

## LEGAL NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be held beginning at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, May 18, 2017, 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 17, 2017, 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 18, 2017, 9:00 a.m. meeting will include adoption of proposed regulations that previously were considered at the April 20, 2017, 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. 2017-2018 General Hunting Regulation** – Adopt proposed general hunting regulations for 2017-18 including, but not limited to, game seasons, bag limits, geographic zones, wildlife management areas (WMAs), weapon restrictions and other manner-of-taking-game requirements for alligator, bear, deer, elk, furbearing animals, quail, rabbit, squirrel, turkey, dove, waterfowl, and other game species. Changes to general hunting regulation include, but are not limited to:

- Amend regulation for WMA permit requirements to eliminate existing Sweet 16 WMA Use Permit and adopt requirement for a new General Use WMA Permit (no fee) applicable for activities on all wildlife management areas.
- Amend regulation for buck deer restrictions on WMAs to remove existing antler restrictions for deer on Lee Creek and McIlroy Madison County WMAs.
- Amend regulations for deer hunting on WMAs to implement a Disabled Military / Mobility-Impaired Modern-Gun Permit hunt on Nimrod Lloyd Millwood WMA.
- Amend regulation for deer season and limit restrictions on WMAs to increase deer bag limit during muzzleloader and modern gun permit hunts on Shirey Bay Rainey Brake and Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMAs.
- Amend regulation to schedule dates for Mobility-Impaired Permit deer hunting for Greers Ferry Lake WMA.
- Amend regulations for bear season and limits to: (1) open Modern-Gun Bear Season for Bear Zones 1 and 2 concurrent with opening dates for Statewide Deer Modern Gun Season, and modify dates for Special Youth Modern-Gun Bear Hunt; (2) restructure Bear Zone 1 quotas to season-based quota rather than a timeframe quota for archery, muzzleloader, and modern-gun bear seasons; and (3) amend Zone Descriptions for Bear Zones 5 and 5A.
- Amend regulations restricting methods of taking alligator and for checking wildlife to require hunters to check a harvested alligator on the day of harvest, unless harvest occurred after 10:00 p.m., in which event the alligator must be checked as soon as possible on the following day.

- Amend regulation for feral hog restrictions on WMAs to modify exceptions to delete some WMAs and add others, and allow feral hogs to be taken with archery tackle on certain WMAs during open bear, deer and elk seasons from Nov. 1 through Dec. 31 during 2017 and 2018.
- Amend regulations for furbearer season and limits on WMAs to close all trapping on Camp Robinson WMA; and also change the dates for the youth modern-gun deer hunt to Oct. 7-8 on Camp Robinson WMA.
- Amend regulation prohibiting certain ammunition for hunting furbearers to clarify that rifles or shotguns of any type and with any ammunition may be used for hunting bobcat, fox or coyote during the day.
- Amend regulations requiring the reporting of a hunting-related incident to also specifically require reporting of a trapping-related incident.
- Amend regulation for hunter orange / safety-green clothing requirements to allow exception for persons hunting raccoon, opossum or bobcat at night.
- Amend regulation prohibiting hunting from a public road or levee to clarify exception allowing use of firearms to dispatch animals caught in legally-set traps.
- Amend regulation requiring tagging of otter and bobcat pelts to delete requirement that Commission employees place tags on the pelts.
- Amend regulation prohibiting baiting and feeding wildlife inside the CWD Management Zone to clarify that bait for trapping on both public and private lands is allowed, but that bait for hunting is allowed only on private lands.
- Amend regulation prohibiting hunting deer with dogs to allow exception for use of up to two dogs while trailing wounded deer.
- Amend regulation for archery tackle restrictions to limit archery equipment to crossbow, compound bow, long bow, and recurve bow only, and provide description of allowable crossbows.
- Amend regulation for Mobility-Impaired Access (MIA) Permit restrictions to require that an MIA Permit helper must remain within eyesight and normal voice range of the permit holder, and allow option for MIA permit holders to use an ATV up to 300 feet from designated MIA Trails and all-weather graveled roads for all hunting.
- Amend regulation for rabbit season and limits on WMAs to open rabbit season all day and every day on Hope Upland and Rick Evans Grandview Prairie WMAs.
- Amend regulation for squirrel season and limits on WMAs to open squirrel season all day and every day on Hope Upland, Rick Evans Grandview Prairie and Lafayette County WMAs.
- Amend regulations for Depredation Permit general provisions and for prohibiting the taking of certain birds and eggs to: (1) clarify that persons who have had their hunting/trapping privileges revoked are not eligible to obtain a Depredation Permit; and (2) revise the permit exceptions to reference proper common bird names.
- Amend regulations for license and permit fees to increase fee amounts for Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit, Game Bird Shooting Resort Permit, Commercial Wildlife Hunting Resort Permit, and Wildlife Importation Permit.
- Amend regulations for Special Commercial Quail Permit and Wildlife Breeder / Dealer Permit to eliminate the Special Commercial Quail Permit and require that purchasers of dressed game birds slaughtered at a Wildlife Breeder / Dealer facility shall be issued a

receipt by the Wildlife Breeder / Dealer Permit holder indicating the name and address of the facility, date of sale, name of purchaser, and the number of and species of dressed birds sold.

