

Wildlife and Parks Commission

Notice of Hearing of Proposed Administrative Regulations

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife and Parks Commission at 7:00 p.m., Thursday, January 11, 2007 at Southwestern College, Wroten Hall, 100 College Street, Winfield, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of proposed administrative regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

A workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife and Parks Commission will begin at 1:30 p.m., January 11 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at 5:30 p.m. then resume at 7:00 p.m. at the same location for the regulatory hearing. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and evening meetings 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 the hearing or other business matters, the commission will reconvene at 9:00 a.m. January 12 at the location listed above.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public hearing and may request the proposed regulations and economic impact statements in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the hearing should be made at least five working days in advance of the hearing by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission secretary, at (620) 672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission of Deaf and Hard 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 and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Ave, Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612 or to sheilak@wp.state.ks.us 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. 115-18-10. This permanent regulation establishes the prohibitions for importation and possession of certain species. The proposed amendments include adding the white perch to the prohibited species list and changing the scientific name for bighead carp.

Economic Impact Summary: White perch currently exist in two reservoirs within the state and are popular for use as a bait fish in those locations and could therefore impact bait dealers in those locations. However, white perch would still be allowed for use as a bait fish provided the species were not alive and therefore any impact would be negligible. Otherwise, the proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable economic impact on the department, other agencies 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.kdwp.state.ks.us, or by calling (785) 296-2281.

James Harrington, Chairman