

Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, October 22, 2015 at the Coffey County Library, 410 Juniatta, Burlington, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of proposed regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 1:00 p.m., October 22 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. then resume at 6:30 p.m. at the same location for the regulatory hearing and more business. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and 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. October 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 the proposed administrative regulation.

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 regulation. 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 regulation.

The regulation that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting is as follows:

K.A.R. 115-1-1. This permanent regulation establishes definitions for department regulations. The proposed amendments to the regulation clarify the definition of set lines.

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

K.A.R. 115-2-1. This permanent regulation establishes fees for hunting and fishing licenses and permits. The proposed amendments to the regulation would increase fees for certain licenses and permits, some of which have not increased since 1983.

Economic Impact Summary: The amendments are anticipated to annually generate approximately \$6,468,000, assuming no resistance factors, all of which would accrue to the wildlife fee fund. Otherwise, the proposed amendments to the regulation are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-4-11. This permanent regulation establishes requirements for big game and turkey permit applications. The proposed amendments to the regulation would require that nonresident deer permit applicants purchase a hunting license prior to or at the same time of application. Unsuccessful permit applicants would have the choice to keep the hunting license or obtain a refund. The purpose of the proposed change is to gain better compliance with the law.

Economic Impact Summary: While ensuring compliance with the law, it is anticipated that the proposed change will generate an additional \$126,000 annually, all of which would accrue to the wildlife fee fund. Otherwise, the proposed amendments to the regulation are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-4-13. This permanent regulation establishes deer permit descriptions and restrictions. The proposed amendments to the regulation clarify the definition and permit class of tenants to address a disparity between nonresident tenants and nonresident landowners.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments could result in nonresident tenants paying more for a deer permit to address the disparity between nonresident tenants and nonresident landowners. Otherwise, the proposed amendments to the regulation are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-7-1. This permanent regulation establishes legal equipment, methods of take and other provisions for fishing. The proposed amendments to the regulation clarify that float material used with setlines be of closed-cell construction.

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

K.A.R. 115-7-10. This permanent regulation establishes special provisions for fishing. The proposed amendments update the reference document for designated aquatic nuisance waters and clarify fishing from or over a fish ladder or fishway.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments to the regulation are not

anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-25-14. This exempt regulation establishes creel limit, size limit, possession limit and open season for fishing. The proposed version of the regulation updates the reference document for length and creel limits for specific bodies of water throughout the state.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed version of the regulation is 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 regulation and its 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