

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, June 21, 2012 at the Cabela's, 10300 Cabela Drive, Kansas City, 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., June 21 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. June 22 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. 115-8-2. This permanent regulation establishes provisions for blinds, tree stands, and decoys on department lands and waters. The proposed amendment would restrict hunters to two treestands per area, require treestands to be marked with user identification, and require that blinds and decoys not be left unattended overnight.

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. 115-8-23. This new permanent regulation establishes provisions use of bait on public lands. The regulation would not allow the use of bait on department lands while hunting.

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

K.A.R. 115-8-24. This new permanent regulation establishes provisions for commercial guiding on department lands. The regulation would require that commercial guides obtain a no cost commercial guide permit to operate on department lands.

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

K.A.R. 115-17-6. This permanent regulation establishes a commercial mussel fishing license, mussel salvage permits, license or permit application and requirements, authority, reports, general provisions, and license or permit revocation. The proposed amendments would extend the moratorium on commercial mussel harvesting.

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. 115-17-7. This permanent regulation establishes the legal species, seasons, size restrictions, daily limits, and possession limits for commercial mussel harvesting. The proposed amendments would extend the moratorium on commercial mussel harvesting.

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. 115-17-8. This permanent regulation establishes the legal equipment, taking methods, and general provisions for commercial mussel harvest. The proposed amendments would extend the moratorium on commercial mussel harvesting.

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. 115-17-9. This permanent regulation establishes the open areas for commercial mussel harvest. The proposed amendments would extend the moratorium on commercial mussel harvesting.

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.

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K.A.R. 115-20-7. This permanent regulation establishes the legal equipment, taking methods, and possession for doves. The proposed amendment would require doves be taken in flight.

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. 115-25-1. This exempt regulation establishes the open seasons, bag limits, and possession limits for prairie chickens. The proposed version of the regulation would add the September hunting season in the northwest unit.

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. 115-25-9a. This exempt regulation establishes additional deer open seasons, bag limits, and permits for Fort Riley. The proposed version would update season dates for Fort Riley.

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. 115-25-20. This exempt regulation establishes the management unit, hunting season, shooting hours, bag and possession limits, and permit validation for sandhill cranes. The proposed version expands shooting hours from sunrise to sunset.

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