



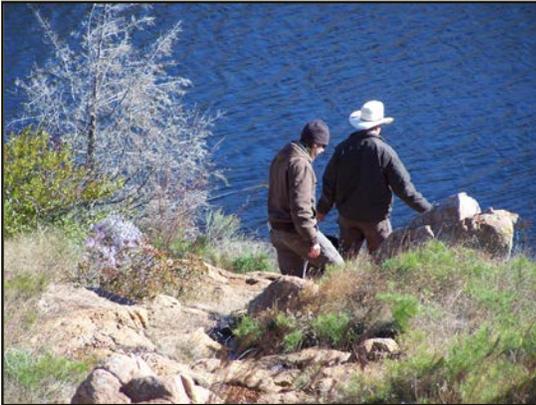
TISHOMINGO NFH ACTIVITY REPORT NOVEMBER 2013



Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

Approximately 7,900 six-inch channel catfish were stocked at Wichita Mountains NWR following their request earlier in the 2013 calendar year. These fish are being used to restock ponds that had dried during the drought in 2011. The refuge provided reimbursement for the rearing and delivery costs of the catfish. **(CSF 5.2.1)**

Channel catfish being stocked by Tishomingo NFH in ponds at Wichita Mountains NWR.



Visitors

The number of visitors to Tishomingo NFH has increased this month due to significant birding activity. The pair of bald eagles has returned to the hatchery for overwintering much to the delight of staff and visitors alike. Also delighting birders are the various types of herons, gulls, and ducks as they circle and dive over the ponds.

(CSF 15.4.8)



Bald eagle at Tishomingo NFH in November.



Nest of the bald eagle alongside Pennington Creek.

Maintenance

Annual maintenance tasks are continuing during November in preparation for the upcoming fish culture seasons. Pond reshaping and clearing are being done; levees are being strengthened and smoothed; turtle ponds are being cleared of problem vegetation and sides are being strengthened and properly sloped. Vehicle and equipment maintenance continues with increasing frequency as equipment ages and problems become more complex. **(CSF 13.1.7)**



*Pond maintenance at
Tishomingo NFH.*



The deferred maintenance project of kettle replacement is about 90% complete at this time. Only earthwork and final concrete finishing remains for the contractor to complete as weather permits.