

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, December 13, 2018 at the Great Plains Nature Center, 6232 East 29th St N, Wichita, 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 1:30 p.m., December 13 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. December 14 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 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@ks.gov 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. 115-2-7. This new permanent regulation establishes the backcountry access pass. The proposed regulation would create a backcountry pass to limit and protect sensitive areas within Little Jerusalem State Park.

Economic Impact Summary: The economic effect on potential park users could be \$730,000 annually, if 20 people were allowed to access the backcountry areas twice daily and all slots were filled, all of which would accrue to the park fee fund. Otherwise, no other economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the

public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-7-1. This permanent regulation establishes legal equipment and methods of take for fishing. The proposed amendments would not allow bowfishing for catfish on rivers and streams due to increased concerns about unlawful activity.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public.

K.A.R. 115-7-4. This permanent regulation establishes processing and possession requirements for fish. The proposed amendments to the regulation would align Kansas with Oklahoma with regard to paddlefish roe possession, in an attempt to curtail unlawful activity.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public.

K.A.R. 115-7-10. This permanent regulation establishes special provisions for fishing. The proposed amendments would update the aquatic nuisance species reference document.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public.

K.A.R. 115-18-8. This permanent regulation establishes requirements for retrieval and possession of game animals, sport fish and migratory game birds. The proposed amendments would clean up cross-references to other regulations.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of 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