

LEGAL NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be held beginning at 10:00 a.m. Thursday, April 21, 2011 at the Little Rock Office Complex, #2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. At that time, regulations and business pertaining to the operation of the Game and Fish Commission and other fiscal and administrative matters will be considered and acted upon, and all interested persons are invited to attend. Committee meetings attended by Commissioners and agency staff members will be held throughout the day on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the same location, and all interested persons are invited to attend.

Items on the agenda for the April 21, 2011, 10:00 a.m. meeting will include adoption of proposed regulations previously considered at the March 17, 2011, Commission Meeting, plus various Hunting and Fishing Regulations, and regulations pertaining to the Enforcement Division of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, including, but not limited to:

1. **2011-12 Statewide General Hunting Regulations and WMA Seasons** – Adopt general hunting regulations for 2011-12 including, but not limited to, game seasons, bag limits, geographic zones, wildlife management areas, weapon restrictions and other manner-of-taking-game requirements for deer, alligator, elk, turkey, bear, quail, squirrel, rabbit, and fur bearing animals. Changes to general hunting regulation include, but are not limited to:
 - Set season dates for game species for modern gun, mobility-impaired, youth, and WMA permit hunts, and for archery and muzzleloader WMA permit hunts;
 - Require hunters on public land to display blaze orange or chartreuse on all sides of the exterior of a portable, pop-up type blind.
 - Increase deer bag limit in Deer Zones 12 and 17, and WMAs within those zones, to six (6), with no more than two (2) bucks or up to six (6) does.
 - Increase statewide bag limit for deer to six (6), with no more than two (2) bucks.
 - Eliminate use of preference points for 2013-14 deer hunting season and use random drawing to select applicants for permit hunts.
 - Allow deer hunting over bait during entire month of February.
 - Change opening day of 2012-13 archery deer season from October 1 to an annual start-date on the last Saturday in September.
 - Eliminate use of preference points for 2011-12 alligator hunting season and use random drawing to select applicants for permit hunts.
 - Establish seasonal harvest quota of 200 bears for Bear Zone 1, with a quota not-to-exceed 165 bears during the month of October.
 - Decrease antlerless elk hunting permits in Elk Compartments 1 and 2, and increase antlerless elk hunting permits in Elk Compartments 3 and 4.

- Change private-land elk tag issued to landowners to either-sex (bull or cow) tags.
- Change public-land bull elk permits to either-sex (bull or cow) permits.
- Allow taking of raccoon, opossum, and squirrel throughout entire year without a Depredation Permit if those animals are causing nuisance damage on private property.
- Set bobcat hunting season to begin September 1 and end February 28, and reopen during spring turkey season.
- Set coyote hunting season to begin July 1 and end February 28, and reopen during spring turkey season.
- Establish minimum age requirement of six (6) to harvest and check big game (alligator, bear, deer, elk, and turkey).
- Amend existing list of states having cervid carcass importation restrictions to remove state of Missouri and add states of Maryland and Minnesota.
- Amend current non-resident license system to establish optional one-day hunting license, including game tag requirements.
- Amend “legal buck” definitions applicable to deer hunting on various wildlife management areas, including Wedington, Bayou Meto, Trusten Holder, Cut-off Creek, Little Bayou, and Seven Devils WMAs.
- Include Dave Donaldson Black River WMA mitigation units (three units totaling approx. 1,200 acres) in the Black River Flood Prone Zone (north of AR Hwy 62).
- Decrease total number of permits issued for modern gun and muzzle-load deer hunting on Mike Freeze Wattensaw WMA (mz 500 to 400/mg 500 to 400), Rex Hancock Black Swamp WMA (mz 250 to 200/mg 250 to 200), Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMA (mz 300 to 200/mg 300 to 200), U of A Pine Tree Experimental Station WDA (mz 400 to 300/mg 400 to 300) and Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA (mz 500 to 425/mg 400 to 325).
- Limit ATV-use on open roads and trails within Big Timber, Casey Jones, Gum Flats, Howard County, Lafayette County, Lake Greeson and Provo WMAs by hunters for the purposes of ingress and egress to hunting locations and/or camping sites during open hunting seasons only.
- Amend access restrictions for Moro Big Pine Natural Area WMA to restrict holders of AGFC Mobility Impaired Access Cards or other state-issued Mobility Impaired Access Cards to operation of ATVs only on designated mobility impaired access areas and roads.
- Increase bag limit for muzzle-load mobility impaired deer hunting on DeGray Lake WMA.
- Decrease total number of permits issued for modern gun deer hunting on Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA (from 100 to 50 permits) and for modern gun and muzzle-load deer hunting on Harold E. Alexander WMA (from 300 to 250 permits).
- Increase bag limit for youth permit modern gun deer hunting on Galla Creek WMA.

