

# ARKANSAS REGISTER

## 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 Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Department Legal Division

Contact James Goodhart, General Counsel E-mail james.goodhart@agfc.ar.gov Phone 501-223-6327

Statutory Authority for Promulgating Rules Amendment 35

Rule Title: 30.19 Paddlefish And Sturgeon Harvest And Tackle Restrictions

### Intended Effective Date

(Check One)

Emergency (ACA 25-15-204)

10 Days After Filing (ACA 25-15-204)

Other January 1, 2021  
(Must be more than 10 days after filing date.)

Legal Notice Published .....

Final Date for Public Comment .....

Reviewed by Legislative Council .....

Adopted by State Agency .....

### Date

Aug. 15-18, Sept. 23-15, 2020

October 14, 2020

NA

October 15, 2020

Electronic Copy of Rule e-mailed from: (Required under ACA 25-15-218)

April M. Soman

April.Soman@agfc.ar.gov

October 19, 2020

Contact Person

E-mail Address

Date

## CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORIZED OFFICER

I Hereby Certify That The Attached Rules Were Adopted

~~in Substantial Compliance with 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.~~

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.

/s/ James F. Goodhart

501-223-6327

Signature  
James.Goodhart@agfc.ar.gov

Phone Number

General Counsel

E-mail Address

Title

October 19, 2020

Date

# Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

## Code Book

The regulations in this Code Book are hereby adopted by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission under authority of Amendment 35 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas. All laws, rules, regulations, or orders in conflict with the regulations in this Code Book are hereby repealed by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

### 30.19 Roe Buyer/Exporter Reporting Requirements

NEW TITLE: Paddlefish And Sturgeon Harvest And Tackle Restrictions

It is unlawful to take, attempt to take, or possess paddlefish or sturgeon, or their parts, including eggs (roe), from waters of the state from midnight April 10 - sunrise November 20.

#### EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Permitted resident roe buyers/exporters and permitted nonresident roe buyers may possess processed roe only with proper reports of transactions described in Code 30.19.
- B. In compliance with Code 25.02.
- C. Permitted fish farmers in compliance with Code 35.10.
- D. Sturgeon may be taken midnight November 15 - sunrise May 1.
- E. Roe takers are required to use only multifilament nets from sunrise November 20 - midnight December 5, and from sunrise March 2 - midnight April 10, in the Arkansas River below James W. Trimble Dam.
- F. It is unlawful to possess for commercial purposes any nets other than 3½-inch mesh or 6-inch or larger mesh while fishing for paddlefish in the Arkansas River above Dam 2 during the paddlefish season.

**PENALTY:** Class 3

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY  
(Attach additional pages if needed)

**DEPARTMENT:** Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

**DIVISION:** Fisheries

**PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT:** Ben Batten

**TELEPHONE #:** 501-223-6300

**FAX #:** 501-223-6372

**EMAIL:**

ben.batten@agfc.ar.gov

**SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE:** 2021 Commercial Fishing Regulation Change Proposals

1. Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation have a financial impact?  
Yes: No: **X**
2. Do you believe that the development of a financial impact statement is so speculative as to be cost prohibitive? Yes: No: **X** If "Yes", please explain:
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.

<u>Current Fiscal Year</u>		<u>Next Fiscal Year</u>	
General Revenue	\$	General Revenue	\$
Federal Funds	\$	Federal Funds	\$
Cash Funds	\$ N/A	Cash Funds	\$ N/A
Special Revenue	\$	Special Revenue	\$
Other (Identify)	\$	Other (Identify)	\$
Total	\$	Total	\$

4. 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:** \$ N/A

Party Subject to Rule: **Anglers and aquatic recreationalists**

Effect on Party Subject to Rule: **Neutral**

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:** \$ N/A

Financial Benefit to Agency: **N/A**

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:

7. Compare this rule with federal and state counterparts:

**ARKANSAS GAME AND FISH COMMISSION**  
Little Rock, Arkansas

MINUTE ORDER NO:	20-053	SUBJECT:	2021 Commercial Fishing
DATE PASSED:	October 15, 2020		Regulations
PAGE <u>1</u> of <u>1</u> PAGES		LOCATION:	Statewide


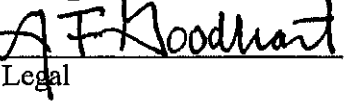
**WHEREAS,** the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and its staff have proposed the attached 2021 commercial fishing regulations; **and**

**WHEREAS,** the attached regulations have been communicated through a variety of media avenues to sportsmen and the general public throughout the state for review and comment for at least the past 30 days; **and**

**WHEREAS,** after carefully considering the recommendations of Commission staff and the Regulations Committee, as well as comments received from the public, the Commission has determined that the attached regulations promote sound wildlife conservation and management and are consistent with Amendment 35 of the Arkansas Constitution and that these regulations should now be approved for application statewide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** this 15th day of October 2020, that the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission hereby approves and adopts the attached regulations, which shall become effective on January 1, 2021, with the exception of the changes to 30.03 Commercial Fishing Reporting Requirements which will take effect on January 1, 2022.

**BE IT FURTHER ORDERED** that the Commission staff is authorized to proceed with legally certifying and filing the attached regulations with the Secretary of State, State Library, and Bureau of Legislative Research and incorporating them into the Commission Code Book and Addendum.

	<u>STAFF APPROVAL</u>	<u>COMMISSION APPROVAL</u>
Submitted by:	 Ben Batten Chief	 Andrew Parker Chairman
Division:	Fisheries	 Joe Morgan Vice Chairman
Approved:	 Director	 Bobby Martin Commissioner
Approved:	 Legal	 Stan Jones Commissioner
Approved:	 Fiscal	 J. D. Neeley Commissioner
		 Anne Marie Doramus Commissioner
		 Rob Fibley Commissioner