

Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

In response to concerns related to COVID-19, the public hearing of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission proposed administrative regulations scheduled for March 26, 2020, was postponed and the public hearing on those regulations shall be conducted during the April 23, 2020 Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission meeting. Additionally, the in-person public hearing of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism Commission scheduled for April 23, 2020 shall be held by video conference. Anyone desiring to participate in the public hearing video conference must pre-register at: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/u5QtcOmqrTMqyhP2Ri9OYP3Kq4X-ZBqf0g>. The meeting will also be live-streamed on the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism website (www.ksoutdoors.com). Because of potential video-conference capacity limitations, comments and questions for the Commission and staff may also be submitted during the meeting through email to kdwpt.kdwptinfo@ks.gov. Individuals without internet access may listen to the meeting by dialing toll-free 1-877-853-5257, meeting ID 600702380, password 034792.

The video-conference public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 23, 2020 to consider the approval and adoption of the proposed regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on the business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 1:30 p.m., April 23 at the web link listed above. The meeting will recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. and then resume at 6:30 p.m. for the regulatory hearing and more business. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the afternoon and evening meeting for any issues not on the agenda and additional comment periods will be available during the meeting on agenda items. Old and new business may also be discussed at this time. If necessary to complete business matters, the Commission will reconvene at 9:00 a.m., April 24 at the location listed above.

Any individual with a disability may request accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting and may request the meeting materials in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the meeting should be as soon as possible in advance of the meeting by contacting Sheila Kemmis, Commission Secretary, at (620) 672-5911. Persons with a hearing impairment may call the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698 to request special accommodations.

This notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulations. All previously submitted comments will still be considered valid and need not be resubmitted.

All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chairman of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism, 1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612 or electronically to sheila.kemmis@ks.gov. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally in regard to the adoption of proposed regulations. During the hearing, all written and oral comments submitted

by interested parties will be considered by the commission as a basis for approving, amending and approving, or rejecting the proposed regulations. To provide all parties with an opportunity to present their views, it may be necessary to request that each participant limit any oral presentation to ten minutes.

The previously published regulations that will be heard during the regulatory hearing portion of the meeting are as follows:

K.A.R. 115-4-2. This permanent regulation sets general provisions for big game and wild turkey. The proposed amendments would allow for quartering of big game carcasses with proper evidence of sex attached.

Economic Impact Summary: No substantial negative economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-4-4. This permanent regulation sets legal equipment and taking methods for big game animals. The proposed amendments would allow the use of locking draws during the archery season.

Economic Impact Summary: No substantial negative economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-4-6. This permanent regulation sets deer management unit boundaries. The proposed amendments would amend the unit boundaries of DMU 19.

Economic Impact Summary: No substantial negative economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-25-8. This exempt regulation sets the open season, bag limit and permits for elk. The proposed version of the regulation would adjust the season dates for the new year.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed version of the regulation is expected to generate \$17,000 to the agency, all of which would accrue to the wildlife fee fund and generate a corresponding collateral economic impact to the State of Kansas estimated at \$156,752. Otherwise, no substantial negative economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-25-9. This exempt regulation sets the open season, bag limit, and permits for deer. The proposed version of the regulation would adjust the season dates for the new year and adjusts two wildlife area locations for additional white-tailed deer hunting pressure.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed version of the regulation is expected to generate \$12,950,000 to the agency, all of which would accrue to the wildlife fee fund and generate a corresponding collateral economic impact to the State of Kansas estimated at \$172,666,368. Otherwise, no substantial negative economic impact to the department, other

state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-25-7. This exempt regulation sets the open season, bag limit, and permits for antelope. The proposed version of the regulation would adjust the season dates and permit numbers for the new year.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed version of the regulation is expected to generate \$36,532 to the agency, all of which would accrue to the wildlife fee fund and generate a corresponding collateral economic impact to the State of Kansas estimated at \$940,512. Otherwise, no substantial negative economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-25-20. This exempt regulation sets management unit, hunting season, shooting hours, bag and possession limits, and permit validation for sandhill cranes. The proposed version of the regulation would adjust the season dates and management units for sandhill crane season.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed version of the regulation is expected to generate approximately \$7,000 to the agency, all of which would accrue to the wildlife fee fund and generate a corresponding collateral economic impact to the State of Kansas estimated at \$1,411,022. Otherwise, no substantial negative economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

Copies of the complete text of each regulation and its respective economic impact statement may be obtained by writing the chairman of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the department's website at ksoutdoors.com, or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman