

# **WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT**

## **ARTICLE I Findings, Declaration of Policy, and Purpose**

- (a) The participating states find that:
- (1) Wildlife resources are managed in trust by the respective states for the benefit of all residents and visitors.
  - (2) The protection of the wildlife resources of a state is materially affected by the degree of compliance with state statutes, laws, regulations, ordinances, and administrative rules relating to the management of such resources.
  - (3) The preservation, protection, management, and restoration of wildlife contribute immeasurably to the aesthetic, recreational, and economic aspects of such natural resources.
  - (4) Wildlife resources are valuable without regard to political boundaries; therefore, every person should be required to comply with wildlife preservation, protection, management, and restoration laws, ordinances, and administrative rules and regulations of the participating states as a condition precedent to the continuance or issuance of any license to hunt, fish, trap, or possess wildlife.
  - (5) Violation of wildlife laws interferes with the management of wildlife resources and may endanger the safety of persons and property.
  - (6) The mobility of many wildlife law violators necessitates the maintenance of channels of communication among the various states.
  - (7) In most instances, a person who is cited for a wildlife violation in a state other than his home state:
    - (i) Is required to post collateral or a bond to secure appearance for a trial at a later date; or
    - (ii) Is taken into custody until the collateral or bond is posted; or
    - (iii) Is taken directly to court for an immediate appearance.
  - (8) The purpose of the enforcement practices set forth in paragraph (7) of this article is to ensure compliance with the terms of a wildlife citation by the

cited person who, if permitted to continue on his way after receiving the citation, could return to his home state and disregard his duty under the terms of the citation.

- (9) In most instances, a person receiving a wildlife citation in his home state is permitted to accept the citation from the officer at the scene of the violation and immediately continue on his way after agreeing or being instructed to comply with the terms of the citation.
- (10) The practices described in paragraph (7) of this article cause unnecessary inconvenience and, at times, a hardship for the person who is unable at the time to post collateral, furnish a bond, stand trial, or pay a fine, and thus is compelled to remain in custody until some alternative arrangement is made.
- (11) The enforcement practices described in paragraph (7) of this article consume an undue amount of law enforcement time.

(b) It is the policy of the participating states to:

- (1) Promote compliance with the statutes, laws, ordinances, regulations, and administrative rules relating to management of wildlife resources in their respective states.
- (2) Recognize the suspension of wildlife license privileges of any person whose license privileges have been suspended by a participating state and treat such suspension as if it had occurred in their state.
- (3) Allow a violator, except as provided in paragraph (b) of Article III, to accept a wildlife citation and, without delay, proceed on his way, whether or not a resident of the state in which the citation was issued, provided that the violator's home state is party to this compact.
- (4) Report to the appropriate participating state, as provided in the compact manual, any conviction recorded against any person whose home state was not the issuing state.
- (5) Allow the home state to recognize and treat convictions recorded against its residents, which convictions occurred in a participating state, as though they had occurred in the home state.
- (6) Extend cooperation to its fullest extent among the participating states for enforcing compliance with the terms of a wildlife citation issued in one participating state to a resident of another participating state.
- (7) Maximize effective use of law enforcement personnel and information.

- (8) Assist court systems in the efficient disposition of wildlife violations.
- (c) The purpose of this compact is to:
  - (1) Provide a means through which participating states may join in a reciprocal program to effectuate the policies enumerated in paragraph (b) of this article in a uniform and orderly manner.
  - (2) Provide for the fair and impartial treatment of wildlife violators operating within participating states in recognition of the violator's right to due process and the sovereign status of a participating state.

## **ARTICLE II**

### **Definitions**

As used in this compact, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (a) "Citation" means any summons, complaint, summons and complaint, ticket, penalty assessment, or other official document issued to a person by a wildlife officer or other peace officer for a wildlife violation which contains an order requiring the person to respond.
- (b) "Collateral" means any cash or other security deposited to secure an appearance for trial in connection with the issuance by a wildlife officer or other peace officer of a citation for a wildlife violation.
- (c) "Compliance" with respect to a citation means the act of answering a citation through an appearance in a court or tribunal, or through the payment of fines, costs, and surcharges, if any.
- (d) "Conviction" means a conviction, including any court conviction, for any offense related to the preservation, protection, management, or restoration of wildlife which is prohibited by state statute, law, regulation, ordinance, or administrative rule, and such conviction shall also include the forfeiture of any bail, bond, or other security deposited to secure appearance by a person charged with having committed any such offense, the payment of a penalty assessment, a plea of nolo contendere and the imposition of a deferred or suspended sentence by the court.
- (e) "Court" means a court of law, including magistrate's court and the justice of the peace court.
- (f) "Home state" means the state of primary residence of a person.
- (g) "Issuing state" means the participating state which issues a wildlife citation to the violator.

