# ARKANSAS REGISTER



**Contact Person** 

## **Transmittal Sheet**

Use only for FINAL and EMERGENCY RULES

Secretary of State

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For Office Use Only: Effective Date \_\_\_\_\_Code Number \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Agency Department\_\_\_\_\_ Contact E-mail\_\_\_\_\_Phone\_\_\_\_ Statutory Authority for Promulgating Rules \_\_\_\_\_ Rule Title: Intended Effective Date Date (Check One) Legal Notice Published ..... Temergency (ACA 25-15-204) 10 Days After Filing (ACA 25-15-204) Final Date for Public Comment ..... Reviewed by Legislative Council..... Electronic Copy of Rule e-mailed from: (Required under ACA 25-15-218)

#### CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER

E-mail Address

I Hereby Certify That The Attached Rules Were Adopted

In Substantial Compliance with Act 434 of 1967 the Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act. Pursuant to 2011 decision rendered by the Pulaski County Circuit Court and 2000 opinion by the Arkansas Attorney General, the rulemaking requirements in the Arkansas Administrative Procedures Act cannot be constitutionally applied to the AGFC. Nevertheless, the AGFC does substantially comply with the rulemaking provisions under Ark. Code Ann. section 25-15-204 for public notice, opportunity for comment, and filing of all regulations adopted by the Commission.

|              | Signature |                |
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## 01.00-C Definition Of Terms

For the purposes of the Arkansas State Game and Fish Code of Regulations, the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean and include:

**ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY** – Members of active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than for training), may participate.

**ADULT GOBBLER** – Male turkeys having at least 1 of the following characteristics:

- A. Tail feathers which are the same length,
- B. Wing feathers that have white barring all the way to the tip, or
- C. A beard more than 6 inches in length.

**AGFC LICENSE SYSTEM**—The point-of-sale system that the Commission uses to sell and dispense Commission-issued licenses, permits, stamps, tags, and other privileges to the public. **ALLIGATOR DEALER** — Any person, firm, or corporation engaging in the sale, purchase, barter, or exchange of an American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) or other crocodilian species, or any part, nest, or eggs thereof in Arkansas.

**ALLIGATOR FARMER** – Any person, firm, or corporation possessing an American alligator (*Alligator mississippiensis*) or other crocodilian species, or any part, nest or eggs thereof in Arkansas for the purpose of propagation, production, or rearing.

**ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE DEALER** – Any person, firm, or corporation engaged in the sale or purchase of alligator snapping turtles.

**ALLIGATOR SNAPPING TURTLE BREEDER** – Any person, firm, or corporation possessing alligator snapping turtles for the purpose of propagation, production, rearing, or sale.

**ANIMAL** – An organism of the animal kingdom, as distinguished from the plant kingdom, including any part, product, egg, or offspring thereof.

**ANTLERLESS DEER** – A doe or a buck having less than 2 inches of hardened bone antler. **ANTLERLESS ELK** – Any elk (male or female) not meeting requirements to be a legal bull elk.

**AQUACULTURE SPECIES** – Any species listed on the Approved Aquaculture Species List (Addendum Chapter J1.00) and species not listed but allowed under Unlisted or Restricted Species Possession Permits.

**AQUATIC WILDLIFE** – All aquatic species, including aquatic snails, aquatic turtles, crayfish (crawfish and crawdads), fish (including minnows), frogs, mussels, and salamanders. **ARKANSAS RIVER BOUNDARY (Sportfishing Only)** – The Arkansas Post Canal from Norrell Lock and Dam No. 1 to the Arkansas River and the Arkansas River from Wilbur D. Mills Dam No. 2 upstream to the Oklahoma state line, including all lakes, bays, and tributary streams accessible by boat from the main channel except:

- Big Bayou Meto upstream from Arkansas Highway 11;
- Plum Bayou upstream from U.S. Highway 79:
- Little Maumelle River upstream from Pinnacle Mountain State Park;
- Maumelle River upstream from Lake Maumelle Dam;
- Fourche LaFave upstream from Arkansas Highway 113;
- Palarm Creek upstream from Interstate 40;
- Cadron Creek upstream from the weir:
- Point Remove Creek upstream from Arkansas Highway 113;
- Petit Jean River upstream from Pontoon Boat Ramp at Arkansas Highway 154;
- Illinois Bayou upstream from Russellville Waterworks Dam;

Big Piney and Little Piney creeks upstream from Arkansas Highway 359;

- Horsehead Creek upstream from Interstate 40;
- Mulberry River upstream from Interstate 40;
- Frog Bayou upstream from Arkansas Highway 162 and Lee Creek upstream from Lee Creek Dam; and
- From the first non-navigable shoal for streams entering the Arkansas River along the right bank descending from the Oklahoma state line to Lake Dardanelle Dam.

**ARTIFICIAL LURE OR FLY** – Terminal fishing tackle made entirely of rubber, wood, metal, glass, feathers, hair, synthetic fibers, or plastic, with hook attached.

**BAITFISH** – Minnows, logperch, gizzard and threadfin shad, gar (other than alligator gar), bullhead catfish, crayfish, drum, bowfin under 6 inches, skipjack herring, brook and inland silversides, bigmouth, smallmouth and black buffalo, river carpsucker, banded and Ozark sculpin, bream 4 inches and under, and bream over 4 inches that are caught by hook and line. **BAITING** – The direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attractant for wildlife to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

**BIG GAME** – Alligator, black bear, deer, elk, and turkey.

BLACK BASS – Largemouth bass, redeye bass, smallmouth bass, and spotted bass.

**BLOCKING OUT** – The removal of the head or tail associated with the processing of a commercial fish. The blocked-out carcass (bullet) must be at least the minimum length required for the body of water where the commercial fish was harvested (Code <u>30.11</u>).

**BONUS DEER** – A harvested deer that is not included in a hunter's statewide bag limit. **BOX TYPE TURTLE TRAP** – A floating trap designed to capture aquatic turtles, but does not permit capture of fish (Code 34.07).

**BREAM** – A species of the genus Lepomis, including bluegill, redear, warmouth, and other sunfish

**BUCK** – A male deer (see **LEGAL BUCK** definition).

**BUCK DEER SEASON** – A deer season in which no deer other than legal buck deer may be taken.

**BUY** – To purchase, barter, exchange, or trade, including any offer to purchase, barter, exchange, or trade.

**CAPTIVITY OR HOLD CAPTIVE** – The holding of living wildlife in a controlled environment that is manipulated by man for the purpose of exercising ownership, possession, or control of the wildlife, and that has boundaries designed to prevent selected species from entering or leaving the controlled environment.

