



Wildlife Challenge Invitational Contest Memo

Date: Friday, April 10, 2026

Location: Grayson College
6101 Grayson Drive
Denison, Texas 75020

Contest: At the contestant's convenience anytime between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Registration: Each participating member is required to register on 4-H Online (<https://texas.4honline.com>) and pay the \$15.00 registration fee. Registration will open on March 4, 2026 and close at midnight on March 18, 2026.

Participation: Contestants must be active 4-H members enrolled in a Texas 4-H and Youth Development county program in District IV. Contestants must also be academically eligible (according to UIL rules) to compete on the day of the contest. Contestants will compete as individuals in this event.

Age: Age divisions are determined by a participant's grade as of September 1 of the current 4-H year. Age divisions for this contest are:

Junior	Grades 3, 4, 5
Intermediate	Grades 6, 7, 8
Senior	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Academic Eligibility. According to the Texas Education Code, a 4-H member must be deemed "eligible" to compete in an event that takes place on a weekday or weekend. All 4-H youth, including youth in public, private, and/or home school must adhere to the following guidelines regarding extracurricular activities and academic eligibility:

- Complete a "Declaration of Eligibility Form" OR
- Name of 4-H member must appear on a list of eligible students to participate in a specific extracurricular activity signed by the school principal or designee.
- Contact your local county extension office for the process used by YOUR county.

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If a 4-H member is ineligible for a 4-H competitive event, the agent must notify the 4-H member, his/her parents, and the district office, by letter/email, of this situation. If the parent has any questions, he/she should be referred to the school administrator.

Eligibility forms will be returned to and remain in the county offices

Entries per County: Each county may enter an unlimited number of individuals per age division listed above. This is not a state qualifying contest.

Contest Format: Participants will use a multiple choice test.

Suggested materials to bring for contest: Clipboard and pencils.

Awards: 1st to 5th place individual awards in each age division will be presented.

Participants with Disabilities: Any competitor who requires auxiliary aids or special accommodations must contact the District Extension Office or **Denita Young at djyoung@agg.tamu.edu**, or note when registering on 4-H Online, at least 2 weeks before the competition to request such needs.

Contest Description: The District IV 4-H Wildlife Challenge Contest is an Invitational Event that tests participants' knowledge of information found within five 4-H Natural Resources projects: the Wildlife and Fisheries Project; the Hunting Project; the Entomology Project; the Forestry Project; and the Sportfishing Project. Preparing for this event will allow participants the opportunity to explore all five of these project areas.

Youth will compete as individuals for placing in Junior, Intermediate, and Senior age divisions.

The contest consists of two areas as described below. Each of the two areas may test participants over any of the specified information within the five Natural Resources project area resources posted.

Participants will need to bring a clipboard and several sharpened pencils to use during the contest.

No electronic devices (i.e. smart phones or smart watches are allowed to be in the possession of participants during the contest).

Contest Activities:

Identification – Contestants will identify animals and plants 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. Contestants will identify equipment and equipment components that may be found within

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any of the project resources (i.e. fishing equipment, shooting/hunting equipment, insect collecting equipment, wildlife habitat management equipment, forestry equipment, etc.).

Knowledge and Skills Assessment – Contestants will answer multiple choice, yes/no, true/false questions related to knowledge and skills found within the five project areas. The skills could include, but are not limited to, those needed for fishing, hunting, insect collection and display, firearm handling, forest evaluation, and wildlife habitat evaluation.

Resources:

Contest material will be drawn from the specific resources listed on the Texas 4-H Roundup 2026 Contest Resources page <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/>. Scroll down this page to "Wildlife Challenge" and you will find 3 different hyperlinks. The "Information" link takes you to a 1-page overview of the contest. The "Study Resources" link will download a zip folder to your computer.

After downloading the zip folder, open the folder and you will find a file titled "Start Here – 4-H Wildlife Challenge Resources 2025". This file will provide you with information on which chapters, pages, or sections of a given resource you should review for the contest.

For example, the Texas 4-H Wildlife Habitat Education Program (WHEP) Manual is one resource for the contest, but the only section that is a potential source for contest material is 'Wildlife Management Concepts and Terms' pages 18-28.

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