



## February 2021 Newsletter

The AGRED Foundation would like to thank all those who continue to support us in our endeavors to improve, maintain and protect Lake Erling for the benefit of the wildlife, the fishery, habitat and community.

We hope that our community survived the recent freeze without too much disruption to your lives. We do however hope that the freeze disrupted the life of the Giant Salvinia (GS) on Lake Erling. While it is a little too early to tell just how much of the plant was killed off by the freeze, we do feel that a lot of it would have been destroyed; at least we hope. The AGRED Foundation will be pulling some samples from the lake in the coming week and placing these in a controlled temperature environment so as to determine what impact the freeze has had. We know for sure that it would not have irradiated all of the plants but can only hope the vast majority of it has been destroyed.

Unfortunately, we were unable to draw the lake down this past summer because there has just been too much rainfall. We opened the gates and siphon pipes in June last year and for the most part have had these open ever since to this date. We did try to close the outflow for about three weeks which would have allowed us to do more repair work on the siphon pipes however here again mother nature would not cooperate and all we could do was cut the pipes off before rainfall and rising lake levels prevented us from completing the job. We will now attempt to complete this job in the summer if it is dry enough. The purpose of dropping the lake was to tackle the GS problem.

We hope to tackle this incredibly invasive plant species to the best of our ability and continue to work closely with the AGFC on the matter. As the owner of Lake Erling we also welcome the community support and cooperation with The AGRED Foundation. To this end we will next month establish a Google Forms link on our website that will lay out the guidelines and grant permission to those landowners adjacent to The AGRED Foundation property who wish to spray the GS in front of their property. Once the link has been established, we will provide further details as to how you can get permission to proceed with the spray program.

The AGRED Foundation does have a website <https://agredfoundation.com/> where you the public can see lake levels that are posted three times a day at 8:00 am, 12:00 noon and 4:00 pm. We hope that this is useful information for the fisherman and landowners adjacent to AGRED property.

At a recent meeting with members of the local community it was brought to my attention that many people were unaware that The AGRED Foundation had purchased and installed three weather stations all of which are positioned at strategic locations, at the levy, north end of the lake and near Hope Arkansas which is the northern extremity of the basin which feeds into

Lake Erling. These weather stations were installed in 2016 and 2018. They provide valuable data to assist us in forecasting lake levels based upon rainfall in the different locations. This information is also monitored by NOAA but we feel this is extremely valuable information to our many avid fisherman and local residents. The AGRED Foundation pays a monthly subscription for this information to be available to public all one needs is a smartphone. Download the Davis Weatherlink App onto your smart phone and under the "Stations" option type in AGRED, all three stations will pop up. Save these to your favorites and every time you open the app this information will feed directly to your phone. The following useful information is available:

- Current Temp
- High and low for the day with time
- Precipitation
  - Forecast
  - 24 hour accumulation total
  - Monthly total
  - Year to date total
  - Current hourly rate of precipitation
  - Cumulative rain by storm
- Humidity
- Barometric pressure
- Windspeed
- Timing of Sunrise and Sunset
- 7 day weather forecast
- All time high and low temp records on this day

The light at The AGRED Park boat ramp disappeared several weeks ago. We have no idea as to whether this was stolen or not but we have just purchased a new LED park light which will be installed next week.

The AGRED Foundation will again be hosting the Wounded Patriots Fishing Tournament April 9 and 10. We are blessed to own this beautiful lake and this tournament is something we can do to give back to those who have sacrificed so much for our freedom and life as we know it. The AGRED Park will be closed to the public at 12:00 noon April 9<sup>th</sup> until 4:30pm April 10. All sponsors to the event are invited and we welcome people to donate for this special occasion. Our goal this year is to raise \$75,000 for the event and the fifty Wounded Patriots who will be participating with their Pro or Amateur Fisherman as a team.

Here is the schedule of events for the tournament at **AGRED Park**:

**April 09 AM**

**8:00am** – Contractors will set up tents, lighting, chairs, tables and portable toilets

**PM**

6 p.m. – national anthem

6:02 -- prayer

6:03 – speaker one welcome to the fishing tourney

6:06 – Speaker two fishing tourney admin notes

6:09 –retiring of the color’s introduction  
6:10 – retiring of the colors  
6:45 –registration finalization  
6:50 – pair wounded patriots with boat captains  
6:50 – Barbecue and beverages

**April 10**

**A.M.**

**AGRED Park**

5:00am - Breakfast

5:30am . Boats begin launch

FIRST LIGHT – Tourney begins

**P.M.**

**NOON** - Lines in

12;30 Weigh in begins and lunch will be served

**LUNCH Crawfish Boil and Fish fry**

**AFTER LUNCH – Prize money is given out**

**3;30 - Departure begins**

As always should you the public have any questions or wish to talk to us regarding Lake Erling we welcome you to contact us (318)210-0451

Eric H. Fletcher

President – The AGRED Foundation