- (h) "License" means any license, permit, or other public document which conveys to the person to whom it was issued the privilege of pursuing, possessing, or taking any wildlife regulated by statute, law, regulation, ordinance, or administrative rule of a participating state.
- (i) "Licensing authority" means the department or division within each participating state which is authorized by law to issue or approve licenses or permits to hunt, fish, trap, or possess wildlife.
- (j) "Participating state" means any state which enacts legislation to become a member of this wildlife compact.
- (k) "Personal recognizance" means an agreement by a person made at the time of issuance of the wildlife citation that such person will comply with the terms of the citation.
- (l) "State" means any state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Provinces of Canada, and other countries.
- (m) "Suspension" means any revocation, denial, or withdrawal of any or all license privileges, including the privilege to apply for, purchase, or exercise the benefits conferred by any license.
- (n) "Terms of the citation" means those conditions and options expressly stated upon the citation.
- (o) "Wildlife" means all species of animals including, but not limited to, mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians, mollusks, and crustaceans, which are defined as "wildlife" and are protected or otherwise regulated by statute, law, regulation, ordinance, or administrative rule in a participating state. Species included in the definition of "wildlife" vary from state to state and determination of whether a species is "wildlife" for the purposes of this compact shall be based on local law.
- (p) "Wildlife law" means any statute, law, regulation, ordinance, or administrative rule developed and enacted for the management of wildlife resources and the uses thereof.
- (q) "Wildlife officer" means any individual authorized by a participating state to issue a citation for a wildlife violation.
- (r) "Wildlife violation" means any cited violation of a statute, law, regulation, ordinance, or administrative rule developed and enacted for the management of wildlife resources and the uses thereof.

### **ARTICLE III**

### **Procedures for Issuing State**

- (a) When issuing a citation for a wildlife violation, a wildlife officer shall issue a citation to any person whose primary residence is in a participating state in the same manner as though the person were a resident of the issuing state and shall not require such person to post collateral to secure appearance, subject to the exceptions noted in paragraph (b) of this article, if the officer receives the recognizance of such person that he will comply with the terms of the citation.
- (b) Personal recognizance is acceptable (1) if not prohibited by local law, issuing agency policy, procedure or regulation, or by the compact manual and (2) if the violator provides adequate proof of identification to the wildlife officer.
- (c) Upon conviction or failure of a person to comply with the terms of a wildlife citation, the appropriate official shall report the conviction or failure to comply to the licensing authority of the participating state in which the wildlife citation was issued. The report shall be made in accordance with procedures specified by the issuing state and shall contain information as specified in the compact manual as minimum requirements for effective processing by the home state.
- (d) Upon receipt of the report of conviction or noncompliance pursuant to paragraph (c) of this article, the licensing authority of the issuing state shall transmit to the licensing authority of the home state of the violator the information in form and content as prescribed in the compact manual.

### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **Procedure for Home State**

- (a) Upon receipt of a report from the licensing authority of the issuing state reporting the failure of a violator to comply with the terms of a citation, the licensing authority of the home state shall notify the violator and shall initiate a suspension action in accordance with the home state's suspension procedures and shall suspend the violator's license privileges until satisfactory evidence of compliance with the terms of the wildlife citation has been furnished by the issuing state to the home state licensing authority. All member states may honor a suspension based on failure to comply. Due process safeguards will be accorded.
- (b) Upon receipt of a report of conviction from the licensing authority of the issuing state, the licensing authority of the home state shall enter such conviction in its records and shall treat such conviction as though it occurred in the home state for the purposes of the suspension of license privileges.
- (c) The licensing authority of the home state shall maintain a record of actions taken and shall make reports to issuing states as provided in the compact manual.