**CARCASS** – The body of a dead animal.

**CASE** – A container specifically designed to hold a firearm which completely encloses the firearm by being zipped, snapped, buckled, tied, or otherwise fastened with no portion of the firearm exposed.

**CATCH-AND-RELEASE** – The requirement that fish of a designated species must be immediately released into the water where caught.

**CERVID** – A member of the Family Cervidae, including without limitation deer, reindeer, moose, elk, and caribou.

**CHASE FOR PLEASURE** – To search for, pursue, or chase game animals or other wildlife with the use of dogs for recreational purposes only, with no intent of hunting such game animals or wildlife.

CHECKING WILDLIFE – The accurate and complete reporting of specific information to the Commission concerning harvest of alligator, bear, deer, elk, and turkey by one of the following methods: phoning a designated number to report bear, deer, or turkey harvests, or electronically through the Commission's online deer, bear, elk, alligator, and turkey checking web site or mobile applications.

**CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD)** – Fatal disease affecting the brain of cervids that belongs to a group of diseases called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.

**CHUMMING** – To dislodge or deposit any substance not attached to a hook which may attract fish.

**CITES TAG** – A permit that allows shipping of certain animal pelts outside the State of Arkansas and assures compliance with the Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species.

**CLEAN** – Having no meat matter or tissue attached to the carcass.

**COMPUTER-ASSISTED HUNTING** – The use of a computer or any other device, equipment, or software to remotely control the aiming and discharge of a firearm, bow, or crossbow to kill wildlife located in Arkansas.

**COMMERCIAL FISH** – Bowfin (over 6 inches), paddlefish, shovelnose, sturgeon, and all species of buffalo, catfish, carp, drum, gar, and sucker family (except silver redhorse).

**COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN** – Any person who fishes with tackle designated as commercial tackle requiring a license or tag issued by the Commission.

**COMMERCIAL TACKLE** – Properly licensed tackle used to catch aquatic wildlife for commercial purposes.

**COMMERCIAL WILDLIFE HUNTING RESORT** – A facility, location, business, or operation that offers, for pay or other consideration, an opportunity to hunt native wildlife, other than pen-raised game birds, held in captivity. Includes all contiguous land, structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land, used for the hunting activities.

COMMERCIAL WILDLIFE PERMIT – Any or all of the following permits: Alligator Farmer/Dealer, Alligator Snapping Turtle Breeder/Dealer, Resident Shell Taker and Seller, Shell Buyer, Non-Resident Shell Buyer, Resident Roe Taker/Seller, Resident Roe Buyer/ Exporter, Non-Resident Roe Buyer, Resident Fur Dealer, Non-Resident Fur Dealer, Special Commercial Quail, Game Bird Shooting Resort, Commercial Wildlife Hunting Resort, Wildlife Breeder/Dealer, and Wildlife Importation.

**COMMISSION** – The Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission, unless otherwise designated.

**CONSERVATION CARD**– A physical card that the Commission issues to a person and that is linked to that person's AGFC licenses, permits, stamps, and tags. Before engaging in an activity requiring an AGFC license, permit, stamp, or tag, the cardholder must purchase and verify issuance and valid expiration date of all required AGFC licenses, permits, stamps, and tags via www.agfc.com or 1-800-364-GAME. The card itself is not a license and conveys no independent right or privilege beyond the extent of any license, permit, stamp, or tag that has been linked to the card by purchase and has not been suspended, revoked, or expired.

**DEFERRED HUNTER EDUCATION (DHE)** – Designates a holder of a valid Arkansas hunting license/permit who has deferred completion of the hunter education program.

**DISABLED** – Any individual who is 100% permanently and totally disabled as declared by one or more of the following federal agencies: the U.S. Social Security Administration, the U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs, or the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board.

**DISABLED VETERAN**– Any individual who is a resident of Arkansas and a military veteran, who has been determined by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to have a:

- A. 100% total and permanent service-connected disability rating (applies to licenses VLF, VLH, VLC, VLD, and VLT in Addendum D1.01); or
- B. 70% or higher service-connected disability rating (applies to license VLL in Addendum D1.01); or
- C. 50%or higher service-connected disability rating and is a recipient of the Purple Heart medal (applies to license VLL in Addendum <u>D1.01</u>).

**DOE** – A female deer.

**DOE DEER SEASON** – A deer season in which a doe may be taken.

**DROWNING SET** – Any leg-hold trap that uses one or more of the following techniques to retain the target animal in water of suitable depth for drowning: a slide wire with lock, a tangle stake, or a drowning weight.

**DUCKS**– All species of teal, merganser, whistling duck, scaup, American wigeon, American black duck, bufflehead, canvasback, gadwall, common goldeneye, mallard, mottled duck, northern shoveler, redhead, ring-necked duck, ruddy duck, northern pintail, and wood duck. **EDIBLE PORTIONS** – Portions of the following animals are considered edible as stated below:

- A. Game Mammals: front quarters, hind quarters, loins, and tenderloins.
- B. Game Fish: fillets of fish.
- C. Game Birds: breasts.
- D. Frogs: hind legs.
- E. Alligators: tails, legs, flanks, loins, and tenderloins.

**EITHER-SEX** – A male or a female.

**EITHER-SEX DEER SEASON** – A deer season in which a doe or a legal buck may be taken.

### **EMERGENCY CONDITION** – Any condition involving:

- A. Imminent peril to the health, safety, or welfare of the public or the wildlife resources of the State; or
- B. Immediate action mandated by federal law or regulation.

**ENCLOSE** – To surround wildlife using man-made barriers, including but not limited to fencing, walls, structures, or other devices, so that the wildlife are not free to leave a particular environment.

**ENCLOSURE** – Any area surrounded by a man-made barrier, including but not limited to fencing, walls, structures, or other devices that prevent wildlife from leaving a particular environment.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES** – A wildlife species or subspecies endangered or threatened with extinction that is listed or proposed as a candidate for listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or any native species or subspecies listed as endangered by the Commission (Addendum Chapter <u>P1.00</u>).

**FALCONRY** –The caring for and training of raptors for pursuit of wild game, and hunting wild game with raptors. It includes the taking of raptors from the wild to use in the sport and caring for, training, and transporting raptors held for falconry.

**FEDERAL WATERS** – Waters designated by federal law as federally controlled or under the jurisdiction of a department or agency of the United States Government.

