

LEGAL NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be held beginning at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, May 19, 2016, 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. Additionally, Committee meetings attended by Commissioners and agency staff members will be held throughout the day on Wednesday, May 18, 2016, beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the same location, and all interested persons are invited to attend.

Items on the agenda for the May 19, 2016, 9:00 a.m. meeting will include adoption of proposed regulations previously considered at the April 21, 2016, 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:

2016-2017 General Hunting Regulation – Consider proposed general hunting regulations for 2016-17 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 furbearing animals. Changes to general hunting regulation include, but are not limited to:

- Adopt new regulation to prohibit, after June 30, 2017, possession or use of deer scents and lures that contain natural deer urine or other deer body fluids.
- Amend regulation that prohibits possession or use of certain waterfowl decoys on Commission-owned WMAs to also prohibit mechanical waterfowl decoys on all Commission-owned or controlled WMAs. The amended regulation would prohibit any decoy other than an artificial decoy that imitates the appearance of waterfowl; contains no moving parts or electrical components; and is not subjected to any artificial means that makes it appear to move, splash, or cause ripples on the water. An exception would allow manually operated “jerk strings” to be used to simulate decoy movement.
- Amend regulation for buck deer restrictions on certain WMAs to clarify prohibition to hunt or possess on certain WMAs buck deer that fail to comply with antler restrictions set forth in definition for Legal Buck.
- Amend regulation for archery tackle restrictions to prohibit hunting of any wildlife with arrows propelled from a compressed air system or by action of an explosive or combustible propellant.
- Adopt new regulation to establish definition for “Non-commercial White-tailed Deer Hunting Enclosure Permit” and prohibit hunting white-tailed deer held captive, enclosed or confined for non-commercial purposes without first obtaining such a permit (applicable to high-fenced facilities).
- Amend regulation for deer season and limit restrictions to expand allowing antlerless-only modern gun deer hunting on private lands for deer zones 4, 4A, 4B, 5, 5A, 5B, 7 and 11.
- Amend regulation prohibiting hunting deer with dogs to allow recovery of wounded deer with one unleashed dog.

- Amend regulations for deer season and limit restrictions on WMAs to: (1) extend archery deer season to end of February on Dave Donaldson Black River, Earl Buss Bayou DeView, Freddie Black Choctaw Island East Unit, Robert L. Hankins Mud Creek, St. Francis Sunken Lands, Shirey Bay Rainey Brake, and Wedington WMAs; (2) increase deer bag limit from two deer (no more than one buck) to three deer (no more than one buck), and allow a doe to be taken with modern gun during first two days of modern gun deer season on White Rock WMA; (3) add modern gun Christmas deer hunt on Loafer's Glory WMA; (4) add youth modern gun permit deer hunt during first weekend in January on Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA; (5) clarify that youth hunters are not required to first harvest a doe before harvesting a buck deer during a youth permit deer hunt on Ed Gordon Point Remove, Freddie Black Choctaw Island and Rick Evans Grandview Prairie WMAs and Felsenthal NWR; (6) eliminate existing doe permit requirement and allow a doe to be harvested during muzzleloader season on Caney Creek and Muddy Creek WMAs; (7) allow a doe to be harvested on Bearcat Hollow, Buffalo National River and Gene Rush WMAs during first two days of modern gun season; (8) eliminate permit requirement for modern gun and muzzleloader deer hunts on Moro Big Pine Natural Area WMA; (8) move permit muzzleloader deer hunt on Hobbs State Park-Conservation Area to January 7-11, 2017; (9) reduce one day of modern gun deer permit hunts and one day of muzzleloader deer permit hunts on Fort Chaffee WMA; and (10) add a December youth modern gun permit deer hunt for Rick Evans Grandview Prairie WMA;
- Amend regulations for wild turkey seasons and limit restrictions to: (1) extend spring turkey season to 21 days total, opening on the third Saturday in April annually; and (2) allow hunting turkey in turkey zone 1A.
- Amend regulation prohibiting hunting turkey over bait to decrease penalty to Class 2.
- Amend regulation for restricting migratory game bird shooting hours to delete current exception that limits hours for waterfowl hunting in the St. Francis River Floodway Waterfowl Zone.
- Amend regulations for special usage restrictions on certain WMAs and lakes to: (1) make boating regulations on Beryl Anthony Lower Ouachita WMA consistent with current restrictions on Felsenthal WMA; (2) remove Cypress Bayou, Freddie Black Choctaw Island, Holland Bottoms, Little Bayou and Trusten Holder WMAs from listed WMAs having Common Restriction A boating regulations; (3) allow access by non-motorized boats to water trail on Bell Slough WMA in afternoons during duck season; and (4) reduce waterfowl disturbance by prohibiting afternoon boating access on Dave Donaldson Black River WMA, except within Black River and Little River.
- Amend regulations for quail season and limit restrictions to: (1) increase quail bag limit from four to six on Prairie Bayou WMA; and (2) open quail season on Rick Evans Grandview Prairie and Robert L. Hankins Mud Creek WMAs.
- Amend regulations for rabbit season and limit restrictions to: (1) increase rabbit bag limit from four to eight on Prairie Bayou WMA; and (2) allow rabbit hunting all day and every day during duck season on Harris Brake WMA.
- Amend regulation for bear season and limit restrictions to close bear season during modern gun deer permit hunt on McIlroy Madison County WMA.
- Amend regulation prohibiting taking or harassing ivory-billed woodpeckers to prohibit import/export, transport, selling, purchasing, hunting, taking or attempting to take, and

