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Conservation Commission Welcomes New Commissioner Nicole Wood

AUGUST 02ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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The St. Francois County outdoor enthusiast brings experience and passion to MDC.

Jefferson City, Missouri - Gov. Greitens announced on July 31 the appointment of long-time conservationist and outdoor enthusiast Nicole Wood to the Missouri Conservation Commission. The Governor has appointed Wood to a term that expires June 30, 2023. Wood replaces James T. Blair, IV, of St. Louis whose Commission appointment expired. Wood's appointment will be subject to confirmation by the Missouri Senate.

Wood is the director of operations at Woodland Operations and Maintenance, where she is involved in the daily management of 20,000 acres of land in the Missouri Ozarks. She is only the fifth woman appointed to the Conservation Commission in the Department's 80 year history.

"Nicole's passion for the outdoors and her strong business acumen will be extremely beneficial to the Commission's ongoing work in strategic planning, budget guidance, and Wildlife Code regulations," said Missouri Department of Conservation Director Sara Parker Pauley.

Wood serves on the boards of the National Wildlife Federation, Conservation Federation of Missouri, Parkland Hospital Foundation, and the National Wildlife Federation

Endowment. She and her family share a passion for the outdoors.

“Missouri has the best Department of Conservation in the United States and, to be part of that as a commissioner is an incredible honor,” Wood said. “I look forward to working with all the commissioners, staff and citizens on continuing to make the Department the best in the country.”

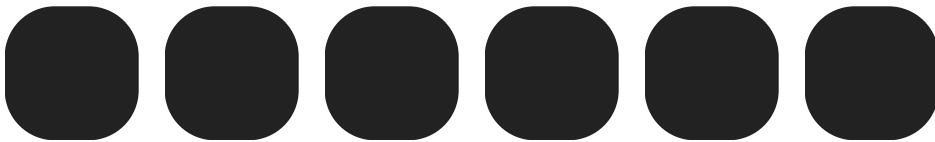
Her interest in the outdoors started at a young age while on family hunting and fishing trips. She enjoys floating, rafting, kayaking or just sitting on a gravel bar. Wood also has a family history of commitment to conservation with her father, Howard Wood, serving as commissioner from 1997 to 2003.

The Missouri Conservation Commission controls, manages, restores, conserves and regulates the bird, fish, game, forestry and all wildlife resources of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries, refuges, reservations and all other property owned, acquired or used for such purposes, as well as the acquisition and establishment of those properties.

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Angler Catches State-Record Green Sunfish

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Angler Catches State-Record Green Sunfish

Congratulations to Bowen Dockery on breaking the state record by catching a 1-pound, 3-ounce green sunfish on a trotline.

Greentop, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) reports Bowen Dockery of Greentop became the most recent record-breaking angler in Missouri when he caught a green sunfish on a private pond in Schuyler County. The new “alternative method” record fish caught by Dockery on July 5 weighed 1 pound, 3 ounces. Dockery’s recent catch broke the previous state record of 6-ounces, caught in 1993.

“Pulling up that trotline and seeing that large green sunfish on the end of my hook is wild to think about. I still can’t believe I caught that fish,” Dockery said.

Dockery said he was fishing for bait using night crawlers when he caught the state-record green sunfish.

“This was my first time I have ever fished with a trotline, and somehow I caught a state-record fish,” he said. “I have tried to break records fishing in the Mississippi River before, but I never thought I would break a record by fishing out of my own pond. I’m so excited about this catch.”

MDC weighed the green sunfish on a certified scale in Kirksville.

“This is the eighth state-record fish this year. 2017 is shaping up to be a year for state-record fish,” said MDC Fisheries Programs Specialist Andrew Branson. “The mild weather we have had this year means more anglers are fishing, and catching big fish.”

Dockery said he plans to mount the new state-record green sunfish.

Missouri state-record fish are recognized in two categories: pole-and-line and alternative methods. Alternative methods include: throwlines, trotlines, limb lines, bank lines, jug lines, spearfishing, snagging, snaring, gigging, grabbing, archery, and atlatl.

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2017 Bernie Mules High School Volleyball Schedule Released

AUGUST 02ND 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

[2017 Bernie Mules High School Volleyball Schedule Released](#)

Bernie, Missouri - The Bernie Mules have announced their 2017 high school volleyball schedule. Games begin on Tuesday, August 15th with a Jamboree at Jackson High School. Bernie will host the District Tournament this year.

2017 Bernie High School Volleyball Schedule (All games begin at 6 p.m. unless noted, tournament brackets will be announced at a later date)

Tue Aug. 15th Jamboree @ Jackson 6 pm

Mon Aug. 21st at Richland 6 p.m.