**ARTICLE V**  
**Reciprocal Recognition of Suspension**

- (a) All participating states shall recognize the suspension of license privileges of any person by any participating state as though the violation resulting in the suspension had occurred in their state and could have been the basis for suspension of license privileges in their state.
- (b) Each participating state shall communicate suspension information to other participating states in form and content as contained in the compact manual.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**Applicability of Other Laws**

- (a) Except as expressly required by provisions of this compact, nothing herein shall be construed to affect the right of any participating state to apply any of its laws relating to license privileges to any person or circumstance or to invalidate or prevent any agreement or other cooperative arrangement between a participating state and a nonparticipating state concerning wildlife law enforcement.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**Compact Administrator Procedures**

- (a) For the purpose of administering the provisions of this compact and to serve as a governing body for the resolution of all matters relating to the operation of this compact, a board of compact administrators is established. The board shall be composed of one representative from each of the participating states to be known as the compact administrator. The compact administrator shall be appointed by the head of the licensing authority of each participating state and shall serve and be subject to removal in accordance with the laws of the state he represents. A compact administrator may provide for the discharge of his duties and the performance of his functions as a board member by an alternate. An alternate shall not be entitled to serve unless written notification of his identity has been given to the board.
- (b) Each member of the board of compact administrators shall be entitled to one vote. No action of the board shall be binding unless taken at a meeting at which a majority of the total number of the board's votes are cast in favor thereof. Action by the board shall be only at a meeting at which a majority of the participating states are represented.
- (c) The board shall elect annually from its membership a chairman and vice-chairman.
- (d) The board shall adopt bylaws not inconsistent with the provisions of this compact or the laws of a participating state for the conduct of its business and shall have the power to

amend and rescind its bylaws.

- (e) The board may accept for any of its purposes and functions under this compact any and all donations and grants of moneys, equipment, supplies, materials, and services, conditional or otherwise, from any state, the United States, or any governmental agency, and may receive, utilize and dispose of same.
- (f) The board may contract with, or accept services or personnel from, any governmental or intergovernmental agency, individual, firm, or corporation, or any private nonprofit organization or institution.
- (g) The board shall formulate all necessary procedures and develop uniform forms and documents for administering the provisions of this compact. All procedures and forms adopted pursuant to board action shall be contained in a compact manual.

## **ARTICLE VIII**

### **Entry into Compact and Withdrawal**

- (a) This compact shall become effective at such time as it is adopted in substantially similar form by two or more states.
- (b)
  - (1) Entry into the compact shall be made by resolution of ratification executed by the authorized officials of the applying state and submitted to the chairman of the board.
  - (2) The resolution shall substantially be in the form and content as provided in the compact manual and shall include the following:
    - (i) A citation of the authority from which the state is empowered to become a party to this compact;
    - (ii) An agreement of compliance with the terms and provisions of this compact; and
    - (iii) An agreement that compact entry is with all states participating in the compact and with all additional states legally becoming a party to the compact.
  - (3) The effective date of entry shall be specified by the applying state but shall not be less than sixty days after notice has been given (a) by the chairman of the board of the compact administrators or (b) by the secretariat of the board to each participating state that the resolution from the applying state has been received.
- (c) A participating state may withdraw from participation in this compact by official written notice to each participating state, but withdrawal shall not become effective until ninety

days after the notice of withdrawal is given. The notice shall be directed to the compact administrator of each member state. No withdrawal of any state shall affect the validity of this compact as to the remaining participating states.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Amendments to the Compact**

- (a) This compact may be amended from time to time. Amendments shall be presented in resolution form to the chairman of the board of compact administrators and shall be initiated by one or more participating states.
- (b) Adoption of an amendment shall require endorsement by all participating states and shall become effective thirty days after the date of the last endorsement.
- (c) Failure of a participating state to respond to the compact chairman within sixty days after receipt of a proposed amendment shall constitute endorsement thereof.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **Construction and Severability**

This compact shall be liberally construed so as to effectuate the purposes stated herein. The provisions of this compact shall be severable and if any phrase, clause, sentence, or provision of this compact is declared to be contrary to the constitution of any participating state or of the United States, or the applicability thereof to any government, agency, individual, or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of this compact shall not be affected thereby. If this Compact shall be held contrary to the constitution of any participating state, the compact shall remain in full force and effect as to the remaining states and in full force and effect as to the participating state affected as to all severable matters.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **Title**

This compact shall be known as the "Wildlife Violator Compact".



**WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT  
OPERATIONS MANUAL  
INDEX**

Section I - Background	Pg 1
Section II - Compact Articles	Pg 3
Section III - Procedural Matters	Pg 4
Section IV - Compact Process	Pg 7
Section V - Administrative Matters	Pg 14

## **SECTION I BACKGROUND**

### **I. Historical Information**

The concept of a wildlife violator compact was first advanced in the early 1980s by member states in the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. Law enforcement administrators and Wildlife Commissioners from several states began discussing the idea of a compact based on the format of the existing Drivers License Compact and Non-Resident Violator Compact, both of these related to motor vehicle operator licensing and enforcement.

In 1985 draft compacts were developed independently in Colorado and Nevada. Subsequently, these drafts were merged and the Wildlife Violator Compact (WVC) was presented for discussion at the 1986 Law Enforcement Technical Committee Workshop of the Western Association.

During the 1989 Legislative session compact legislation was passed into law in Colorado, Nevada and Oregon. These three states formed the nucleus for the development of the operational procedures of the WVC.

### **II. Compact Benefits**

#### **A. For the consumer**

1. Delays, and/or the inconvenience involved with the processing of a violation are comparable for residents and non-residents of participating states.
2. Personal recognizance is permitted in many cases involving wildlife violations. Certain violations and circumstances still require an immediate appearance or bonding.

#### **B. For the agency**

1. Wildlife law enforcement officers are able to devote more time to patrol, surveillance and apprehension of violators since they are not burdened with violator processing procedures.
2. The burden on courts and jail facilities is reduced because of the decreased caseload involving immediate appearances, bonding and incarceration.

3. Public relations are improved by not having to subject as many violators to the inconveniences of immediate appearance, bonding, or incarceration.
4. The number of "Failure to Appear" cases is reduced because non-residents cannot ignore a citation from participating states without facing the suspension of their wildlife license privileges in their home states.
5. Wildlife law violators are put on notice that their activities in one state can affect their privilege to recreate in all participating states.

**SECTION II**  
**WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT ARTICLES**

NOTE: The complete text of the Wildlife Violator Compact as adopted by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission in 20\_\_ is found in Addendum \_\_1.00 of the AGFC Code Book and incorporated herein by reference.

## **SECTION III PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

### **I. The Wildlife Violator Compact**

#### **A. What is it?**

The Wildlife Violator Compact (WVC) assures non-resident violators receiving citations for certain wildlife violations in participating states the same treatment accorded residents who are in violation. Procedures are established in Section IV of this manual which cause a non-resident violator who fails to comply with the terms of a citation issued in a participating state to face the possibility of the suspension of his wildlife license privileges in his home state until the terms of the citation are met. Safeguards are built into the WVC to assure that a non-resident violator is afforded all due process protection.

In addition, the WVC provides for the reciprocal recognition of the suspension of license privileges by participating states, subject to limitations again intended to provide due process protection. The reciprocal recognition of suspensions is intended to address the problems associated with the mobility of many violators.

Finally, the WVC provides that information on convictions in participating states shall be forwarded to the home state of the violator. The home state shall treat such convictions as if they had occurred in that state for the purposes of license suspension actions.

The WVC not only assures equal treatment of residents and non-residents of participating states, but also enhances the law enforcement services and deterrent value of time spent patrolling by uniformed officers.

#### **B. What it is not.**

The WVC is not a device to secure court appearance if a defendant has previously delivered himself into the court's jurisdiction and trial has been postponed to a later date. It is not a device for collecting unpaid portions of fines allowed to be paid in installments by the courts. It is not a punitive device.

## II. Release on Personal Recognizance

### A. Violations covered

1. Any violation subject to the provisions of a "Penalty Assessment", which allows a violator to comply with a citation by mailing a fine payment to the issuing agency or a court, thereby admitting guilt without a formal appearance.
2. Any violation written as a summons requiring a violator to deal directly with the court, either in person, by mail or through an attorney. Unless there are other restrictions in this document or in the laws, policies or procedures of the issuing state or the court of jurisdiction.
3. In order for a violation to be subject to these provisions the person to whom the citation is issued must be a resident of a Compact state, other than the issuing state, at the time the citation is issued.

### B. Types of Violations Not Covered

1. Any violations that mandate a personal appearance.
2. Any petty offense or misdemeanor violation that has a jail term as a mandatory penalty.
3. Any felony violation.
4. Any violation that the issuing officer deems serious enough to arrest a resident violator.
5. Any violation or situation which the laws, policies or procedures of the issuing state dictate shall be handled otherwise.

