



### HURRICANE LAKE AND GLAISE CREEK GREENTREE RESERVOIR PROJECTS COMPLETE

The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) led infrastructure renovations at Hurricane Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA), including extensive work on the decommissioned south unit Green Tree Reservoir (GTR). Support for the project came from Ducks Unlimited (DU) and the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). Project work helped restore natural hydrologic functions to the South Unit, enhancing forest health, improving water quality downstream, and benefiting the bottomland hardwood ecosystem. The south GTR unit project was funded by \$1.7 million from AGFC, more than \$285,000 from Ducks Unlimited and nearly \$1 million from a NAWCA grant. Additional work was completed on Glaise Creek, resulting in a new 68-foot-long water control structure that will greatly improve hydrologic function to the north GTR at Hurricane Lake WMA. AGFC, NAWCA, the Walker Foundation, the Walton Foundation, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and major donors also funded this \$7.5 million project.



### UAM ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP

University programs dedicated to the study of wetlands and waterfowl ignite the passion of tomorrow's conservation leaders. They stir a curiosity that drives new discoveries. They provide the training needed for managers to ensure the health and viability of waterfowl and their habitats for generations to come. Ducks Unlimited (DU) is excited to announce plans for an Endowed Professorship in Wetlands and Waterfowl Conservation at the University of Arkansas at Monticello (UAM). The endowment will help support critical research projects, including the global positioning system (GPS) tracking research currently being conducted under Doug Osborne at UAM.

### SPONSOR- SARACEN CASINO/CARLTON SAFFA

Since 2021, Saracen Casino has been an ardent supporter of Ducks Unlimited. Sponsoring events across Arkansas, Saracen Casino has proven to be a true partner in wetlands conservation. "With our business located in Southeast Arkansas, supporting duck hunting and conservation through Ducks Unlimited was an easy choice for Saracen Casino Resort," said Carlton Saffa, Chief Market Officer, Saracen Casino Resort. "We are proud to support a tradition so iconic to our state and look forward to hosting hunters in our hotel in 2025.

A Diamond Benefactor donor, the organization hosted DU's Presidents Council Dinner in 2024 at their award-winning Red Oak Steakhouse. This was the first time the Presidents Council Dinner had been hosted in the Natural State. In addition, Saracen is sponsoring the 2025 Arkansas Ducks Unlimited State Convention and will sponsor the Mad Mallards baseball week with the Arkansas Travelers.

We are thankful for the continued support from Carlton Saffa and Saracen Casino.





# Arkansas 2024 State Report

## MEMBERSHIP

Grand Total: 31,581  
**Members: 30,855**  
 General Members: 28,697  
 Greenwings: 1,052  
 Legacy Greenwing Members: 264  
**Sponsor Members: 842**  
**Major Sponsors: 726**  
**Feather Society Members: 236**

## STATE FUNDRAISING

Total event income dollars raised:  
 \$2,656,781  
 Number of committees: 60  
 Number of fundraising events: 112  
 Local chapter volunteers: 1,191

## FY24 FALL FLIGHTS INVESTMENTS TO CANADIAN PROJECTS

Total Contributions:  
 \$9,744,855.00  
 Location of projects:  
 Saskatchewan: Thickwood Hills & Missouri Coteau, Allan Tiger Minichinas Hills, Saskatchewan Prairie Pothole Region

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## US CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Total Acres Conserved in the state (historically since FY1984): **380,976**

Total Acres of Conservation in the state (FY2024): **14,069**

Amount spent on projects in the state: **\$73,284,613**

Amount spent on projects in MS Flyway (through FY24): **\$794,952,058**

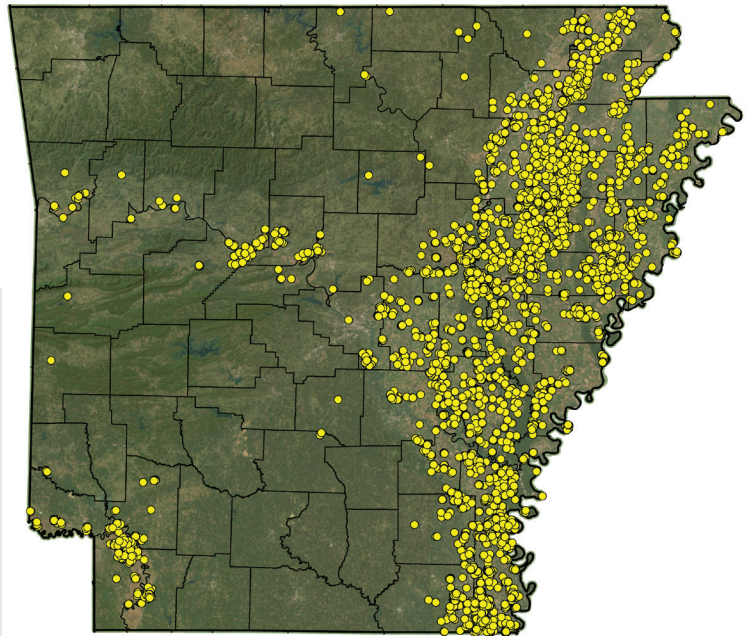
## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

**K**yle "Odie" Peters is a dedicated district chairman with an unwavering commitment to service. Over the past year, he has traveled across the state tirelessly, attending and supporting numerous events. including several in North Arkansas, while missing only a couple of the events in the south. Odie is rarely alone on these trips, often accompanied by his wife, Rachel "Roo," and their youngest children, Liam and Esther, who all pitch in whenever needed. Their contributions as a family embody a true spirit of giving.

In the spring, Liam made a significant impact by launching the first Varsity chapter at Fountain Lake High School, a milestone achieved with the guidance and support of his parents. This accomplishment is a testament to the family's leadership and dedication to empowering others.

With over 30 years of volunteering combined, the Peters family's service legacy runs deep. Odie himself has dedicated more than 17 years, beginning as a Hot Springs volunteer before progressing to Area Chairman, Zone Chairman, and his current role as District Chairman since 2012. Roo, with over 9 years of service, plays an active role alongside him, working tirelessly wherever needed. Liam and Esther, each with roughly two years of volunteering, represent the next generation of leaders, and their older brother Wyatt contributes whenever possible.

The Peters family's dedication, teamwork, and leadership continue to leave a lasting impact, inspiring others to follow in their footsteps.



SOUTHERN REGION

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For more information about DU's work in your state visit

[ducks.org/arkansas](https://ducks.org/arkansas)