



NEWSLETTER

OUR GOAL: To Promote, Preserve, and Experience One of the Greatest Southern Traditions Known... Quail Hunting.

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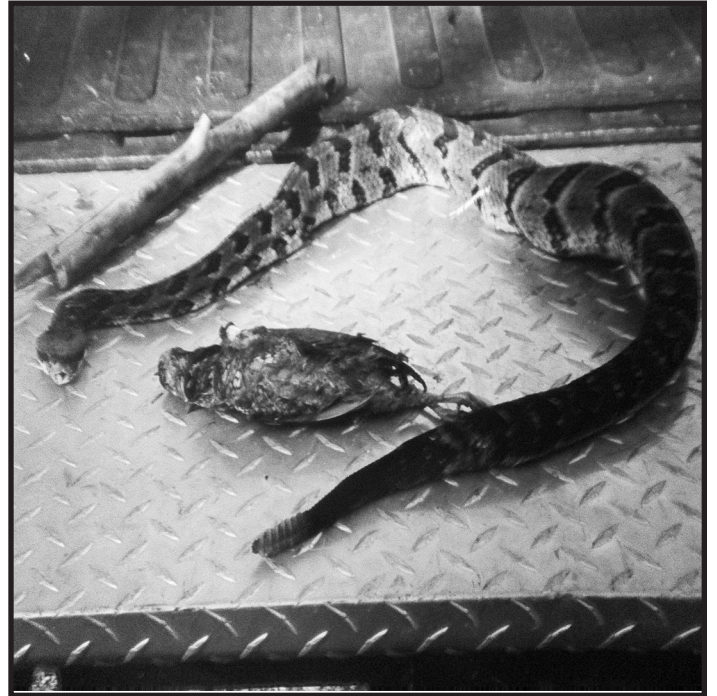
Snakes and Quail

By: Courtney Smith

A few years back on opening day of Bow hunting season, I was about to get down from my deer stand when I noticed something unusual moving around the bottom of my ladderstand. To my surprise, a rattlesnake had decided to rest below me. The snake was crawling kind of funny because of a very large lump in his belly. I shot the snake in the head and took him back to camp so my buddies and I could examine the lump and see what the snake had swallowed. We were all thinking it would be a rat or the like, but it turned out to be a full sized wild quail. I sent the picture to Auburn and they said it was not uncommon for quail to be swallowed by rattlesnakes.

They also said that areas with lots of fire ants could destroy not only young quail but turkey poults as well.

On a personal note I have seen a great increase in armadillos on my place and a great reduction in large ant hills, so I have taken the armored critters off my .22 shot list. Happy Hunting!



Longleaf Pine Restoration Cost-Share Grant Available to Landowners

The Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division (WFF) of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) is currently accepting applications through its Landowner Incentive Program to continue longleaf pine restoration efforts in Alabama. The grant was awarded through a partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and will be made available to qualifying landowners for longleaf pine restoration on private lands.

Landowners are encouraged to submit applications to receive assistance with the site preparation, seedlings, planting, native grass restoration and/or exotic control costs. For landowners to be considered eligible to receive funding, the property must be within the historic range of longleaf pine in Alabama, or contain suitable soils to support longleaf pine. Program details include: cost share at 50 percent, no minimum acreage is required, and cutover sites and agricultural sites are eligible.

The Landowner Incentive Program funds are administered to complement habitat restoration goals of the longleaf pine ecosystem. This program provides financial and/or technical assistance to private landowners to conserve, manage or enhance the habitats of species in greatest conservation need associated with Alabama's longleaf pine ecosystem. The deadline for applications is April 1, 2011. For application information contact Traci George at 334-353-0503 or Traci.George@dcnr.alabama.gov.

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HEY FOLKS

HEY FOLKS,

Anticipation creates excitement. The seasonal weather change seemed slower than usual this year. A drier than normal year with the first frost coming in November supports the slow change. Alabama Quail Trail advertisements have added to the anticipation of the quail hunting season with those running during football season. The long awaited quail hunting season is here.

If you are looking for a place to hunt, I would suggest for you to review, the Alabama Quail Trail web site. The trail promotes hunting from North Alabama at Crow Creek Hunting Preserve near Stevenson, to Crooked Oaks Hunting Preserve at Auburn, on further down South, at Rhodes Quail Farm near Bay Minette. You can view the website, click on the map and select a hunting preserve with the closest facility or select the facility with the amenities you desire. By selecting Rhodes Quail Farm you will find that they offer lodging. If your looking for wild bird hunting your likely out of luck. Alabama Quail Trail is supported by numerous organizations, is housed by the Wildlife Federation and is partly funded by its members.

It is a simple website to use. You open their web site, www.alabamaquailtrail.com, and click on the map location you wish to hunt. The name of the preserve or facility will pop up, along with the contact information and a list of the amenities offered. If you desire lodging after hunting and the preserve you have selected does not offer lodging, just select another preserve nearby and repeat the process.

Please, review our website at www.alabamaquailhunters.org to see the latest field trial results. Join me in a big hearty thank you to Gates Shaw for allowing us to use his farm for the trial. Congratulations to Roland Jones and his dog, Joe Knox for winning the gun dog class of our fall field trial!

I hope you all have a very happy 2011.

Frank Harris

President

**Check out the results from the
Fall Field Trial at
www.AlabamaQuailHunters.org**

Also news about the Spring Field Trial is coming soon.

Welcome To Our Newest Members

Ed Goodwin from Birmingham
Turner Inscoe from Atlanta
David Patterson from McCalla
Ron Riggins from Birmingham
Earl Saxon from Attalla
Courtney Smith from Vestavia
Tim Weaver from Helena

Treasurer's Desk

The Christmas Season and the New Year celebrations are upon us. Your AQH 2011 annual dues are now payable. Please check your AQH Newsletter mailing label.

If "12-11" does not follow your name, my records show that you have not yet paid your 2011 dues payable to all AQH members on January 1st. Please mail me your check made out to AL Quail Hunters, 1901 Morgan Road SE, Bessemer, AL 35022.

Your annual \$15.00 dues are income tax deductible. If I have made an error, email me at coalcarr@bham.rr.com or call me during office hours at (205) 424-1381.

Bob Carr

AQH Treasurer

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New Member

Renewal

2011 DUES – \$15.00

Check Payable to "Alabama Quail Hunters"

For more information call N. H. Holt @ 205-936-6293 or contact:



1901 Morgan Road S.E. Bessemer, Alabama 35022



Alabama Quail Hunters

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Bessemer, Alabama 35022