**FEE LAKE** – A lake in which there is a fee for fishing rights. All persons 16 years of age and older must possess an Arkansas fishing license. Daily limits apply.

**FEEDING WILDLIFE**— The direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that serves or could serve as a lure, attractant, or supplemental food source for wildlife.

**FERAL HOG** – Any hog, including but not limited to Russian and European wild boar, any Old World swine, or the family Tayassuidae, including without limitation peccary, javelin, and New World swine, which is roaming freely and is living in a wild or feral state, and is not conspicuously identified as required under Arkansas Code Annotated § 2-34-101 and § 2-34-102.

**FIREARM** – Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile through a barrel, including without limitation modern guns, air guns and muzzleloaders (see **LOADED FIREARM**).

**FISH OR FISHING** – To lure, attract, collect, or pursue fish species or aquatic wildlife for the purpose of taking or attempting to take such species by any method.

FISH DEALER – Any person who sells live fish, including baitfish.

**FISH FARM** – Waters and adjacent premises confined within a pond, tank, or lake, not connected with public waters and under management of a fish farmer.

**FISH FARMER (AQUACULTURIST)** – A person, firm, partnership, or corporation engaged in the propagation or rearing of aquaculture species for sale.

**FREEFLOATING FISHING DEVICE** – A floating fishing device unanchored or unattached to a stationary object.

**FURBEARERS** – Badger, beaver, bobcat, coyote, gray fox, red fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, raccoon, river otter, spotted skunk, striped skunk, and weasel.

**GAFF** – To take or attempt to take fish with a hand-held or handled hook.

**GAME ANIMALS** – Alligator, black bear, bobcat, coyote, deer, elk, gray fox, red fox, mink, opossum, eastern cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, raccoon, gray squirrel, and fox squirrel.

**GAME BIRD SHOOTING RESORT** – A facility, location, business, or operation that offers, for pay or other consideration, an opportunity to hunt captive-raised game birds. Includes all contiguous land, structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land used for the hunting activities.

**GAME BIRDS** – Turkey, northern bobwhite quail, pheasant, chukar Eurasian collared dove, and all birds classified by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as migratory game birds.

**GAME FISH** – Alligator gar, black bass, white bass, striped bass, hybrid striped bass, crappie, catfish, trout, bream (*Lepomis sp.*), rock basses (*Ambloplites sp.*), walleye, muskellunge, sauger, saugeye, paddlefish, and pickerel.

**GEOCACHE** – Items in a container (cache) placed or hidden for individuals to subsequently find using a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver.

**GEOCACHING** – An outdoor sport, similar to "high-tech treasure hunting," involving use of a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver to find a cache.

**GUIDE** – A person who provides, for monetary or any other compensation, that person's personal services for the purpose of assisting others to locate, pursue, catch, or hunt wildlife.

**HACKING** – The temporary release of a raptor held for falconry to the wild so that it must survive on its own.

**HARASS** – An intentional or negligent act which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavioral pattern which include but are not limited to breeding, feeding, or sheltering.

**HAZARDOUS WAKE** – Wash or wake upon an approaching, passing, or stationary vessel, including but not limited to a wake that causes other vessels to take on water, or a wash or wake that is sufficient to toss occupants of other vessels about in a manner that causes injury or the risk of injury.

**HARVEST/HARVESTING** – To reduce to possession.

**HEN TURKEY** – Female turkey with or without a beard.

HIGH-FENCE ENCLOSURE – An enclosure that contains an area of at least 500 contiguous acres, with at least 60 percent of the acreage in forested cover that has been classified as timberland by the local county tax assessor, that has a perimeter fence at least 8 feet high, with no cross-fencing that has the effect of reducing the size of the area to less than 500 contiguous acres with at least 60 percent of the acreage in forested cover as herein provided.

**HOGGING** – The taking of fish by the use of hands only, in or under the water.

**HUNT OR HUNTING** – Taking or attempting to take wildlife by any method including but not limited to searching, pursuing, chasing, tracking, luring, or attracting.

**HUNTING INCIDENT** – When bodily injury above basic first aid or death occurs due to an activity directly related to a hunting or trapping excursion in the field. Examples of such activities would include discharge of a firearm, bow, or crossbow, and falls from an elevated platform (tree stand, tower stand, or elevated duck blind).

**HUNTING PARTY** – 2 or more persons hunting together.

**HYBRID RAPTORS** – A raptor produced from cross-breeding birds of two different taxa, one or both of which are listed in <u>50 CFR 10.13</u>, and any offspring of such raptors.

**IMPORT OR IMPORTATION** – To ship, convey, carry, transport, bring, or introduce into

Arkansas anything from outside its borders.

**IMPRINT** – A bird that is hand-raised in isolation from other raptors from 2 weeks of age until it has fledged and will be considered to be an imprinted bird for its entire life.

**JAKE** – Sub-adult male turkey having all these characteristics:

- A. Longer central tail feathers,
- B. Outermost one or two wing feathers lacking white barring all the way to the tip, and
- C. A beard 6 inches or less in length.

**KILLING DEVICE** – Any firearm, bow and arrow, crossbow, compressed gas or spring-powered pistol or rifle, blowgun, speargun, hand-thrown spear, slingshot, irritant gas device, explosive device, or any other implement designed to discharge a projectile capable of killing wildlife.

**LARGE CARNIVORE** – Tigers (*Panthera tigris*), African Lions (*Panthera leo*), or any hybrid thereof, and all species of bears (family *Ursuidae*)..

**LEGAL BUCK** – A male deer may be considered legal under the following rules as applied by this Code:

- A. **Antlered Buck:** A male deer with 2 inches, or more, of hardened bone antler.
- B. Buck of Choice: A male deer.
- C. **Button Buck:** A male deer with less than 2 inches of hardened boned antler.
- D. **3-point Rule:** A male deer having both antlers under 2 inches (including button buck) or at least 1 antler with at least 3 points, each a minimum of 1 inch long, including the tip of the main beam. (Code <u>21.03</u>).

#### E. 12/15 Rule:

- 1. A male deer having both antlers under 2 inches (including button buck),
- 2. A male deer having an inside spread of at least 12 inches or more in width, or
- 3. A male deer having at least one main beam 15 inches or more in length (Code 21.03).

#### F. 15/18 Rule:

- 1. A male deer having both antlers under 2 inches (including button buck),
- 2. A male deer having an inside spread of at least 15 inches or more in width, or
- 3. A male deer having at least one main beam 18 inches or more in length. (Code 21.03).
- G. **WMA Special Restrictions:** Special restrictions may apply on certain WMAs (Code <u>21.03</u>).