## III. Compliance With a Citation

### A. Methods of Compliance

1. Payment by mail where provided for.
2. Responding to the citation in person.

3. Submission of a plea by mail where allowed.
4. Responding through an attorney where allowed.

B. Evidence of Compliance (in response to a notice of suspension for non-compliance).

1. Certificate from the court.
2. Copy of the court judgment.

NOTE: personal representations, check stubs, money order receipts, etc. are not acceptable.

3. The violator copy of a Notice of Compliance sent by the issuing state.

## SECTION IV COMPACT PROCESS

The following are the general procedures to be followed by enforcement agencies and courts in States which are participants in the Wildlife Violator Compact (WVC). Specific procedures which are developed to comply with the legal and administrative requirements of the various States shall be acceptable so long as they comply with the intent of this manual.

The following procedures make the assumption that the violation in question meets the general requirements of Paragraph II A. of Section III of this Manual.

### I. Procedures for the Issuing State

- A. The officer issues a citation to the violator on the standard form used in that state.
  - 1. When a non-resident is issued a citation and released on personal recognizance under the provisions of this compact, it is advisable that the signature of the recipient is contained on the citation, regardless of specific requirements on that issue.
  - 2. The citation is returnable to the court at a future date specified on the document, in accordance with the laws, regulations, policies, or procedures of the Agency and/or the Court of jurisdiction
- B. If the violator pays the fine or resolves the case with the court, as appropriate, the matter is closed and no further action is taken under the provisions of Paragraphs I and II of this section of the WVC.
- C. If the violator does not resolve the case by payment of the fine or with the court, action under the provisions of the WVC will be initiated.
  - 1. The "Notice of Failure to Comply" form will be completed and the original delivered to the violator by certified mail, return receipt requested, or in person. The remaining copies are held in a suspense file pending a response from the violator.

**Any "Notice of Failure to Comply" shall be processed by the issuing state and reported to the home state within six months of issuance of the citation.**

- a. Sufficient time will be allowed for the defendant to respond to the Notice of Failure to Comply Form prior to initiating further action under the WVC. This will normally be not less than 14 days and not more than 28 days.



- b. If the defendant complies with the terms of the citation within the grace period allowed, no further action is taken under the provisions of this section of the WVC. Final action in a court case is not a prerequisite.
2. If the defendant fails to respond within the time allowed, copy 2 of the Notice of Failure to Comply will be sent to the home state of the defendant. The home state will proceed as outlined in Section II.

Procedures for Home State

- a. If at any time beyond this point in the WVC process the defendant resolves the case with the court, it is imperative that copies 3 and 4 of the Notice of failure to comply (Defendant's and Home State Acknowledgment of Compliance) be mailed immediately so that any pending or ongoing suspension of license privileges which are the result of the action at hand may be canceled.
- b. At any time subsequent to the mailing of the Notice of Failure to Comply that the violator complies with the citation as specified in Section B or Section C.1.b, above, no further actions under this section of the WVC will take place.

II. Procedures for the Home State

- A. Upon receipt of the "Notice of Failure to Comply" from the issuing state, the licensing authority of the home state of the violator will review the form for the following:
  - 1. Is it legible?
  - 2. Is it complete?
  - 3. Is it timely, within the six month limit of the compact?
  - 4. Is the violation covered under the compact?
  - 5. Are all other aspects of the case proper under applicable state laws, policies, and procedures?
- B. If for any reason the case cannot be acted on, it will be returned to the issuing state within 14 days with an explanation of the problem. If all

problems are resolved and the case is returned to the home state it will be reinstated.

- C. If the case is accepted, it will be entered into the suspension process of the home state.
- D. A Notice of Suspension will be prepared and sent to the violator. If it is a provision of the laws, policies or procedures of the home state, an advance warning letter to the violator is acceptable.
  - 1. The Notice of Suspension should have a delayed effective date to permit the violator to contact the court in the issuing state and resolve the case. The length of this delay is subject to the laws, policies or procedures of the home state, but should be at least 14 days in length.
  - 2. The Notice of Suspension must inform the violator of the facts behind the suspension with special emphasis on the procedures to be followed in resolving the matter with the court in the issuing state. Accurate information on the court (name, address, phone number) must be provided in the Notice of Suspension. This will help eliminate inquiries of the home state which are costly, time consuming and nonproductive as the home state can do nothing to resolve the case.
- E. Should the defendant request a hearing on the suspension, it will follow the form appropriate to the laws, policies or procedures of the home state.
  - 1. Such hearings will normally be restricted to challenging the right of the home state to suspend under the provisions of the WVC; to deny receiving the original citation (thus the importance of the violator's signature on the citation); or to claim that the case has been resolved.
  - 2. The question of guilt or innocence regarding the original charge will not be a subject of hearings held under the provisions of this section.
  - 3. If needed, assistance can be requested from the issuing state. This is normally limited to obtaining certified documentation.
  - 4. **NOTE: Suspensions levied for failure to comply with the terms of a citation are enforced in the home state of the violator and honored by all compact states.** These administrative suspensions are not to be confused with suspensions which are the result of convictions of wildlife violations in one or

more states which are participants in the WVC.

