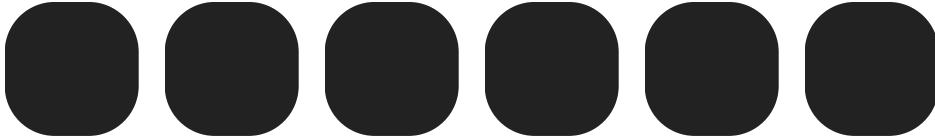
(5) Incarceration provided all qualifications for voting are retained.

The local election authority must receive absentee ballots no later than 7:00 pm on Tuesday, June 4.

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 29TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/up33/Absentee-Ballot-Deadline-is-TODAY>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

Memorial Day Ceremony at MO Veterans Cemetery

MAY 25TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Memorial Day Ceremony at MO Veterans Cemetery](#)

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

Bloomfield, Missouri - For many American, Memorial Day marks the beginning of the summer season. While we enjoy our freedoms of picnics, swimming, fishing and summer sports, there are those who lost their lives for that freedom. Many Americans have died serving our country and we should take a moment to show respect on Memorial Day.

The Missouri Veterans Commission encourages the public to attend the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Missouri Veterans Cemetery in Bloomfield on Monday, May 27, 2013. The program is expected to begin at precisely 1:00 p.m.

The Boy Scout Troop #72 from Bloomfield worked diligently over the past week to post a flag at each grave.

“Our cemeteries firmly believe in honoring in perpetuity those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country,” commented Larry Kay, Executive Director of the Missouri Veterans Commission.

This year the guest speaker will be Paul Schuerenberg, MBA, John J. Pershing VA Medical Center in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. It is hoped you will attend such an important ceremony. At 3:00 p.m. a National Moment of Remembrance will also happen across this great country!

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 25TH 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/up2m/Memorial-Day-Ceremony-at-MO-Veterans-Cemetery>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

City Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

MAY 23RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

City Offices Closed in Observance of Memorial Day

Dexter, Missouri - The City of Dexter offices will be closed on Monday, May 27th in observance of Memorial Day.

Trash services for the City of Dexter will run one day late.

LAST UPDATED ON MAY 23RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/up2h/City-Offices-Closed-in-Observance-of-Memorial-Day>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:

[TOP](#)

The Cairo Bridge to Receive Much Needed Repairs

MAY 23RD 2013 BY DEE LOFLIN

The Cairo Bridge to Receive Much Needed Repairs

*Written by
Dee Loflin, SMT Manager/Writer*

Cairo, Illinois - Most of us call the bridge that connects Cairo, Illinois to Wickliffe, Kentucky as the Cairo Bridge.

A contractor for the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet (KYTC) is gearing up for a repair project on the U.S. 51 Ohio River Bridge between Wickliffe, KY, and Cairo, IL, that will impact truck traffic this summer. **Trucks will be have to be rerouted for approximately 70 days beginning after June 24th.**

According to Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 1 spokesman Keith Todd, the agency wants truckers and suppliers who depend on the bridge to be aware of the coming project.

"This project involves repairs on bridge deck stringers and replacement of seven joints on the bridge decking," Todd said. "This work will exclude trucks and other large vehicles such as motor homes from the bridge for about 70 days."

Excluding commercial trucks and other large vehicles from the bridge work zone turns a six-mile trip from Wickliffe to Cairo into about an **80-mile detour** via the I-

24 Ohio River Bridge at Paducah. By falling in the window for harvesting of Spring wheat, the original project schedule would have created issues for area farmers attempting to haul their crop to grain facilities. That prompted transportation officials to move the project start date back two weeks.

While the work will create a major inconvenience for area shippers, Todd noted that the maintenance and repair work is required to maintain the long-term reliability of the river crossing.

"We want to give our industries and area farmers who regularly cross the bridge as much advance notice as possible so that they can plan and make logistical adjustments for the coming traffic restriction," Todd said. "As the schedule firms up, we will provide a specific start date for the project. This will impact tour bus traffic, people pulling boats, and any number of other vehicles that will not be allowed through this work zone."

The contractor is currently fabricating steel needed for the repair work. As that preliminary work nears completion, the contractor will schedule a more specific start date sometime **after June 24th**. Todd noted that will likely extend completion of the project into mid-September.

By maintaining passenger vehicle traffic, commuters who travel between Kentucky, Illinois and Missouri will still be able to get to and from work. While the project is scheduled for 70 working-days, KYTC engineers are optimistic it can be completed more quickly than that if the weather cooperates. The bridge will be restricted to one lane traffic and a strict 7 ft. load width due to equipment that will be needed on the deck to accomplish the work.

The U.S. 51 Ohio River Bridge also carries U.S. 60 and U.S. 62 between Kentucky and Illinois. It connects with the U.S. 60/U.S. 62 Mississippi River Bridge which carries traffic between Illinois and Missouri. Commercial trucks make up about 35 percent of the 5,500 vehicles that cross the Ohio River each day, making it a key transportation link between the three states.

The structure was constructed by the Cairo Bridge Commission as a toll facility and opened to traffic on November 11, 1936. Tolls were removed from the crossing on November 11, 1948, when the highway departments of Kentucky and Illinois assumed responsibility for maintenance on the bridge.

<https://showmetimes.com/Blogpost/up2g/The-Cairo-Bridge-to-Receive-Much-Needed-Repairs>

[Go to post](#)



More from ShowMe Times:



SUBSCRIBE TO "LOCAL NEWS"

ShowMe Gold Sponsors