**LEGAL BULL ELK** – An elk having at least 1 antler visible above the hair line. **LEGAL TURKEY** – A turkey may be considered legal under the following rules as applied by this Code:

- A. Hunters 16 years and older: A legal turkey is an adult gobbler.
- B. Hunters 6 to 15 years of age: A legal turkey is an adult gobbler or jake.

#### **LENGTH LIMITS –**

- A. **Minimum Length Limit:** The shortest length of a fish of a designated species that can be kept.
- B. **Maximum Length Limit:** The maximum length of a fish of a designated species that can be kept.
- C. **Protected Length:** A species/size limit that prohibits anglers from keeping fish within a designated size group.

Unless otherwise specified, all fish are measured from the front of the lower jaw with the mouth closed to the tip of the tail with tail lobes pressed together when laid flat on a rule, on its

side. All fish not meeting the length limit requirements for a particular water or species must be immediately released into the water where caught.

#### LIMITS -

- A. **Daily Limit:** The maximum number of a species allowed to be taken during a specific 24-hour time period (midnight to midnight, unless otherwise specified).
- B. **Seasonal Limit:** The maximum number of a species allowed to be taken during a specific season.
- C. **Possession Limit:** The maximum number of species allowed to be possessed at any time. Any fish or wildlife, excluding migratory game birds, legally taken for personal consumption and stored in processed form within a residence of the possessor shall not count toward the possession limit.

**LITTER** – All waste which has been discarded or otherwise disposed of, including but not limited to, convenience food and beverage packages or containers, trash, garbage, all other product packages or containers, and other post-consumer solid wastes as referenced in State Law, or discarded animal carcasses.

**LOADED FIREARM**– Firearms are considered loaded if shells or cartridges are in the chamber, magazine, or cylinder. Percussion cap muzzleloading firearms are considered loaded if the percussion cap is on the nipple. Flintlock muzzleloading firearms are considered loaded if there is powder in the flashpan. Electronic pulse ignition muzzleloaders are considered loaded if the ignition circuit is charged.

MEDICALLY SIGNIFICANT VENOMOUS REPTILE SPECIES – The following reptiles, including their taxonomic successors, subspecies, or hybrids thereof, are designated as medically significant: Daboia russelii, Dendroaspis spp., Naja spp., Oxyuranus spp., Pseudonaja spp., Notechis spp., Pseudochis spp., Boulengerina spp., Echis spp., Bothrops spp., Aspidelaps spp., Atheris spp., Proatheris spp., Dispholidus spp., Pseudohaje spp., Atropoides spp., Crotalus spp., Lachesis spp., Walterinnesia spp., Calliophis spp. or Maticora spp., Bungarus spp., Ophryacus spp., Porthidium spp., Deinagkistrodon spp., Azemiops spp., Bitis spp., Gloydius spp., Protobothrops spp., Vipera spp., Ophiophagus spp., Vermicella spp., Eristocophis spp., Cerrophidion spp., Ovophis spp., Trimeresurus spp., Tropidolaemus spp., Sistrurus spp., Agkistrodon spp., Bothrocophias spp., Bothriechis spp., Hypnale spp., Bothriopsis spp., Calloselasma spp., Mixcoatlus spp., Cerastes spp., Pseudocerastes spp., Micrurus spp., Micruroides spp., and subfamily Hydrophiinae and Heloderma spp.

**MIGRATORY BIRDS** – All birds protected by the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 and subsequent amendments.

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS** – Coots, crows, doves, Eurasian collared doves, ducks, gallinules or moorhens, geese, rails, snipe, and woodcock.

**MILITARY RETIREE** – Any individual at least 60 years of age who is entitled to retired pay as a result of his or her United States military service.

**MINNOWS** – Small nongame fish commonly used for bait including bluntnose minnows, bullhead minnows, chubs, dace, fatheads, common carp under 6 inches, goldfish, shiners, and stonerollers

**MOBILITY IMPAIRED** – A designation made by the Commission based upon a satisfactory showing that a person has a permanent physical condition, verified by a physician duly licensed to practice medicine by a state medical board, which severely impairs the person's mobility and prevents him or her from being able to engage in hunting or fishing activities without the use of an ATV or similar specialized device for transportation.

**NATIVE WILDLIFE** – Those species and sub-species of wildlife that have established, naturally reproducing, free-ranging, wild populations within Arkansas.

**NIGHT** – The time period 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.

**NOODLING** – The taking of fish by the use of a pole-mounted breakaway hook that detaches at the time of the strike or catch, or snare type device, with an attached line manipulated by hand when a person is in or under the water.

**NONGAME WILDLIFE** – All wildlife other than furbearing or game animals, game birds, and game fish.

**NON-NATIVE WILDLIFE** – Any wildlife not defined as native wildlife.

**NONRESIDENT** – A person not defined as a resident.

**NUISANCE WILDLIFE** – Any wildlife creating a problem by committing damage to personal property or crops.

**OPEN SEASON** – A time frame established by the Commission during which a designated species may be lawfully taken.

**PEN-RAISED QUAIL** – Northern bobwhite raised or hatched in captivity.

**PERSON** – Any individual, firm, corporation, association, partnership, or other legal entity in singular or plural as the context requires. All pronouns shall include the masculine, feminine, and neuter.

**PORTABLE HUNTING STAND** – Any device or structure used for the purpose of hunting that can be carried in its entirety and erected by hand, including but not limited to tripod stands, lean-to stands, lock-on stands, ladder stands, and climbing stands (box stands are not portable hunting stands).

**PORTABLE POP-UP BLIND** – A structure used to conceal a person that can be collapsed and carried in its entirety by 1 person.

**POSSESS OR POSSESSION** –Having or holding wildlife or any property in one's power; the exercise of dominion over property. Possession includes actual possession (physical occupancy or control over property) and constructive possession (control or dominion over property without actual possession or custody of the property).

**PRIMATE** – A live individual animal of the taxonomic order Primates, excluding humans. **PROPAGATE OR PROPAGATION** – To allow plants or animals to breed or multiply.

**PUBLIC ROAD** –The traveled portion and the shoulders on each side of any road maintained for public travel by a city, county, state, or federal government and includes all structures within the limits of the right-of-way of any such road.

**PUBLIC WATERS** – Waters that members of the public have a legal right to access and use for recreational purposes, including all legally navigable waters.