- Increase total number of “doe days” for muzzle-load and modern gun deer hunting seasons on Cherokee, Jamestown Independence County, and Jim Kress WMAs.
 - Extend squirrel hunting season on J. Perry Mikles Blue Mountain SUA until end of February (to be concurrent with statewide squirrel season).
 - Close access to Shirey Bay Rainey Brake WMA to prohibit trespassing from 2:00 a.m. to 4:00 a.m. during waterfowl hunting season, except in designated campsites, parking areas and boat launch ramps only.
 - Change the designated hunting area on Trusten Holder WMA for Special Mobility Impaired Deer Hunt.
 - Amend “legal buck” definition and bag limit applicable to deer hunting on Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA.
 - Include Hall Creek Barrens and Kingsland Prairie Natural Areas (owned by Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission) to the WMA management system.
 - Discontinue doe quota permit and allow harvest of one (1) doe during muzzle-load deer hunting season on Sylamore WMA (both units).
 - Increase total number of “doe days” for muzzle-load deer hunting season on Buffalo National River, Gene Rush, Mt. Magazine, Ozark National Forest, Petit Jean River, Piney Creeks, White Rock, and Winona WMAs.
 - Amend existing regulation to prohibit possession and use of certain cutting devices on Big Timber, DeGray Lake, and Poison Springs WMAs.
 - Extend season for dove hunting on Camp Robinson SUA and the Wylie Cox SUA on Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA.
 - Set muzzle-load deer hunting seasons on Big Timber, DeGray Lake, Lake Greeson, and Howard County WMAs to coincide with muzzle-load deer hunting season for Deer Zone 13.
 - Set modern gun deer hunting seasons on Big Timber and DeGray Lake WMAs to coincide with modern gun deer hunting season for Deer Zone 13.
 - Allow use of electric-powered vehicles on designated trails on Freddie Black Choctaw Island WMA Deer Research Area West Unit.
 - Include De Queen Lake to the WMA management system.
2. **Oil and Gas Activities** -- Adopt proposed Oil and Gas Lease Agreements (non-drilling / non-surface disturbance) affecting (a) Cow Shoals Access / Little Red River, Cleburne County; (b) Greers Ferry Nursery Pond, Cleburne County; and (c) Lake Barnett, White County. Also, adopt amendment to existing Oil and Gas Lease Agreement and adopt proposed Pipeline Right of Way Agreement affecting Scott Henderson Gulf Mountain Wildlife Management Area, Van Buren County.
3. **Commission Committee Procedures** -- Amend existing agency procedures for conduct of Commission business through the use of committees (re-designate standing committees).

4. **License & Permit Requirements** – Amend existing regulations to provide for issuance of lifetime hunting and fishing licenses (with optional lifetime trout stamp and lifetime state duck stamp) to resident military retirees who are sixty (60) years of age or older.

All persons wishing to be heard on these subjects must submit comments in writing to this office on or before April 8, 2011. Copies of any proposed rules or regulations may be obtained at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission main office or through a written request mailed to the address below.

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