

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, November 15, 2018 at the Dole-Specter Conference Center, Fossil Creek Hotel, 1430 S. Fossil St, Russell, 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 1:30 p.m., November 15 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. November 16 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 the 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@ks.gov 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. 115-2-3. This permanent regulation establishes camping fees. The proposed amendments to the regulation would increase long term camping user fees.

Economic Impact Summary: The economic effect on long term state park campers in the form of a user fee would be an increase of \$100 per month per campsite for most state parks and \$150 per month per campsite in 5 state parks. The proposed increase would generate approximately \$104,800 annually, all of which would accrue to the park fee fund. Otherwise, no

other economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-2-5. This permanent regulation establishes the trail access pass fee requirement. The regulation is being proposed for repeal.

Economic Impact Summary: The repeal of the regulation should increase use on trails and therefore, stimulate local businesses. Otherwise, no other significant economic impact to department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public is anticipated.

K.A.R. 115-7-3. This permanent regulation establishes taking and use of baitfish or minnows. The proposed amendments to the regulation would increase mesh size for cast nets from ½ inch to 1 inch.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public.

K.A.R. 115-17-2. This permanent regulation establishes provisions related to the commercial sale of fish bait. The proposed amendments to the regulation would remove common carp from the allowable list of fish bait commercially available in order to reduce vectors of introduction.

Economic Impact Summary: Less than 5 percent of the 200 commercial fish bait dealers in Kansas sell common carp as bait but many other species are allowed for sale under the regulation. Otherwise, the proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public.

K.A.R. 115-18-10. This permanent regulation establishes the prohibited species list for Kansas. The proposed amendments to the regulation would add the marbled crayfish to the list of prohibited species.

Economic Impact Summary: The proposed changes may have a potential impact on the pet industry but the species is not known to currently exist in Kansas. Otherwise, the proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any significant economic impact to the department, other state agencies, small businesses, or individual members of the public.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and its 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