**PUT-AND-TAKE PAY LAKE** – Private waters open to public fishing for a fee, after being licensed by the Commission and where no fishing license or daily limit of fish is imposed. **PAPTOP** Migratory bird of the Order Falconiformes. A ccipitriformes, or the Order

**RAPTOR** – Migratory bird of the Order Falconiformes, Accipitriformes, or the Order Strigiformes.

**REAR OR REARING** – To maintain plants or animals to increase their size or development. **REHABILITATION** – Providing medical treatment or other care to orphaned, sick, or injured wild animals that have come into human possession with the goal of returning the animal to the wild.

**RESIDENCE** —Any dwelling such as a house, manufactured home, or apartment that is permanently fixed in place and is owned, leased, or rented fully or in part by an individual. This term does not include tents; temporary lodging or rental units such as hotels, motels, resorts, or commercial campgrounds; recreational vehicles; mobile travel trailers; or motor vehicles.

#### **RESIDENT** -

A. A natural person whose domicile currently is in Arkansas and has been for at least 60 consecutive days. "Domicile" means the one and only place where a person has physically established a true, fixed and permanent home, and to where, whenever the person is briefly and temporarily absent, the person intends to return. Children younger than 18 are presumed to have the same resident status as their custodial parent or legal

guardian unless otherwise documented. A person is not considered a resident under this Code if the person:

- 1. Resides in the state only for a special or temporary purpose, but not limited to, engaging in hunting, fishing, or trapping, or
- 2. Has been issued any resident license, permit, or tag (except ones that are designated as non-expiring) to hunt, fish or trap in another state or country that is still valid in that state or country.
- B. The following persons also qualify as a "resident" under this Code:
  - 1. Residents of Arkansas enrolled as full-time students in colleges and universities outside of Arkansas.
  - 2. Nonresidents enrolled as full-time students in colleges and universities in Arkansas.
  - 3. Nonresident foreign exchange students attending school in Arkansas.
  - 4. Resident foreign exchange students attending school outside of Arkansas.
  - 5. Active-duty military personnel assigned to duty stations in Arkansas.
  - 6. Active-duty military personnel who were Arkansas residents at the time of entering service, regardless of where currently stationed.
  - 7. Members of the National Guard who are assigned to an Arkansas Guard Unit.
  - 8. Nonresidents residing and working at least 60 consecutive days in Arkansas pursuant to a written commitment as full-time employees or volunteers of a nonprofit charitable organization (other than one established principally for the recreational benefit of its stockholders or members) that (a) is registered and in good standing with the Arkansas Secretary of State, and (b) has received a 501(c)(3) designation from the United States Internal Revenue Service.
- C. Applicants for Commission-issued resident, licenses, permits, and tags have the burden of proving they qualify as a "resident" under this Code. Facts that may be considered in establishing proof of current Arkansas residency for the purpose of purchasing Commission-issued resident licenses, permits, and tags include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Possession of a valid Arkansas driver's license or official, state-issued Arkansas identification card:\*
  - 2. Possession of a valid Arkansas vehicle registration in the applicant's name and display of current Arkansas license tags on the applicant's vehicle;\*
  - 3. Two documents bearing the applicant's current name and address, not issued by himself or herself, including but not limited to:
    - i. Arkansas voter registration card,\* and
    - ii. Income tax returns issued by the Internal Revenue Service and/or the State of Arkansas.
  - 4. Documentation from a college or university in Arkansas verifying that the applicant currently is enrolled as a full-time student;
  - 5. Documentation from any branch of the United States Military or the duty station or unit in Arkansas; and
  - 6. In the case of a child under 18, identification from a parent or legal guardian proving the parent or legal guardian qualifies as a "resident" under this Code.
  - \*Items marked with a \* must have been issued at least 60 days prior to the license, permit, or tag application.
- D. Additionally, to be eligible to be issued any of the following resident licenses, permits, or tags, an Arkansas resident must provide proof that he or she has qualified as a "resident" under this Code for at least the past 1 continuous year;
  - 1. All Non-Expiring Lifetime Licenses and Permits (Addendum D1.01);
  - 2. Resident Special Guide License (Code 03.14);
  - 3. Alligator Farmer/Dealer Permit (Code <u>33.01</u>);
  - 4. Alligator Snapping Turtle Breeder/Dealer Permit (Code 34.02);
  - 5. Commercial Fisherman's Permit & Sportfishing License (Code <u>30.01</u>);
  - 6. Commercial Fisherman's Helper Permit (Code <u>30.01</u>);

Junior/Senior Commercial Fishing Permit (Code 31.01);

- 8. Resident Shell Taker/Seller's License (Code 31.01);
- 9. Shell Taker Helper Permit (Code <u>31.01</u>);
- 10. Shell Buyer's License (Code 31.01);
- 11. Resident Fish Dealer License (Code <u>31.01</u>);
- 12. Resident Roe Taker/Seller Permit (Code 30.17);
- 13. Resident Roe Taker/Helper Permit (Code 30.17); and
- 14. Resident Roe Buyer/Exporter Permit (Code 30.18)
- E. The Commission's director or his or her representative shall make the final determination as to whether a license, permit, or tag applicant qualifies as a "resident" under this Code.

**ROUGH FISH** – Gars, bowfin, bullhead catfish, common carp, Asian carp (grass carp, bighead carp, silver carp), suckers (including buffalo), drum, and yellow bass.

**SEINE** – A fishing net that hangs vertically in the water where the ends can be drawn together to entrap fish.

**SEINING** – The act of moving a seine by boat or human power to capture fish.

**SELL OR SALE** – To exchange or deliver for money or its equivalent; to offer for sale, barter, exchange, or trade; or the act of selling, bartering, consigning, exchanging, or trading.

**SHELL BUYER** – Anyone who buys mussels or mussel parts from a Taker. An agent purchasing for a licensed buyer is not a buyer.

**SIMULATED WING MOVEMENT DECOY** –Any electric, mechanically-operated, wind-powered, or manually-powered apparatus or device that simulates wing movement, including any device that spins one or more fixed- or stationary-winged decoys around a central axis.

**SMALLGAME** – Furbearers, migratory game birds, quail, rabbit, and squirrel.

**SNAG** –To take fish or other aquatic animals using conventional rod-and-reel tackle by a repeated drawing motion rather than enticement by live bait or artificial lure, regardless of what terminal tackle is attached to the fishing line.

**SNAGLINE** – Commercial tackle consisting of a horizontal line with hooks or drops less than 24 inches apart.

SPORTFISH - See GAME FISH.