- F. If the suspension is upheld, the defendant must then proceed to resolve the court case with the suspension remaining in effect.
- G. If the suspension is denied for any reason, the case is terminated and the suspension order vacated. In such cases the issuing state will be informed of the reason for denial.
- H. Appeals from suspension orders will be handled in accordance with the laws, policies and procedures of the home state.
  - 1. Should a suspension order be overturned on appeal, the issuing state shall be notified.
- I. When a violator resolves a case with the court in the issuing state, an acknowledgement of compliance will be issued directly to that person. It is the responsibility of the violator to present this document to the licensing authority in the home state in order to terminate the suspension. The acknowledgement of compliance may take any form acceptable to the home state and the Court.
  - 1. If the acknowledgement of compliance is presented prior to the effective date of the suspension, the suspension is cleared immediately.
  - 2. If the acknowledgement of compliance is presented after the effective date of the suspension, reinstatement will be handled in accordance with the laws, policies and procedures of the home state.
- J. Any reinstatement or restoration fees shall be established and assessed in accordance with the laws, policies and procedures of the home state.

### III. Reciprocal Recognition of Suspensions

- A. States participating in the WVC shall recognize the suspension for cause of the license privileges of any person by any other participating state under the following circumstances:
  - 1. The suspension is the result a conviction for one or more of the following violations types or a failure to appear on a wildlife citation:
    - a) Priority will be placed on the following violation types:

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>WVC CODE FOR IWVC Database</b>
Illegal take or possession of big game	BGV
Illegal take or possession of threatened or endangered species	TEV
Felony wildlife violations	FEV
License violations, fraud, false statement	LIV
Waste of wildlife	WAV
Accumulated wildlife violations	ACV
Violations while on revocation	REV
Sale/purchase of wildlife	SPV
Failure to Appear	FTA

- b) The following violation types will also be subject to reciprocal revocation by member states depending on member state laws:

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>WVC CODE FOR IWVC Database</b>
Illegal take or possession of small game or migratory birds	SGV
Illegal take or possession of fish	FIV
Illegal take or possession of other wildlife	OWV
Tag/permit/license transfer	TRV
Federal Wildlife Violations	FDV
Other criminal violations	OTV
Guide/outfitter violations	GUV
Safety Violations	SAV
Trespass Violations	TPV
Littering Violations	LPV
Interfering With an Officer	IWO

2. And, such recognition of suspension is not contrary to the laws of that state.

- B. Recognition of suspensions which do not meet the criteria of section III. A. 1 and 2 above will be up to the laws, policies and procedures of that state.
- C. Each state participating in the WVC shall communicate suspension information to other participating states, using the secure Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact database. Participating states will use the guidelines prescribed by the board of compact administrators. The following information will be included but not limited to:
  - 1. Positive identification of the subject of the suspension. Including:
    - a. Name
    - b. Date of birth
    - c. Physical description
    - d. Last known address
  - 2. The basis of the suspension including:
    - a. Violation(s) and convictions upon which the suspension is based.
    - b. The scope of the suspension (ie. fishing, hunting, trapping, all privileges).
    - c. Effective dates of the suspension.
- D. In the event documentation of a violation and subsequent license suspension is needed by a member state for license suspension hearings or other purposes, the issuing state shall provide certified copies of the citation or other charging instrument, any arrest or investigation reports, suspension orders and the disposition of the matter.

IV. Transmittal of Conviction Information to the Home State of the Violator

- A. Upon a conviction, the issuing state shall forward to the home state of the violator the following information:
  - 1. Personal Information
    - a. Name

- b. Date of birth
- c. Sex
- d. Physical description (height, weight, hair, eyes)
- e. Last known address

2. Violation Information

- a. Citation number
- b. Violation description
- c. Revocation begin & end date
- d. Fine assessed

- B. For the purpose of consideration for license suspension, the home state shall treat such convictions in other participating states as if they had occurred in the home state.
- C. In the event detailed information on a violation is needed by the home state, for license suspension hearings or other purposes, the issuing state shall provide certified copies of the citation or other charging instrument, any arrest or investigation reports and the disposition of the matter.

