Chuck Sykes

Director, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Chuck Sykes accepted the position of Director of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries in the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources on December 28th, 2012. He currently oversees the operations of all wildlife and fisheries biologists and conservation enforcement officers. He and his staff manage, protect, conserve, and enhance the wildlife and aquatic resources of Alabama for the sustainable benefit of the people of Alabama.

Mr. Sykes is a Choctaw County Alabama native who took his passion for the outdoors and earned a Wildlife Biology degree in 1992 from Auburn University in the School of Forestry and Wildlife Science. After graduation, he worked as a guide and general manager for several prominent commercial hunting lodges in Alabama. Mr. Sykes assimilated the hands-on knowledge from the field with scientific instruction from the classroom to create a full-service natural resource consulting firm in 1999. His company managed thousands of acres across the nation. He served a broad base of private and commercial land managers by providing natural resource management services including feral hog removal, timber management, wildlife management, pond and lake management, and lessee management.

In 2001, Mr. Sykes created “The Management Advantage” television program that aired on the Outdoor Channel for 11 years. The Management Advantage was the first program solely dedicated to wildlife management and habitat restoration. The program focused on educating the public about how to improve their properties for both game and non-game species instead of solely harvesting game. The Management Advantage is now produced as an online video series that can be seen each week at www.themanagementadvantage.com.

Mr. Sykes has been married to Susan Sykes for 24 years. They have one child of the four-legged variety; a miniature Australian Shepherd named Syd. They live in Wetumpka, Alabama.