- Amend regulation prohibiting possession of certain wildlife in captivity to (1) exempt Coturnix Quail bred to be white; and (2) include squirrel in the list of species that may be held captive on a temporary basis for the sole purpose of dog training or conducting field trials.
- Amend regulation for alligator, bear, deer, and turkey tagging requirements to allow any tag or paper with appropriate information to be attached to legally harvested turkey, deer or bear until the game reaches point of final storage.
- Amend regulations for big game checking to revise checking requirements for alligator, deer, turkey, bear and elk.
- Amend regulation for definition of Portable Hunting Stand to allow more than one person to assist in transport and set-up of hunting stands.
- Amend regulation for Special Youth Modern-Gun Deer Hunt restrictions to add exception allowing hunters, who are not mentoring youths, to harvest deer using archery tackle during the applicable season.
- Amend regulation requiring adult supervision during special youth hunts to prohibit adult mentors from possession of a firearm or archery equipment.
- Amend regulation for dog training restrictions on Camp Robinson SUA to add restrictions for use of SUA compartment 5 (Pepper's Pond).
- Amend regulation establishing wildlife management areas as zones to except from definition of "inholdings" private lands that are completely surrounded by Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission (ANHC) Natural Areas.
- Amend regulation for deer season and limits to require that hunters may possess only one type of weapon during private land antlerless-only modern-gun deer hunt.
- Amend regulation for geocache requirements to eliminate existing permit requirement and prohibit placement of a geocache on Commission-owned WMAs.
- Amend regulations for season restrictions during permit hunts to clarify exception for limited permit hunting of squirrel, rabbit, furbearers, crow, quail and dove hunting on Maumelle River WMA; and amend additional regulations for Maumelle River WMA to clarify that shotguns using legal, non-toxic ammunition may be used to take squirrel, rabbit, furbearer, quail, crow, and dove.
- Amend regulation for migratory waterfowl hunting access time restrictions on WMAs to revise exceptions to allow all-day waterfowl hunting on Blue Mountain WMA, J. Perry Mikles Blue Mountain SUA, and Ozark Lake WMA (except the Dyer Lake waterfowl unit).
- Add regulation prohibiting certain waterfowl decoys to ban motorized decoys on Commission-owned lakes, and include youth waterfowl season and teal season within the time period applicable to the ban.
- Amend regulation for waterfowl hunting permit requirements on certain WMAs to clarify requirements for youth waterfowl hunters on Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms WMA.
- Amend regulation for Mourning and Eurasian Collared Dove season and limits to include White-winged Dove.

- Amend regulation prohibiting waterfowl guiding on all Commissioned-owned or controlled WMAs to apply same prohibition on National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs).
- Amend regulation for boating restrictions on certain WMAs to include all Commission-owned or controlled WMAs, and require that: (1) with the exception of meeting oncoming boats, all boating traffic on the WMA must proceed in single-file with no passing allowed (exception when boats have exited the current direction of travel or are no longer under power); and (2) all boating traffic on the WMA must maintain a minimum distance of 100 feet (approximately 6-boat lengths) between boats proceeding in the same direction of travel.
- Amend regulation for Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit Requirements to: (1) restrict Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit holders located within the CWD Management Zone to movement of captive cervids within the CWD Management Zone only; and (2) require that holders of a Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit for cervids or large carnivores whose facilities are void of their permitted species for one year shall not have their permit renewed.
- Amend regulation establishing the CWD Management Zone to include Van Buren County to the zone.
- Amend regulation for quail season and limits on WMAs to implement a limited permit youth quail hunt on Camp Robinson SUA and J. Perry Mikles Blue Mountain SUA.
- Amend regulations for hunting on wildlife management areas to restrict hunting on Stone Prairie WMA (Faulkner County), including: closing hunting seasons for modern-gun and muzzleloader deer, bear, quail, and alligator; opening hunting seasons for rabbit, squirrel, crow, furbearers, elk, and youth turkey permit hunt; prohibiting the taking of feral hogs during any open season; closing the area to activities with horses and mules; and closing the area to all bird dog training.
- Amend regulation to require payment of application fee for WMA hunting permit applications for deer, elk, alligator and turkey.
- Amend regulation for hunting on wildlife management areas to increase buck deer harvest limit on Lee Creek WMA.
- Amend regulation for special usage restrictions on certain WMAs and lakes to clarify that all weapons are prohibited on Lower DeGray Lake WRA except by permitted participants of special hunts and bowfishing on DeGray Lake.
- Amend regulation for elk hunting season and limits to add a new private land elk season during the first week of October.

**2. Fishing Regulations** – Adopt fishing regulation changes, including amending existing regulations for fishing on Lake Poinsett to remove game fish daily limits effective May 22, 2017.

All persons wishing to be heard on these subjects should submit comments in writing to this office before the start of the May 18, 2017, 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 May 8, 2017. Copies of any proposed rules or regulations may be obtained at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission main office, at [www.agfc.com](http://www.agfc.com), or through a written request mailed to the address below.

JEFF CROW, DIRECTOR  
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission  
Game & Fish Commission Building  
2 Natural Resources Drive  
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205