

LEGAL NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be held beginning at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, June 18, 2015, at the Springdale City Hall, 201 Spring Street, Springdale, AR 72764. 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. Additionally, Committee meetings attended by Commissioners and agency staff members will be held throughout the day on Wednesday, June 17, 2015, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the same location, and all interested persons are invited to attend.

Items on the agenda for the June 18, 2015, 9:00 a.m. meeting will include adoption of proposed regulations previously considered at the May 21, 2015, Commission Meeting, plus various Hunting and Enforcement Regulations of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission including, but not limited to:

Miscellaneous Hunting Regulations – Revise and add miscellaneous hunting regulations including, but not limited to, game seasons, wildlife management areas, boating access, weapon restrictions and other manner-of-taking-game requirements for deer, turkey, bear, squirrel, rabbit, and fur bearing animals. Changes to general hunting regulation include, but are not limited to:

- Add new definitions for certain terms, including for “Hazardous Wake”, “Negligent Operation”, and/or “Reckless Operation”;
- Amend regulations for including Jack Mountain WMA leased lands as new wildlife management area, including establishing: WMA hunting seasons for deer, bear, turkey, and other game; leased lands permit requirements and fees; ATV/ motorized vehicle restrictions; horse, mule, and dog restrictions; and other WMA restrictions;
- Delete certain hunting season restrictions on Camp Robinson SUA, including for rabbit, crow, dove, and squirrel hunting;
- Adopt new regulation establishing boating restrictions on certain WMAs, including prohibiting the operation of motorboats or vessels in a reckless or negligent manner and designating penalties for violation;
- Amend regulation for special usage restrictions on certain WMAs and lakes to include access restrictions on Ed Gordon Point Remove and Galla Creek WMAs; and,
- Amend regulation for Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit requirements to allow certain exceptions for facilities accredited by the Zoological Association of America.

Miscellaneous Administrative and Enforcement Regulations – Revise and add miscellaneous administrative and enforcement regulations, including, but not limited to, administrative license suspensions, permitting, hearing procedures, designation of penalty classes and points for hunting, fishing, and boating violations, plus other general regulations. Changes to these regulations include, but are not limited to:

- Amend regulation for penalties upon conviction to revise existing penalty ranges, establish a Class 5 Offense, and clarify language concerning suspension or revocation of hunting and fishing rights, privileges, and related licenses;
- Amend regulation for enhanced penalties to revise existing penalties and establish penalties for Class 5 Offense;
- Amend regulation for point system for hunting, fishing, and boating violations to designate violation points for Class 1 through 5 Offenses and add provisions for assignment and consideration of violation points;
- Amend regulation for denial, suspension or revocation of licenses, permits, tags and stamps to clarify language concerning suspension or revocation of hunting and fishing rights, privileges, and related licenses, to establish periods of suspension and revocation relative to accumulation of violation points, and establish procedure to provide written notice to persons regarding the Commission's intent to suspend or revoke;
- Adopt regulation establishing administrative hearing procedures concerning denial of a Commission-issued license, permit, tag or stamp, or regarding suspension or revocation of hunting and fishing rights, privileges, or related licenses;
- Amend multiple regulations to revise penalties (fines and jail time) and conditions for violations, including fishing license requirements, counterfeiting licenses, non-resident guide license requirements, hunter education certificate requirements, boater education certificate requirements, hunting wildlife in closed season prohibited, night hunting prohibited, selling wildlife restrictions, hunting from a public road or levee prohibited, alligator, bear deer and turkey tagging requirements, big game checking requirements, hunter orange/safety green clothing requirements, endangered species protected, fleeing a wildlife officer prohibited, aiding, accompanying or abetting prohibited, hunting or fishing while rights are suspended or revoked prohibited, hunting, fishing, trapping, releasing hunting dogs or pursuing wildlife with dogs without landowner/lessee permission prohibited, hunting/fishing endangerment prohibited, hunting bear over bait prohibited, hunting turkey over bait prohibited, hunting dog requirements, hunting deer with dogs prohibited, taking of alligator prohibited, disturbing/shooting bears in dens prohibited, taking of raptors prohibited, taking or possessing elk prohibited, outboard motor size and hazardous wake restrictions on commission owned lakes, feral hog restriction on WMAs, guiding prohibited on all commission owned or controlled WMAs, taking fish with electrical devices, firearms, explosives, toxic, stupefying or killing substances prohibited, sale of game or fish prohibited, yo-yo fishing restricted, freefloating fishing devices restricted, sale of bullfrogs prohibited, commercial fishing by non-residents prohibited, resident roe taker/seller permit requirements, resident roe buyer/exporter and non-resident roe buyer/exporter permit requirements, roe buyer/exporter reporting requirements, paddlefish and sturgeon possession restrictions on White River, Arkansas River and border waters, cutting or mutilation of paddlefish and sturgeon prohibited, paddlefish and sturgeon harvest restrictions, mussel shell taker/seller and shell buyer licenses and reporting requirements, aquatic turtle permit requirements, non-resident aquatic turtle dealer permit requirements, commercial aquatic turtle harvest restrictions, aquatic turtle tackle requirements, aquatic turtle transaction and reporting requirements, possession of sport fish by aquatic turtle

harvesters prohibited, taking or possession of alligator snapping turtles prohibited, take of chicken turtles prohibited, importation of alligator snapping turtles and chicken turtles prohibited, boating restrictions below Corp of Engineers dams, boating restrictions on Corp of Engineers lakes, skiing prohibited in Bay Town/Indian Bay area, Skiing restrictions on Mellwood lake, skiing prohibited in White River/Lagru Bayou confluence area, outboard motor restrictions on Buffalo National river, outboard motor restrictions on Eleven Point river, vessel restrictions in Arkansas and White River navigational canal, possession or use of glass containers within the banks of navigable waterways prohibited, commercial fishing for certain fish prohibited in lower Ouachita River and Ouachita River flood plain south of Smackover Creek, Saline River and Saline River flood plain south of U.S. Highway 278;

- Adopt regulation prohibiting violation of regulations while accompanying a person under 16 years of age;
- Amend regulation prohibiting possession or use of glass containers within the banks of navigable waterways to clarify language in accordance with provisions of Arkansas Code § 8-6-418; and,
- Delete existing addendum for points for hunting and fishing violations.

All persons wishing to be heard on these subjects should submit comments in writing to this office before the start of the June 18, 2015, meeting (preferably by 4:30 p.m. on the day before). Any request to make an oral presentation at the meeting should be submitted in writing to this office on or before June 8, 2015. 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.

MIKE KNOEDL, DIRECTOR
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
Game & Fish Commission Building
2 Natural Resources Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205