The Wildlife Challenge covers material found within five 4-H Natural Resources projects; Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP), the Hunting & Wildlife Discipline in Shooting Sports, Entomology, Forestry, and Sportfishing. Contestants will have the opportunity to explore all five of these projects while preparing for the Challenge. Contestant check-in will begin as scheduled for Big Time in D9 in the designated contest location. Awards will be presented in the scheduled Awards assembly.

Contestants will compete as a county team of 3 or 4 or as individuals. There will be three age divisions: Junior, Intermediate and Seniors. Juniors may judge on Intermediate teams, but juniors or intermediates are not allowed to judge on Senior teams. The contest consists of three activities as described below. Each activity may be completed individually or as a team as designated on contest day. Each activity may cover any or all of the specified information within the five 4-H Natural Resources project areas’ resources listed below.

**Contest Activities -**

**Identification:** Contestants will identify animals and trees from pictures or actual specimens such as leaves, fruit/nuts, skulls, skins, wings, specimen mounts, tracks, calls, etc. Contestants will identify wildlife habitat concepts, wildlife habitat components, and wildlife management practices from photos or in the field. Contestants will identify equipment and equipment components that may be found within any of the project resources (i.e. – fishing equipment, shooting equipment, insect collecting equipment, etc.).

**Decision Making:** Contestants will choose or demonstrate the best answers to solve the issues within scenarios presented to them based on information pertaining to the five project areas’ resources.

**Knowledge and Skills Assessment:** Contestants will answer multiple choice questions and perform skills found within the five project areas’ resources. This could include but is not limited to fishing skills, insect collection and display, firearm handling, and other skills found within the resources.

**Resources –**

Contest material will be drawn from the following resources only. Specimen used for Identification at the contest may not necessarily be pictured within the resources. Additional resources should be used to study pictures, specimens, and calls for the Identification activity.

- **National 4-H Sport Fishing Program Curriculum** - [http://www.4-hmall.org/Category/4-hcurriculum-fishing.aspx](http://www.4-hmall.org/Category/4-hcurriculum-fishing.aspx); set of four; all information is eligible and should be studied.
- **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department website** – “Freshwater Fishes Found in Texas”. [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/aquaticspecies/inland.phtml](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/aquaticspecies/inland.phtml); Pictures and descriptions of all fish listed on this page are eligible and should be studied.
- **Texas A&M University Department of Entomology Study Materials** - [http://bug.tamu.edu/youth/4h/Common/html_species/all_levels/studylist_all.html](http://bug.tamu.edu/youth/4h/Common/html_species/all_levels/studylist_all.html); select ‘Study List of Common Insects in Texas’ (html web version); Species marked for Juniors are the only eligible species for the Challenge and should be studied by the picture identification and description of each.
- **Bug Hunter website** – [http://bughunter.tamu.edu/](http://bughunter.tamu.edu/); sections on ‘Collection’ and ‘Display’ only. The information on each page, including information on links within each page, is eligible and should be studied.
- **Texas Parks and Wildlife Department website** – Online Hunter Education Course Material – [http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/outdoor-learning/hunter-education/online-course](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/outdoor-learning/hunter-education/online-course); Drag cursor/select from the chapter index on the left; Chapter 2 – Firearms and Ammunition, Chapter 5 – Primitive Hunting, and Chapter 6 – Hunting Safety are the chapters and information eligible for Challenge material and should be studied.
completely; read each page to the bottom and select “Next: xyz” on the right to go to the next page; each chapter ends with a quiz.

- Texas 4-H Forestry Invitational Handbook – [http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_wildlife/wildlife](http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/project_wildlife/wildlife); scroll to ‘Wildlife Challenge’; only sections on ‘Tree Identification’ (tree list), ‘Measuring Standing Trees’, ‘Forestry Concepts’, and ‘Glossary’ are eligible Challenge material and should be studied.

- Outdoor Annual (Texas Parks and Wildlife Hunting/Fishing Laws and Regulations – [www.txoutdoorannual.com](http://www.txoutdoorannual.com); contestant does not need to memorize information from this resource but must be familiar with the layout and be able to use it for open-book questions.

**Additional Resources (optional; good for Identification activity study only):**

- Enature.com Field Guides – [http://enature.com](http://enature.com); use to find and study additional identification photos and descriptions of wildlife species.

- Larry Hysmith, Extension Program Specialist, 4-H Natural Resources Program – [tx4hnaturalresources@tamu.edu](mailto:tx4hnaturalresources@tamu.edu); please feel free to contact with any questions or concerns related to the contest or resource materials; use 4-H Wildlife Challenge in the subject line of your email.

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