**SECTION V**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

I. Entry into the Compact

- A. Entry into the WVC may be accomplished by the following methods.
  - 1. A state legislature may accomplish WVC joinder by adopting the full compact as a statute.
  - 2. A state legislature may authorize and direct that state's wildlife agency to enter into the compact.
- B. Upon legislative action as specified above, entry into the WVC shall be finalized by the submission of a resolution of ratification and an informational application submitted to the chairman of the board of compact administrators. The resolution of ratification shall be signed by the chief administrator of the wildlife agency or licensing authority and shall include the items found in section (b),2 of Article VIII of the WVC.
- C. The effective date of entry shall be specified by the applying state but shall be at least sixty days after notice has been given to each member state by the chairman of the board of compact administrators.
- D. Only violations which are committed on or after the effective date of entry, and resulting suspensions, shall be subject to the provisions of the Compact

II. Withdrawal from the Compact

- A. A member state may withdraw from the WVC by submitting official written notice to the other member states. Such withdrawal shall not be effective until ninety (90) days after such notice is mailed.
- B. Such notice must be directed to the compact administrator of each member state.
- C. The withdrawal of one or more member states shall have no effect on the validity of the WVC as to the remaining member states.

**01.00-K****POINT SYSTEM FOR HUNTING AND/OR FISHING VIOLATIONS**

06-11

The Commission shall assign points to: (1) a person convicted of violating a Commission hunting or fishing regulation (Reference Addendum R1.00); and (2) in accordance with Code 01.00-R to an Arkansas resident convicted of a wildlife offense in another state that is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact. Boating regulation violations are not assigned points. Upon the accumulation of 12 points for hunting and/or fishing violations within a three-year period, the individual will be ineligible to apply for all Commission permit hunts for the following three years. The accumulation of 18 points for hunting and/or fishing violations within a three-year period shall result in the revocation of all hunting and/or fishing licenses and the rights attached thereto for one year, and the accumulation of 30 points within a five-year period shall result in the loss of all licenses and rights for three years. A revocation of hunting and/or fishing licenses and rights occurring for a third time during an individual's lifetime shall result in the lifetime revocation of all hunting and/or fishing licenses and rights.

The Commission shall assign double the normal point value to a person convicted of the following:

- (1) Any violation of harvest regulations or Code 05.32 by a Guide License holder;
- (2) Any violation of trout harvest regulations in a trout catch and release area;
- (3) Any violation of bass harvest regulations on lakes designated as Trophy Bass Management Areas (Lakes Monticello, Lower White Oak, Columbia, SWEPCO, Pickthorne and Austelle); or
- (4) Any violation by an adult 21 years of age or older accompanying a youth.

**01.00-L****DENIAL, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF LICENSES, PERMITS, TAGS AND STAMPS**

10-98

The Director of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission or his designated representative, is authorized to deny, suspend or revoke the license, permit, tag or stamp of any holder, and to deny the application of any applicant, upon proper notice and hearing, in accordance with due process, upon reasonable cause or a showing through the Commission's records or other sufficient evidence that the holder or applicant has met one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) accumulated points for hunting and/or fishing violations in excess of the amounts set forth in Code 01.00-K;
- (2) made a material misrepresentation or practiced fraud or deceit in an attempt to obtain or use a license, permit, tag or stamp;
- (3) permitted a fraudulent or unlawful use of his license, permit, tag or stamp;
- (4) under either federal law or another state's law, has received a lifetime revocation of his or her hunting and/or fishing license, or been convicted within the past three years of a hunting and/or fishing violation, which, if the conviction had been pursuant to Arkansas law, would have been grounds for suspension or revocation; ~~or;~~
- (5) failed to comply with any term of a license, permit, tag or stamp;
- (6) failed to comply with any term of a citation for a hunting and/or fishing violation (including, without limitation, failure to appear in court or to otherwise resolve the case such as by paying a fine); or



(7) has received a suspension or revocation of his or her hunting and/or fishing license by another state that is a member of the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact Act. (Reference Code 01.00-R).

