

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: 34.02 Qualifications For Certain Aquatic Turtle Permits

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 COMPLIANCE WITH THE ARKANSAS ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT, ACT 25-15-201, AS ENDED~~

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 James.F.Goodhart@agfc.ar.gov

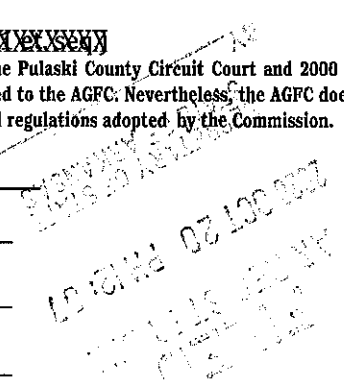
Phone Number Signature E-mail Address

General Counsel

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 All laws, rules, regulations, or orders in conflict with the regulations in this Code Book are hereby repealed by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

34.02 Qualifications For Certain Aquatic Turtle Permits

The following conditions shall be met to qualify for and maintain an Aquatic Turtle Farmer Permit, Aquatic Turtle Dealer Permit, or Alligator Snapping Turtle Breeder/Dealer Permit. An Aquatic Turtle Dealer Permit is required if wild-caught turtles are held in captivity (e.g. in ponds, impoundments, tanks, etc.) for any length of time. From January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021, no more than 150 permits total per year will be issued in combination between Aquatic Turtle Dealer and Aquatic Turtle Harvester permits.

- A. A site plan must be provided with the permit application, including legal and physical descriptions of all facilities, and a sketch map showing the location and approximate size of all facilities (ponds, impoundments, tanks, etc.) used to hold or propagate aquatic turtles.
- B. All sites shall be inspected and approved by Commission personnel prior to issuance of a permit.
- C. All facilities (ponds, impoundments, tanks, etc.) used to hold or propagate aquatic turtles shall be fenced and maintained in such a manner as to prevent the egress of captive turtles and ingress of wild stock (see Addendum 11.02 for Approved Species for Commercial Culture of Aquatic Turtles).
- D. Facilities shall be subject to random inspection by Commission personnel.
- E. Permittees shall follow all transaction and reporting requirements for harvest of wild-caught turtles in compliance with Code 34.07.

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: Live Fish Trade Regulations Adoption

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: Live Fish Trade Industry

Effect on Party Subject to Rule: Yearly increase of \$25 for license fee renewal; formerly the fee was one-time with no renewal fee.

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: 20-052 SUBJECT: 2021 Live Fish Trade Regulations
 DATE PASSED: October 15, 2020
 PAGE 1 of 1 PAGES LOCATION: Statewide

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission and its staff have proposed the attached 2021 live fish trade 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 January 1, 2021.

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.

STAFF APPROVAL

Submitted by: *BB*
Ben Batten
Chief

Division: Fisheries

Approved: *Rob Finley*
Director

Approved: *A.F. Woodhart*
Legal

Approved: *Jane Allen*
Fiscal

COMMISSION APPROVAL

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