harassing of any bald or golden eagle or any such eagle part, nest or egg (this is State adoption of the federal Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act).

- Amend regulation prohibiting importation of certain wildlife to include in list of injurious wildlife: reticulated python; DeSchauensee's anaconda; green anaconda; and Beni anaconda.
- Amend regulation for camping restrictions to limit camping on a Commission-owned or controlled property to no more than 30 days during a calendar year.
- Amend regulation for mobility-impaired access permit restrictions to add an additional qualifying health condition for individuals having a permanent physical condition severely impairing the applicant's mobility or that requires permanent use of a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, wheelchair, walker, or other assistive device.
- Amend regulation for feral hog restrictions on WMAs to: (1) add U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-owned WMAs to list of WMAs restricting taking of feral hogs only during modern gun and muzzleloader big game hunting seasons; and (2) expand list of WMAs where feral hog hunting is prohibited.
- Amend regulation for firearm restrictions on WMAs to allow firearms of any caliber to be used for bobcat, fox and coyote hunting on Blue Mountain WMA, Harris Brake WMA, J. Perry Mikles SUA and Nimrod Lloyd Millwood WMA.
- Amend regulation for mourning and Eurasian collared dove season and limit restrictions to add 20 days to dove season.
- Amend regulation for Canada goose season and limit restrictions to extend early Canada goose season to maximum allowed by federal frameworks statewide (season will be entire month of September).
- Amend regulation for licenses to authorize sale of new resident sportsman's combination hunting-and-fishing license for \$35.50 beginning March 2017.
- Amend regulation for prohibiting littering to add penalty class for littering involving hazardous materials, household appliances, electronics, tires, or excessive garbage or bags of trash on WMAs.
- Amend various regulations for Maumelle River WMA to: (1) eliminate deer permit requirement for archery deer hunting; (2) open squirrel season concurrent with statewide season and allow hunting every day of the week; (3) open seasons for hunting dove, furbearers, rabbit, and quail; (4) allow use of shotguns using non-toxic ammunition to take crow, dove, furbearers, quail, rabbit, squirrel, and waterfowl; (5) delete restriction of squirrel hunting during permit deer hunts; and (6) open archery bear season concurrent with Bear Zone 2 archery bear season.
- Amend regulation for boat motor restrictions on certain WMAs to allow boats with surface drive motors up to, but not more than, 37 horsepower.
- Amend regulation for migratory waterfowl hunting access time restrictions on WMAs to prohibit hunters from remaining on water-inundated areas or water courses on WMA after 12:00 p.m. (Central Time) during regular duck season.
- Amend regulation for prohibiting certain waterfowl decoys to prohibit possession of any simulated wing movement decoy or mechanical movement decoy on all Commission-controlled WMAs.
- Amend regulation for boating restrictions on certain WMAs to prohibit operation of motorboats or vessels on listed WMAs in a manner that impedes normal and reasonable movement of boating traffic.

- Amend regulation for bird dog training restrictions to include chukar as a bird allowed for bird dog training and sanctioned field trials, and also amend regulation prohibiting release of wildlife to allow release of chukar for training dogs and conducting sanctioned field trials.
- Amend regulation prohibiting importation of certain living wildlife to allow exception for accredited members of the American Zoo and Aquarium Association.
- Amend regulation restricting methods of taking alligator to allow hunters to report harvest of alligator within 12 hours of harvest.

All persons wishing to be heard on these subjects should submit comments in writing to this office before the start of the April 21, 2016, 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 April 11, 2016. Copies of any proposed rules or regulations may be obtained at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission main office, at www.agfc.com, or through a written request mailed to the address below.

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