Following is a news release from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GEORGIA SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS PLACE AT ARCHERY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

SOCIAL CIRCLE, Ga. (Oct. 25, 2012) – Three Georgia student archers placed in the top five in their respective grade levels at the 2012 National Archery in the Schools Program World Tournament recently held at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Florida. This competition drew more than 1,200 NASP archers from the United States, Canada, South Africa and Namibia.

Three teams from Georgia competed in the NASP World Tournament and a total of six schools from the state were represented.

Georgia School ranking:

Woodlawn Elementary School of Chatsworth, GA placed fourth in the elementary division with a score of 3,204.

Georgia Student ranking:

Both Bagley Middle School's Haley Bagley and Lake Park Elementary's Kate Douglas came away with third place finishes in their grade.

Bagley, of Chatsworth, shot a 289 to place third in the seventh grade girls division and Douglas, of Albany, arrowed a 278 to also finish third in the girls fourth grade division. Bagley placed 11th overall at the tournament, while Douglas was 69th.

Woodlawn Elementary's Braxton Bates, of Chatsworth, shot a 284 to place fourth among fifth grade boys, finishing 51st overall.

Woodlawn's Alyssa Laviana also shot a 276 to finish sixth in the fifth grade girls division and 85th overall.

Competing archers at the NASP World Tournament shot in the grade level they were in when they qualified for the tournament last May at the 2012 NASP National Tournament in Louisville, Ky.,

The NASP in Georgia is coordinated by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Resources Division. Close to 1,200 archers from Georgia alone are expected to compete in the upcoming Georgia NASP regionals, which begin in late January and are held at six locations across the state.

MORE ABOUT NASP

NASP is an in-school archery curriculum that meets all education department standards. Only schools that are certified in NASP through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources are qualified to compete in the Georgia Tournament. Schools in nearly 80 counties in Georgia are NASP certified.

The program promotes instruction in international-style target archery to improve educational performance and participation in shooting sports. Research has shown that the program, administered through a minimum two-week course during the school year, improves class attendance and behavior. NASP universal fit bows make it possible for students of all sizes and genders to succeed in archery while raising self-esteem levels and improving hand-eye coordination during physical activity.

NASP is taught in 48 states as well as Australia, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and Namibia. To date, more than 9 million students have gone through the program.

For more information on NASP in Georgia, recreational shooting sports opportunities or to find a range near you, visit <u>www.georgiawildlife.com</u>, contact a local WRD Game Management Office or call (770) 918-6416.

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