



For Immediate Release
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State-Fish Art Expo Moving Around the Country

BROOKLYN CENTER, MN – The Wildlife Forever State Fish Art Contest officially kicked off the annual contest with the announcement of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center to host the 2010 Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Expo on July 16th and 17th in Athens, Texas.

“We are thrilled Texas, the leading State-Fish Art state, offered to host the Expo to highlight the national winners in true Texas style” said Douglas Grann, President & CEO of Wildlife Forever. “By moving the big event to Texas next year, we will inspire new student and educator participation by expanding the annual aquatic conservation art contest.”

In 2009, Texas led the country with over six hundred entries from students across the state and that number is expected to rise. “We’re going to have the biggest and best Expo in contest history!” announced Allen Forsage, Executive Director of the Texas Freshwater Fisheries Center. “Our facilities and new Education Center will be a great venue for the State-Fish Art® Expo and we’ve got some big surprises in-store for next year’s winners”, says Forsage.

The public is invited to attend the State-Fish Art Expo, July 16th and 17th with fishing activities and Fish Art demonstrations. An art display of all the national contest winners will also be on hand to showcase the talents from students across the country.

About the State-Fish Art Contest

To enter the *Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest*, young artists create an illustration of any official state-fish and a written composition on its behavior, habitat, and efforts to conserve it. Entries are categorized in three grade levels: 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12. Educators nationwide can utilize the **FREE** full-color *State-Fish Art Contest Lesson Plan*, an interdisciplinary educational supplement specific to aquatic natural resources that includes fishery lessons and activities, a species identification section profiling each state-fish, a glossary, and student worksheets. The lesson plan can be downloaded FREE from the State-Fish Art website, www.statefishart.com.

About Wildlife Forever

Located in Brooklyn Center, MN, Wildlife Forever is a non-profit multi-species conservation organization dedicated to conserving America’s wildlife heritage. Working at the grassroots level, Wildlife Forever has funded conservation projects in all 50 states, committing millions of dollars to “on the ground” efforts. Wildlife Forever supports habitat restoration and enhancement, land acquisition, research, and management of fish and wildlife populations.

For information on the *Wildlife Forever State-Fish Art Contest*, visit www.statefishart.com.
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