Upon suspension or revocation of any license, permit, tag or stamp, denial of any application or rights attached thereto, the director, or his designated representative, shall notify the holder or applicant in writing. Any holder or applicant desiring a hearing shall notify the Commission in writing within 20 days after receipt of the suspension, revocation or denial notice. Upon receipt of the hearing request, the Commission shall appoint a hearing officer and notify the holder or applicant of the date, time and location of the hearing. The Commission shall cause an official record to be made of the proceedings. Hearings shall be conducted in an informal manner and without necessity of adherence to the rules of evidence required in judicial proceedings. Parties shall have the right to be represented by counsel, to submit evidence in open hearing, compel the attendance of witnesses and to cross-examine any witness at the hearing. Irrelevant, immaterial or unduly repetitious evidence shall be excluded by the hearing officer. Notice may be taken of generally recognized technical or scientific facts within the Commission's specialized knowledge, and the Commission's experience, technical competence and specialized knowledge may be utilized in the evaluation of the evidence. Based upon the evidence in the record of the proceedings, the hearing officer shall affirm, rescind, or modify the suspension or revocation of the license, permit, tag or stamp, or the denial of the application. Decisions of the hearing officer shall be final and shall include findings of fact, conclusions of law and the final order. The parties shall be served either personally or by mail with a copy of the final decision. Any aggrieved party may, within thirty days after service of the decision, file a petition for review in the circuit court of Pulaski County or the county in which they reside if they reside in Arkansas.

#### **01.00-R INTERSTATE WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT**

Subject to all applicable statutes and the constitution of the State of Arkansas, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission has adopted the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (Reference Addendum 1.00) and the Wildlife Violator Compact Operations Manual (Reference Addendum 1.00). The Compact is a voluntary interstate agreement which provides participating states with a mechanism to participate in a reciprocal program to: (1) promote compliance with the statutes, laws, administrative rules and regulations relating to management of wildlife resources in their respective states; and (2) provide for the fair and impartial treatment of wildlife violators operating within the participating states in recognition of the individual's right of due process and the sovereign status of a party state. The Compact Operations Manual establishes the administrative and procedural guidelines for the Commission's participation in the Compact.

In accordance with the Compact and Compact Operations Manual, the Commission may:

(1) recognize the suspension or revocation of a person's hunting and/or fishing licenses by another Compact member state and use the Commission's own

suspension processes in accordance with Code 01.00-L to impose a suspension of the same scope and duration in Arkansas;

- (2) use its own suspension processes in accordance with Code 01.00-L to suspend the Arkansas hunting and fishing licenses of an Arkansas resident who has failed to comply with the terms of a citation for a wildlife offense issued by another Compact member state (including, without limitation, failure to appear in court or to otherwise resolve the case such as by paying a fine), until such time as the resident presents proof of compliance. Any suspension imposed under this provision may be honored by all other Compact member states; and
- (3) treat an Arkansas resident's conviction for a wildlife offense in another Compact member state as if it had occurred in Arkansas and proceed in accordance with Code 01.00-K including, without limitation, assessing the number of points listed for the most similar Arkansas offense and initiating an administrative license suspension as provided in Commission Code 01.00-L.

This code shall not apply to any suspensions or convictions that a person received prior to the effective date of Arkansas joining the Compact on \_\_\_\_\_.

To fulfill its obligations under the Compact, the Commission may share information with the other Compact member states including, without limitation, the following: person's name, date of birth, sex, physical description, and last known address, as well as the details of any citations and convictions for wildlife offenses (copy of the citation, citation number, description of the offense, fine assessed, etc.), the scope of any suspension (i.e. fishing, hunting, trapping, or all licenses), and the effective dates of any suspensions. By purchasing a hunting and/or fishing license from the Commission, all purchasers consent to the Commission sharing such information with Compact member states and others as required by law.

### 05.33

#### **HUNTING OR FISHING WHILE RIGHTS ARE SUSPENDED OR REVOKED PROHIBITED**

05-05

It is unlawful to hunt or trap while hunting rights are suspended or revoked, or fish while fishing rights are suspended or revoked.

**PENALTY: Class 3**

### 05.34

#### **SUSPENSION OF COMMERCIAL WILDLIFE PERMIT RIGHTS**

04-05

It is unlawful to hunt, possess, buy, sell, acquire or dispose of, in any manner, wildlife for commercial purposes, or otherwise exercise the rights of the commercial wildlife permit while those rights are suspended.

**PENALTY: Class 4**