Tue Aug. 22nd at Sikeston 6 p.m.

Thursday August 24th and Friday August 25th Bernie JV Tournament (TBD)

(Teams participating are Bernie, Scott City, Bloomfield, Sikeston, Poplar Bluff, Puxico, Portageville, and Twin Rivers)

Mon August 28th vs Notre Dame (HOME) 6 p.m.

Thur August 31st at Bell City 6 p.m.

Sat Sept 2nd Notre Dame Volleyball Festival (V and JV) (TBD)

Tue Sept 5th at Advance

Thur Sept 7th vs Dexter (HOME)

Mon Sept 11th at Poplar Bluff

Tue Sept 12th vs Malden (HOME)

Thur Sept 14th vs Puxico (HOME)

Thur Sept 21st @ Portageville

Mon Sept 25th @ Gideon

Tues Sept 26 vs Twin Rivers (HOME)

Thur Sept 28th @ Bloomfield

Sat Sept 30th Perryville Tournament (TBA)

Mon - Fri October 2nd - 6th SCAA Tournament @ Richland (TBA)

Mon Oct 9th vs Woodland (HOME)

Tue Oct 10th vs Leopold (HOME)

Fri Oct 13th vs Saxony Lutheran (HOME)

Mon Oct 16th and Tues Oct 17th District Tournament at Bernie (TBA)

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Annual Duck Banding Event to be Held at Otter Slough

JULY 31ST 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Annual Duck Banding Event to be Held at Otter Slough](#)

Dexter, Missouri - The Missouri Department of Conservation and the Dexter Greenhead Chapter of Ducks Unlimited will host their Annual Duck Banding Event at Otter Slough

Conservation Area on Saturday, August 5, 2017 at 7:00 a.m.

The event will begin with Missouri Department of Conservation staff demonstrating electrofishing equipment on Cypress Lake.

Fisheries Biologist Mike Reed will run an electrofishing boat along the shoreline and you will have a front row seat to the fish population of Cypress Lake. Mike will also show how biologists tag fish for research projects. While everyone is watching the show, Ducks Unlimited volunteers and MDC staff will be operating various capture equipment around Otter Slough hoping to catch mourning doves and ducks.

Following the fish show, there will be an opportunity for all youth to assist wildlife biologists band and release any birds captured on the area that day. For a grand finale, we will travel out to a rocket net site on Otter Slough and see first hand how the nets are deployed to capture wildlife. Ducks Unlimited volunteers will also be on hand to demonstrate retriever handling techniques and hand out some free stuff for the kids.

The event will begin at 7:00 a.m. sharp in the large parking lot next to Cypress Lake and the equipment yard at Otter Slough Conservation Area. Most of the activities will occur in shaded areas and will conclude at approximately 10:00 a.m.

No registration is required and the event is free to all ages.

There will be giveaways from Ducks Unlimited and each kid will get their own duck band to show that they attended this event

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2017 Bernie Mules Fall Baseball Schedule Released

JULY 28TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

2017 Bernie Mules Fall Baseball Schedule Released

Bernie, Missouri - The 2017 Bernie Mules Fall High School Baseball Schedule has been released. The Mules are on the road the first two games of the season then host the infamous Bernie Wood Bat RR against Bloomfield and Holcomb on Saturday, August 26th.

2017 Bernie High School Baseball Fall Schedule

Wed Aug. 23rd Advance (Away) 4:30 pm

Thur Aug. 24th Senath (Away) 4:30 pm

Fri Aug 25th Gideon/Risco (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Sat Aug 26th Bernie Wood Bat RR w/Bloomfield and Holcomb

10 am Bernie vs Holcomb, Noon Bloomfield vs Holcomb, 2 pm Bernie vs Bloomfield

Mon August 28th Twin River (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Aug 29th Advance (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Wed Aug 30th Bell City (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Thurs Aug 31st Risco (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Fri Sept 1st Holcomb (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Sept 5th Campbell (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Wed Sept 6th Oran (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Fri Sept 8th Campbell (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Sat Sept 9th Oran (Varsity and JV) (HOME) 1 p.m.

Mon Sept 11th Puxico (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Sept 12th Neelyville (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Thu Sept 14th Puxico (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Fri Sept 15th Naylor (HOME) 4:30 p.m.

Sat Sept 16th Oran (Away) 1 p.m.

Mon Sept 18th Leopold (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Tue Sept 19th South Pemiscot (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Thu Sept 21st Bloomfield (Away) 4:30 p.m.

Sat/Mon/Tue Sept 23rd, 25th and 26th Fall Tournament at Bernie (TBD)

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