**TACKLE** – An apparatus or device used to take wildlife.

**TAKE** – To shoot, kill, injure, trap, net, snare, spear, catch, capture, or reduce to possession.

**TAXIDERMY** – The art of preparing, stuffing, or mounting wildlife and parts thereof.

TRAP OR TRAPPING – A device to catch and hold wildlife.

**TROUT** – Any members of the Salmonidae family including rainbow trout, brown trout, brook trout, lake trout, cutthroat trout, salmon, and char.

**VESSEL** – Every description of watercraft, other than a seaplane on the water, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation, including motorboats and personal watercraft.

**VETERAN** – (As defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) served in the active military, naval, air service or Reserves or National Guard serving on title 32 orders in a combat zone and was discharged or released under Honorable.

**WATERFOWL** – All species of coots, ducks, geese, and swans.

WATERS OF THE STATE – All streams, lakes, ponds, sloughs, bayous, marshes, or any other waters either permanent or intermittent located wholly or partially within Arkansas. Provided, however, "waters of the state" shall not include pay lakes and fish farms or any waters that are confined within a pond, tank, or lake, situated entirely on the premises of a single private owner and which, except under abnormal flood conditions, are not connected with any of other flowing stream or body of water that extends beyond the premises of such owner.

**WILD** – To be living in a state of nature and not domesticated.

WILDLIFE – All wild birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, amphibians, other wild aquatic forms,

and all other wild animals, regardless of classification, whether resident, migratory or imported, protected or unprotected, dead or alive, and shall extend to and include any and every part of any individual species of wildlife, including animals living in a captive state.

WILDLIFE CHECK METHODS – The following are the official wildlife check methods:

- A. The Commission's online deer, elk, bear, and turkey checking web site and mobile applications;
- B. The Commission's online alligator checking website; and
- C. The designated bear checking telephone number or the designated deer, bear, and turkey checking telephone number.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA) – Designated areas owned or controlled by the Commission and distinguished by certain markers and considered a separate zone with regard to wildlife regulations including: wildlife management area (WMA), waterfowl rest area (WRA), wildlife demonstration area (WDA), special use area (SUA), and state park-conservation area (SP-CA).

#### YOUTH-

- A. For sections of this Code pertaining to big game, "youth" means any individual between the ages of 6 and 15 years old.
- B. For all other sections of this Code, "youth" means any individual less than 16 years of age.

**ZONE** – An area defined by the Commission where hunting or fishing activities are regulated.

2020-2021 General Hunting

### Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Little Rock, Arkansas

SUBJECT:

20-021

MINUTE ORDER NO:

Fiscal

| DATE PASSED:                                    |               | Ma  | y 21, 2020   |  | Regulation                                      | ns Approval   |
|---|---------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| PAGE 1  | of of         | 1   | PAGES  | LOCATION:  | Statewide                                       |   |
| WHEREAS,  |               | regulation<br>geograph<br>captive w                       | ns for 2020-20<br>ic zones, wildl<br>ildlife, and ma<br>aring animals, | 21 Hunting Seaso<br>ife management ar<br>nner-of-taking-gar    | ns, including<br>eas, boating a<br>ne requireme | Thave proposed the attached g game seasons, bag limits, access, weapon restrictions, ents for alligator, bear, deer, dove, waterfowl, and other |
| Whereas,  |               | nrough a variety of media<br>out the state for review and |  |  |   |   |
| WHEREAS,  |               | staff, as<br>determine<br>manageme                        | well as commed that the attace<br>ent and are con                      | ments received fr<br>ched regulations pr<br>nsistent with Amer | om the pub<br>comote sound<br>adment 35 of      | e Director and Commission polic, the Commission has d wildlife conservation and f the Arkansas Constitution application statewide.              |
| Now, THEREF<br>Commission he<br>immediately upo | ereby a       | BE IT ORD   | ERED this 21s  | st day of May 202<br>e attached regula                         | 20 that the                                     | Arkansas Game and Fish shall become effective   |
| BE IT FURTHER filing the attach                 | R ORDE        | RED that th   | e Commission   | n staff is authorized  | e Library, a                                    | with legally certifying and and Bureau of Legislative lum.  |
|   | STAF          | F APPROVA   | AL   | COMMISSION   | N APPROVAI                                      | L   |
| Submitted by:                                   | Brad<br>Chief | Carner  |  | Ken Reeves<br>Chairman   | by C.C.   | Slan Joses Stan Jones Commissioner  |
| Division:                                       | Wildl         | ife Manage  | ement  | Andrew   | Parke   | J.D. Nuley  |
| Approved:<br>Approved:                          | Direct        |   | <u></u>  | Andrew Park Vice Chairma Joe Morgan Commissione Bobby Martir   | engen<br>by C.C.                                | J.D. Neeley Commissioner  Ann. Merie Dorema Anne Marie Doramus Commissioner  by C.  |
| Approved:                                       | _             |   |  | Commissione  |   | C.  |

#### FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

#### PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

(Attach additional pages if needed)

**DEPARTMENT:** Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

**DIVISION:** Wildlife Management

PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT: Mark Hutchings/Matthew Warriner

EMAIL: mark.hutchings@agfc.ar.gov / matthew.warriner@agfc.ar.gov

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE: 2020-2021Hunting, WMA, Captive Wildlife and

Miscellaneous Regulation Proposals.

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation have a financial impact? Yes: X No:

- 2. Do you believe that the development of a financial impact statement is so speculative as to be cost prohibitive? Yes: X No: If "Yes," please explain: the financial impact of many of the regulation changes is not easily quantifiable due to the nature of the proposed changes.
- 3. If the purpose of this rule is to implement a **federal** rule or regulation, please give the incremental cost for implementing the regulation. Please indicate if the cost provided is the cost of the program.

| Current Fiscal Year | Next Fiscal Year       |    |
|---------------------|------------------------|----|
| General Revenue     | \$<br>General Revenue  | \$ |
| Federal Funds       | \$<br>Federal Funds    | \$ |
| Cash Funds          | \$<br>Cash Funds       | \$ |
| Special Revenue     | \$<br>Special Revenue  | \$ |
| Other (Identify)    | \$<br>Other (Identify) | \$ |
| Total               | \$<br>Total            | \$ |

What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any party subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule? (Estimated cost includes fees, administrative penalties, reporting, record keeping, equipment, construction, labor, professional services, revenue loss, or other costs associated with compliance.) Identify the party subject to the proposed rule, and explain how they are impacted.

