

Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission

Notice of Public Hearing

A public hearing will be conducted by the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission at 6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 19, 2014 at the Lamplighter Inn & Suites, 4020 Parkview Dr., Pittsburg, Kansas, to consider the approval and adoption of proposed regulations of the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism.

A general discussion and workshop meeting on business of the Wildlife, Parks, and Tourism Commission will begin at 1:00 p.m., June 19 at the location listed above. The meeting will recess at approximately 5:00 p.m. then resume at 6:30 p.m. at the same location 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. June 20 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. 115-8-1. This permanent regulation establishes hunting, furharvesting, and discharge of firearms provisions on department lands and waters. The proposed amendments would update the reference document, particularly related to removing some restrictions on vehicle traffic, adjusting some non toxic shot requirements, adjusting some boating restrictions, coordinating some refuge area requirements and adding some daily use permits.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendment to the regulation is not

anticipated to have any appreciable negative economic impact on the department, other agencies, small businesses or the public.

115-25-9a. This exempt regulation establishes additional considerations for the deer open season, bag limit, and permits including Fort Riley and crossbow survey number. The proposed version of the regulation sets the deer seasons on Fort Riley only in order to better accommodate the changing training mission at Fort Riley.

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

115-4-2. This permanent regulation establishes general provisions for big game and wild turkeys. The proposed amendments would remove the restriction on same day purchase of permits and hunting big game and wild turkeys.

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

115-25-1. This exempt regulation establishes the open seasons, bag limits, and possession limits and permits for prairie chickens. The proposed version of the regulation includes closing the season in the southwest unit pursuant to a listing by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service as a threatened species under the federal endangered species act.

Economic Impact Summary: There will be some economic impact to closing the prairie chicken season in the southwest unit but it cannot be quantified at this time. Otherwise, the proposed version of the regulation is not anticipated to have some 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