

Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, December 6, 2011 at the KDWPT Region 2 Office, 300 SW Wanamaker, Topeka, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of proposed regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A regulatory hearing on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 7:00 p.m., December 6 at the location listed above. There will be public comment periods at the beginning of the 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. December 7 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 made at least five working days 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 60-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on proposed administrative regulations.

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 to sheila.kemmis@ksoutdoors.com if electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally in regard to the adoption of the 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.

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

K.A.R. 115-2-2. This permanent regulation establishes motor vehicle permit fees. The proposed amendments negate the option of a second vehicle permit at a reduced price.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments may generate an additional \$50,000 in FY 2012, all of which would accrue to the park fee fund and would be borne by user fees. Otherwise, the proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any other economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-7-3. This permanent regulation establishes provisions related to the taking of bait fish. The proposed amendments require that wild-caught bait fish be used on the body of water where taken in conjunction with a regulation package designed to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-7-6. This permanent regulation establishes bait restrictions for fishing. The proposed amendments merely update the regulation in conjunction with a regulation package designed to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-7-10. This permanent regulation establishes special provisions for fishing. The proposed amendments would not allow the transport of live fish from a designated ANS water in conjunction with a regulation package designed to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-8-6. This permanent regulation establishes provisions and restrictions for fishing, fish bait and seining on department lands and waters. The proposed amendments would clarify that bait fish taken on department lands and waters must be used where taken in conjunction with a regulation package designed to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-8-12. This permanent regulation establishes provisions related to stocking or releasing wildlife. The proposed amendments would prohibit stocking or releasing wildlife on navigable publicly owned waters and federal reservoirs in conjunction with a regulation package designed to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

K.A.R. 115-30-13. This new permanent regulation establishes removal of vessels from waters of the state. The proposed regulation would require draining of livewells and bilges and drain plugs to be removed from all vessels prior to transport on a public highway.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

Copies of the complete text of the regulations and their respective economic impact statements may be obtained by writing the chairman of the Commission at the address above, electronically on the department's website at www.kdwpt.state.ks.us, or by calling (785) 296-2281.

Gerald Lauber, Chairman