Current Fiscal Year: N/A Next Fiscal Year: Unknown

Amend existing and adopt new regulations including:

- Adopt a quota system for alligator hunting on private lands Alligator Zones 1, 2 and 3
- Increase bear quota in Bear Zone 1 (Ozarks) from 340 to 500
- Reduce the Public Land Elk Quota by 3 either sex and 3 antlerless permits
- Reduce the Private Land Elk Quota from 12 bulls to 10 bulls and from 40 antierless elk to
- Require all Deer, Turkey, Bear, Alligator, and Elk to be checked within <u>12</u> hours from the time of harvest

- Require all hunters (including youth) to obtain a Customer Identification Number (CID) in order to check game or apply for permit hunts
- Simplify turkey regulations by reducing the number of turkey zones from 18 to 2 zones (by county)
- Restrict the harvest of bearded hens
- Reduce bag limits for wild turkeys on all Wildlife Management Areas from 2 to 1 legal turkey
- Allow hunters to harvest only 1 turkey during the first seven days of the season and establish a 1 bird bag limit during the special youth turkey hunt.
- Move turkey season to the third Monday in April, and extend season length in proposed Zone 2 to 21 days with a 2 bird bag limit. Proposed Zone 1 will retain the conservative 9 day season and 1 bird bag limit.
- Create a youth and regular permit turkey hunt on Devil's Eyebrow Natural Area
- Create a new youth permit turkey hunt on Shirey Bay Rainey Brake WMA
- Combine Deer Zones 8 and 8A
- Combine Deer Zones 1A, 6, and 6A
- Combine Deer Zones 4 and 4B and align modern gun deer season with zone 4B (extending from 2 days to 9 days)
- Combine Deer Zones 5 and 5B and align modern gun deer season with Zone 5B (extending from 4 days to 9 days)
- Increase bag limits for Deer Zones 3,6,6A,7,8,8A,10,11, and 13 from 4 deer to 5 deer
- Reduce the aggregate bag limit in Deer Zone 12 and Deer Zone 17 from six deer to five deer
- Create a new muzzleloader deer hunt at Bell Slough WMA
- Create a new modern gun mobility impaired hunt for deer and bear on Bearcat Hollow WMA
- Change the current December Special Modern Gun Youth Hunt on Bearcat Hollow WMA to a regular three day muzzleloader hunt
- Add a new Modern Gun Youth Permit Hunt on Stone Prairie WMA (to coincide with statewide youth season)
- Remove permit requirements for youth deer hunts on Ed Gordon and Hope Upland WMAs
- Open a new Youth Deer Hunt on the following 18 WMAs: Bell Slough, Benson Creek Natural Area, Cattail Marsh, Cut Off Creek, Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois D' Arc, Earl Buss Bayou De View, Ethel, George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto, Henry Gray Hurricane Lake, McIlroy Madison County, Rex Hancock Black Swamp, Ring Slough, Robert L. Hankins Mud Creek, Scott Henderson Gulf Mountain, Sheffield Nelson Dagmar, Two Bayou Creek, Village Creek and Whitehall
- Move the current Private Lands Antlerless-only Modern Gun Hunt from the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in October to December, and reduce it from a 5 day hunt to a 3 day hunt (Dec. 29-31) statewide
- Clarify that a lesser weapon may be used during the private land antlerless modern gun deer hunt. Hunter orange still required and only one weapon of choice allowed
- Increase the number of days antlerless deer may be taken on Piney Creeks and Sylamore WMAs and change the bag limit on Muddy Creek and Mt. Magazine WMAs to allow one antlerless deer with muzzleloader or one antlerless first two days of modern gun season.

- Move the Modern Gun Deer Permit Hunt on Cypress Bayou WMA from the fourth Friday in November to the second Saturday in November for 5 days
- Provide an annual Disabled Veterans Modern Gun Hunt on Longview Saline and Warren Prairie WMAs
- Add Independence and Jackson County to the CWD Management Zone
- Remove antler restrictions on the following WMAs in Independence and Jackson Counties to comply with CWD Management Zone regulations: Cherokee, Foushee Cave, Jamestown, and Village Creek WMAs
- Open Wylie Cox Field trial Area (140 ac.) on Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA by removing SUA status and adjust the regulations to be consistent with the remainder of the WMA.
- Create a new leased land WMA at Winona to be named Cedar Mountain WMA.
- Include Camp Robinson WMA in the spinning wing decoys restrictions
- Clarify that an electric bicycle is considered a motorized vehicle and must adhere to motorized vehicle restrictions on WMAs
- Remove firewood restrictions on all Commission-owned WMAs
- Open Bobcat, coyote, and fox hunting with shotguns and rimfire rifles at Little Bayou and Crossett Experimental Forest WMAs
- Allow for applications for new fur dealer permits to be denied if they failed to provide a report the previous year.
- Move the last day of muskrat trapping season from March 31 to February 28
- Change furbearer ammunition restrictions on private lands to only apply to raccoon, opossum, and bobcat being hunted at night.
- Require holders of a wildlife depredation or predator control permit and their designees, to purchase a valid hunting license.
- Exclude bats from the list of species that can be killed when a nuisance except for when rabies testing is needed.
- Add the Little Brown Bat (Myotis Lucifgus) as a state listed endangered species.
- Edit some of the wording in the season dates for code clarification and correction of errors made during the electronic conversion of codebook.
- Add USFWS Special Purpose Abatement requirements to falconry code.
- Remove 7 species of federally protected birds from the exceptions list of birds that are not protected
- Allow non-resident falconers with a non-resident hunting license to apply for an Arkansas Passage Peregrine Falcon Permit. Also update the falconry data entry website to new web address.
- Increase Quail Habitat Stamp price from \$4.50 to \$9.50
- Re-establish the annual dove season opening date as the first Saturday in September
- · Clarify dates for non-resident waterfowl hunters on WMAs
- Reduce the Scaup daily limit from 2 to 1
- Propose two options for white-fronted goose season; either 74 days (current structure) with a 3 bird bag limit or 88 days with a 2 bird bag limit
- Clarify that the Salt ditches on Bayou Meto WMA adhere to Common Restriction A.
- Implement permitted waterfowl hunting on the Red Cut Slough tract at Cypress Bayou WMA during the regular duck season.
- Allow all day waterfowl hunting on WMAs on the last day of regular duck season and

