

Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, March 22, 2012 at the Kansas Historical Society History Center, 6425 SW 6th, Topeka, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of proposed regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A regulatory hearing on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 7:00 p.m., March 22 at the location listed above. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the evening meeting for any issues not on the agenda and additional comment periods will be available during the meeting on agenda items. Old and new business may also be discussed at this time. If necessary to complete business matters, the Commission will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. March 23 at the location listed above.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and may request the meeting materials in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the meeting should be made at least five working days in advance of the meeting by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission Secretary, at (620) 672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This 60-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on proposed administrative regulations.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, 1020 S. Kansas Ave, Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612 or to sheila.kemmis@ksoutdoors.com if electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally in regard to the adoption of the proposed regulations. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted by interested parties will be considered by the commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulations.

The regulations that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting are as follows:

K.A.R. 115-4-2. This permanent regulation establishes general provisions for big game and wild turkeys. The proposed amendments address further concerns with transportation of wildlife, remove language that is no longer necessary and make it unlawful to copy or possess copies of big game and wild turkey permits.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-4-4. This permanent regulation establishes big game legal equipment. The proposed amendments would allow certain individuals to use crossbows during the archery season and remove restrictions on possessing certain equipment.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-4-4a. This permanent regulation establishes wild turkey legal equipment. The proposed amendments would allow certain individuals to use crossbows during the archery season and remove restrictions on possessing certain equipment.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

Copies of the complete text of the regulations and their respective economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the chairman of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the department's website at www.kdwpt.state.ks.us, or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman