

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



Secretary of State
John Thurston
500 Woodlane, Suite 026
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094
(501) 682-5070
www.sos.arkansas.gov



Name of Department Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Agency or Division Name Legal Division

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

Contact Person April Soman

Contact E-mail April.Soman@agfc.ar.gov

Contact Phone 501-223-6327 Legal Division

Name of Rule C1.01 Deer Seasons and Limits on WMAs

Newspaper Name Arkansas Democrat Gazette

Date of Publishing January 17, 18, 19, 2021

Final Date for Public Comment February 17, 2021

Location and Time of Public Meeting 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock AR 72205, 9:00 a.m.

LEGAL NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be held beginning at 9:00 a.m. Thursday, February 18, 2021, at the Little Rock Office Complex, 2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205. Committee meetings attended by Commissioners and agency staff members will be held throughout the day on Wednesday, February 17, 2021, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the same location.

It is important to note that while the AGFC Little Rock Office Complex currently is open to the public, because of the COVID-19 coronavirus public health emergency and depending upon public health conditions in our state at that time, the general public may be unable to gather in the meeting room on February 17 and 18. In-person attendance at the meetings may be limited to only Commission members, the Director, representatives of the media, and other individuals necessary to the proceedings as determined by the Commission Chairman and Director. If that is the case, we anticipate that the Committee meetings on February 17 and the Commission meeting on February 18 will be live-streamed for viewing by members of the press and the public and a link for easy access will be available on the agency website. Please visit the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission website at <https://www.agfc.com> for additional up-to-date details as the October meeting dates draw closer.

Items on the agenda for the February 18, 2021, meeting will include business pertaining to the operation of the Game and Fish Commission and other fiscal and administrative matters to be considered and acted upon. Additionally, discussion of proposed regulations that previously were considered at the January 21, 2021 Commission Meeting, plus consideration of various Hunting and Fishing Regulations, including, but not limited to:

Chronic Wasting Disease Management and Response Plan – Adopt revised management and response plan for Chronic Wasting Disease (last amended in 2016) that details the science of the disease, its history in the state, and strategies for response, management, and surveillance. The revised five-year plan is for implementation during 2021-2025.

Captive Wildlife Regulations - Amend existing captive wildlife regulations including, but not limited to, AGFC Addenda F1.04—Wildlife Importation Permit Requirements and F1.08—Venomous Reptile Possession Permit Requirements to provide caging/enclosure requirements and additional protections for wildlife (including venomous reptiles) in the process of being imported or being temporarily possessed in Arkansas.

General Hunting Regulations – Amend existing hunting regulations including:

- Amend Wild Turkey Seasons and Limits on WMAs to move the start of spring turkey season to the third Monday in April for Foushee Cave, Little River, and Nimrod Lloyd Millwood Wildlife Management Areas, and clarify the days for spring turkey season permit hunts for Camp Robinson WMA; and

- Amend Deer Season and Limit Restrictions on WMAs to clarify for Ozark National Forest WMA that one antlerless deer may be taken either during muzzleloader season or during the entire modern gun season.

All persons wishing to be heard on these subjects should submit comments in writing to this office before the start of the February 18, 2021 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 February 8, 2021. 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.

PAT FITTS, DIRECTOR
Arkansas Game & Fish Commission
Game & Fish Commission Building
2 Natural Resources Drive
Little Rock, Arkansas 72205