- during the special youth/veteran waterfowl hunts.
- Modify Common Restriction A to restrict boat access all day on 21 WMAs for 5 days before waterfowl season and during waterfowl splits. Add Cypress Bayou WMA and 5 additional water bodies on Petit Jean River and Dave Donaldson Black River WMAs and remove 2 from Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA from the exceptions in Common Restriction A.
- Clarify and update definitions relating to captive game birds and Shoot-to-Kill Bird Dog Training permit.
- Clarify exception relating to field trials and eliminate exception relating to USDA
   Wildlife Exhibition permits.
- Clarify that non-native birds be kept in buildings or covered pens. And clarify what constitutes proof of ownership.
- Clarify which species of quail and pheasant may be released in accordance with certain permits and clarify what methods of confinement for birds are adequate.
- Clarify that the exception from the Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit regulations, allowing
  for the sale of up to 20 individual animals per year of species on the Permitted Species
  List, does not apply to certain species for which Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permits are
  restricted.
- Eliminate Mountain Lion Permit.
- Eliminate certain redundant language in the Game Bird Shooting Resort Permit code.
- Eliminate redundant language in the Commercial Wildlife Hunting Resort Permit code.
- Update reasons for suspension or revocation of Wildlife Breeder/Dealer permits to match language used as reasons for denial of new permit applications.
- Modifying Wildlife Importation Permit requirements to allow those importing birds to
  provide proof of participation in the National Poultry Improvement Program by the outof-state facility to satisfy disease testing requirements and to require those importing
  venomous reptiles into Arkansas for temporary exhibition follow certain caging
  requirements.
- Clarify that rules regarding temporary display of venomous reptiles in F1. (C) (4) may also apply to individuals without permits. Update terms for suspension or revocation.
- Clarify that captive born native species of birds being kept as pets be kept in buildings or
  covered pens. Clarify the use of tongs and snake hooks would be allowed to hand capture
  native wildlife and clarify what constitutes proof of legal possession of captive born
  native wildlife pets.
- Clarify that holders of the Conservation Education Permit must conduct at least 20 hours
  of conservation education each year to be eligible for renewal. Update terms for permit
  suspension or revocation to match terms for which initial application would have been
  denied.
- Add 3 bird species and 81 reptile species to Addendum R1.01 Unrestricted Captive
  Wildlife Species that upon staff review do not appear to be inherently dangerous and pose
  no significant risk to human health and safety, native fish and wildlife health or
  populations, agriculture, and can be safely confined in a humane manner.
- Add 4 bird species and 31 mammal species to Addendum R1.02 Permitted Captive Wildlife Species List that upon staff review appear to pose a moderate but manageable risk to human health and safety, native fish and wildlife health or populations, or agriculture, such that they warrant further restriction or oversight.

- Add 30 mammal, 5 reptile and 123 amphibian species to Addendum R1.03 --Prohibited Captive Wildlife Species List to prohibit the breeding, sale or importation of these species. Importation, breeding and sale of these species (as well as blackbuck antelope black-tailed prairie dogs) will be allowed for those permitted by the required dates.
- Add capybara, nilgai, aoudad sheep, oryx, kudu, lechwe, ibex, jaguar, leopard, snow leopard, hippopotamus, warthog, rhinoceros, newts and fire salamanders, and large Asian and African pythons to Addendum F1.03 for the purpose of prohibiting the sale of these species to only persons who possess a current Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permit for the respective species or to buyers outside of Arkansas.
- Add a disease testing requirement in Addendum F1.04 Wildlife Importation Permit Requirements for brindled gnu which is being proposed to be permitted for importation, breeding and sale.
- Extend deadline to apply for Wildlife Breeder/Dealer Permits for those animals that do not meet standard documentation requirements and the deadline by which a Venomous Reptile Permit has to be obtained for those possessing these medically significant venomous species to July 1, 2021. Also extend deadline to July 21, 2021 for certain caging, facility and transport requirements for those with medically significant venomous reptiles kept under the native wildlife pet code.
- Authorize transfer of un-releasable wild animals from rehabilitators to holders of a Commission-issued Conservation Education Permit.
- Add exceptions for possession of certain threatened and endangered species to the Commission's endangered species code.
- Limit the amount of time that holders of Live Fox and Coyote Permits may keep livecaught animals to 30 days or less prior to sale and restrict sales to fox pen owners only.
- Clarify within the Wildlife Breeder/Dealer regulation that a Live Fox and Coyote Permit is needed to sell live fox and coyote.
- Reduce the time for Venomous Reptile Permit holders to correct caging problems from 30 days to 10 days.
- Clarify warning sign requirements for permanent and temporary venomous reptile enclosures.

Party Subject to Rule: hunters, trappers and persons engaged in captive wildlife related activities will be primarily subject to these rules.

Effect on Party Subject to Rule: The proposed changes, as listed above, will effect parties subject to the regulations as categorized to liberalize or expand opportunity (26%); clarify existing code (33%); simplify or reduce regulations (15%) and restrictions (26%).

5. What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to the **agency** to implement this rule? Explain the financial benefit to the agency from implementing this rule.

Current Fiscal Year: N/A Next Fiscal Year: Unknown

Financial Benefit to Agency: Increase to price of Voluntary Quail stamp from \$4.50 to \$9.50 could result in increased revenue for habitat management

6. Do alternative means exist for accomplishing the objectives of the rules that might be less burdensome to small business? Yes: No: X

Why were such alternatives not proposed: N/A

7. Compare this rule with federal and state counterparts: Regulations vary greatly among states.



Chris Colclasure Deputy Director

## Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Chris Racey Deputy Director

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May 28, 2020

Ms. Kayla Sansom, Rules & Regulation Filing Office of the Arkansas Secretary of State 500 Woodlane Drive, Room 26 Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Arkansas Game and Fish Commission Regulation Adopted on May 21, 2020

Dear Ms. Sansom:

Attached please find a link to the 93 regulations approved by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission on April 23, 2020. Also included for each individual regulation is the required transmittal sheet, and applicable Financial Impact Statement and the signed Minute Order. The Commission respectfully requests that these regulation become effective 10 days after filing.

Notices for the proposed regulations were published in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette on March 22, 23, and 24, 2020, and April 19, 20, and 21, 2020.

Hard copies of the approved regulations will be in the mail in the next day or so. **Kindly notify April Soman at april.soman@agfc.ar.gov** to confirm receipt of both the electronic submission and hard copies. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to contact me at (501) 223-6327 at your convenience.

Sincerely,

James F. Goodhart General Counsel

JFG/as Enclosures

cc: register@sos.arkansas.gov