

ARKANSAS REGISTER

Proposed Rule Cover Sheet



Secretary of State

Cole Jester

500 Woodlane Street, Suite 026

Little Rock, Arkansas 72201-1094

(501) 682-5070

www.sos.arkansas.gov



Name of Department _____

Agency or Division Name _____

Other Subdivision or Department, If Applicable _____

Previous Agency Name, If Applicable _____

Contact Person _____

Contact E-mail _____

Contact Phone _____

Name of Rule _____

Newspaper Name _____

Date of Publishing _____

Final Date for Public Comment _____

Location and Time of Public Meeting _____

Proposal: 2025-26 Veteran and Active Duty Military Waterfowl Hunt Days

Justification: Federal frameworks allow for two veteran/active duty military waterfowl hunt days. We propose to hold this hunt the first Saturday and Sunday following the first Monday in February. Aligning these days with the youth season will reduce hunting exposure days for these special hunt opportunities to waterfowl populations while offering more opportunity for veteran and active duty military.

Codes affected: *B1.15*

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

PLEASE ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS COMPLETELY

(Attach additional pages if needed)

DEPARTMENT: Arkansas Game & Fish Commission

DIVISION: Wildlife Management Division

PERSON COMPLETING THIS STATEMENT: Sandee Schultz

TELEPHONE #: 501-382-9092 **FAX #:** **EMAIL:** sandee.schultz@agfc.ar.gov

SHORT TITLE OF THIS RULE: B1.15 Veteran and Active Duty Military Waterfowl Hunt

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 Does this proposed, amended, or repealed rule or regulation have a financial impact?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: N/A 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.

Current Fiscal Year

General Revenue	\$
Federal Funds	\$
Cash Funds	\$
Special Revenue	\$
Other (Identify)	\$
Total	\$

Next Fiscal Year

General Revenue	\$
Federal Funds	\$
Cash Funds	\$
Special Revenue	\$
Other (Identify)	\$
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4 What is the total estimated cost by fiscal year to any **party** subject to the proposed, amended, or repealed rule?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: \$ 0

Next Fiscal Year: \$ 0

Party Subject to Rule: Veterans and active duty military duck hunters

Effect on Party Subject to Rule: Adding an additional opportunity for waterfowl hunting.

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.

There is no additional cost to implement the rule.

Current Fiscal Year: \$ 0

Next Fiscal Year: \$ 0

Financial Benefit to Agency: None

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: N/A

B1.15 Veteran And Active Duty Military Waterfowl Hunt

~~The Sunday following the first Monday in February statewide.~~ The Saturday and Sunday following the first Monday in February statewide.

LIMIT: Same as statewide.

LEGAL NOTICE

The regular monthly meeting of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission will be held beginning at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, May 22, 2025, at the DeGray Lake Resort State Park Lodge's Convention Center located at 2027 State Park Entrance Road, Bismarck, AR 71929. 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. Additionally, Committee meetings attended by Commissioners and agency staff members will be held throughout the day on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the DeGray Lake Resort State Park Lodge's Convention Center located at 2027 State Park Entrance Road, Bismarck, AR 71929. All interested persons are invited to attend these meetings.

The Commission meeting on May 22nd will be live-streamed and a link for easy viewing 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 meeting dates draw closer.

Items on the agenda for the May 22, 2025 meeting will include discussion and/or adoption of proposed regulations that previously were considered at the April 16-17, 2025 Commission Meetings, plus consideration of various Hunting and Fishing Regulations and regulations pertaining to the Enforcement Division of the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, including but not limited to:

- Changing the Veteran and Active Duty Military Waterfowl Hunt dates from “The Sunday following the first Monday in February statewide” to “The Saturday and Sunday following the first Monday in February statewide” (Addendum B1.15).

All persons wishing to be heard on these subjects should submit comments in writing to this office before the start of the May 22, 2025 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 12, 2025. Copies of any proposed rules or regulations may be obtained at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission main office and at www.agfc.com, or through a written request mailed to the address below.

If you need assistance to participate in this public meeting due to a disability as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please contact AGFC's ADA Coordinator in Human Resources at 501-382-3813 at least three (3) business days prior to the scheduled meeting to request an accommodation. Every reasonable effort will be made to meet your request.

CHRIS RACEY, INTERIM DIRECTOR
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Little Rock, Arkansas 72205

Chris Racey
Interim Director

Ben Batten
Deputy Director



Brad Carner
Deputy Director

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Deputy Director

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

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Assistant General Counsel

Christian N. Parks
Sr. Assistant General Counsel

Dalton B. Swindell
Assistant General Counsel

April 11, 2025


Arkansas Register
Arkansas Secretary of State, Rules & Regulation Filing
500 Woodlane Drive, Room 26
Little Rock, AR 72201
Via email only: arkansasregister@sos.arkansas.gov

RE: Legal Notice for Proposed Rules or Regulations – April 2025 meetings

Dear Arkansas Register:

Included is one (1) proposed regulation change that will be published in the Legal Notice to the Arkansas Democrat Gazette on April 13-15, 2025. This proposed regulation change was previously submitted in March. However, the final date for public comment and location/time of meeting have since changed. Because of these changes, we've republished the notice as well. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this filing, please do not hesitate to contact Sarah Milligan or me at (501) 382-3807 at your convenience.

Sincerely,


John P. Marks
General Counsel

JPM/srm
Attachment

cc: Ms. Rebecca Miller-Rice, Bureau of Legislative Research
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Ms. Sheri Thomas, Bureau of Legislative Research
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The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's mission is to conserve and enhance Arkansas's fish and wildlife and their habitats while promoting sustainable use, public understanding and support.