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State of Kansas

Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission

Notice of Hearing on Administrative Regulations

A public hearing will be conducted by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks Commission (the Commission) at 12:00 p.m. Thursday, November 19, 2026, at the Buffalo Bill Cultural Center, 3083 US-Hwy. 83, Oakley, KS 67748, to consider the approval and adoption of a proposed administrative regulation of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Other Commission business will follow and will include general discussions, which may include educational presentations, workshop sessions, and public comment opportunity following the public hearing. The meeting will continue until all business is complete. The public hearing will be conducted in person and via video conferencing system.

This 30-day notice period prior to the hearing constitutes a public comment period for the purpose of receiving written public comments on the proposed administrative regulation. All interested parties may submit written comments prior to the hearing to the Chair of the Commission, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 1020 S. Kansas Ave., Suite 200, Topeka, KS 66612, or to eleazar.p.hazel@ks.gov, if submitted electronically. All interested parties will be given a reasonable opportunity at the hearing to express their views orally regarding the adoption of the proposed regulation. 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 regulation.

Copies of the complete text of the regulation and economic impact statement may be obtained by writing the Chair of the Commission at the address above, may be accessed electronically on the Department's website at http://www.ksoutdoors.com, or by calling 785-2966373.

Any individual with a disability may request an accommodation to participate in the public hearing and may request the proposed regulation and economic impact statement in an accessible format. Requests for accommodation to participate in the hearing should be made at least ten (10) business days in advance of the hearing by contacting the Department at 785-296-6373. 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.

A summary of the proposed regulation and its economic impact follows. (Note: Statements indicating that "The Commission anticipates that the proposed amendment/new regulation will have minor to no economic impact" are intended to indicate that no economic impact on the Commission, other state agencies, persons subject to the proposed regulation, or the general public have been identified.)

K.A.R. 115-25-14
This regulatory amendment proposal will: (1) provide anglers greater opportunity to harvest Sauger, Saugeye, and Walleye from Melvern Reservoir by removing the 18-inch minimum length limit; (2) provide anglers a greater opportunity to harvest Bluegill, Redear Sunfish, Green Sunfish, and their hybrids by removing a special slot limit in place at five waters in the state; (3) remove restrictive season dates for float fishing; (4) designate Cedar Creek within Cedar Niles Park as a Type 1 Trout Water to be stocked by the Department with trout; and (5) designate portions of the Kansas River for the snagging of invasive carp species.

Economic Impact
The changes to the regulation that will provide additional harvest opportunities and adjust seasons are not expected to result in compliance costs to businesses, sectors, public utility ratepayers, or local governments.

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However, the designation of Cedar Creek within Cedar Niles Park as a Type I Trout Water is expected to result in approximately $11,665 in annual compliance costs to individuals who choose to fish for trout in the park.

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Chair
Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission

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