



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Agency Staff, Parks and Wildlife Commissioners, and Members of the Public
FROM: Krista Heiner, Regulations Manager
RE: April 30 and May 6-7, 2020 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meetings Regulations Summary
DATE: May 12, 2020

This summary provides details concerning regulatory changes approved at the April 30, 2020 and May 6-7, 2020 Parks and Wildlife Commission meetings. (Page numbers in the following document refer to the Post-Meeting Materials documents on the Commission's website.)

At the April 30, 2020 meeting, the Parks and Wildlife Commission heard proposed changes to regulations as follows:

FINAL REGULATIONS (WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 7 - [Chapter W-3](#) - "Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3

The Commission finalized the date structure for the 2020 hunting seasons for game birds (except migratory birds and turkeys) and all other species considered small game in Colorado, as part of its annual review of the entire chapter (p. 7-10). Additionally, the Commission approved proposed regulatory changes including, but not limited to, the following:

- Prohibiting contests involving black-tailed, white-tailed and Gunnison's prairie dogs, Wyoming (Richardson's) ground squirrel, or furbearers (p. 2-3).

CITIZEN PETITION (WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 8 - Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3

The Commission denied a Citizen Petition for Rulemaking requesting that the Commission prohibit all wildlife contests. The Citizen Petition for Rulemaking was denied in part because of the adoption of the staff recommendation concerning wildlife contests.

FINAL REGULATIONS (WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 10 - [Chapter W-9](#) - "Wildlife Properties" 2 CCR 406-9

The Commission approved proposed regulations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Requiring a valid hunting or fishing license for all persons 18 years of age and older to access all State Wildlife Areas and State Trust Lands leased by the Division (p. 1-7, 55).

Agenda Item 11 - [Chapter W-16](#) - "Parks and Wildlife Procedural Rules" 2 CCR 406-16

The Commission approved proposed regulations including, but not limited to, the following:



- Revising the process by which the Division and the Commission respond to citizen petitions for rulemaking (p. 1).

Additionally, the Commission approved changes to the non-regulatory Commission policy related to citizen petitions for rulemaking, to ensure consistency with the approved regulatory changes.

CONSENT AGENDA (PARKS and WILDLIFE):

FINAL REGULATIONS (PARKS and WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 14.1 - [Chapter P-7](#) - "Passes, Permits and Registrations" 2 CCR 405-7 and those related provisions of [Chapter P-1](#) ("Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands" 2 CCR 405-1) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter P-7

The Commission approved proposed regulations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Expanding the Division's ability to issue Special Activity Permits to commercial users (p. 1-2, 6 in Chapter P-7 and p. 3 in Chapter P-1).

Agenda Item 14.2 - [Chapter W-0](#) - "General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0 and those related provisions of [Chapter W-2](#) ("Big Game" 2 CCR 406-2) and [Chapter W-3](#) ("Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-0

The Commission approved proposed regulations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Issuing an apprentice hunter education certificate twice (p. 5 in Chapter W-0).
- Creating a new product that allows resident senior lifetime fishing customers the opportunity to upgrade to an annual combination fishing and small game hunting license at a discounted rate (p. 8-9 in Chapter W-0, p. 11 in Chapter W-2, p. 2 in Chapter W-3).

Agenda Item 14.3 - [Chapter W-2](#) - "Big Game" - 2 CCR 406-2

The Commission approved necessary corrections and administrative clean-ups to regulations previously adopted by the Parks and Wildlife Commission for the 2020 big game seasons, including, but not limited to, game management unit boundaries, season dates, limited license areas and manner of take provisions for bighorn sheep, mountain goat, deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bear and mountain lion, and regulations otherwise necessary for implementation of the 2020 big game seasons. Specific considerations included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Adding the resident senior combination small game hunting and fishing license to the list of qualifying licenses for the big game limited license drawing (p. 11).
- Changing the resident bighorn sheep quota in S-9 [Sangre de Cristo, SMS0901R] from 10 to 8 and the nonresident quota from 0 to 2 (p. 25).

Agenda Item 14.4 - [Chapter W-5](#) - "Small Game - Migratory Game Birds" - 2 CCR 406-5 and those related provisions of [Chapter P-1](#) ("Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands" 2 CCR 405-1) and [Chapter W-9](#) ("Wildlife Properties" 2 CCR 406-9) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-5

The Commission finalized regulations in its annual review of the entire chapter related to waterfowl and migratory bird hunting seasons and related provisions, including season

dates, bag and possession limits and manner of take provisions. Specific considerations included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Necessary corrections or administrative clean-ups to regulations related to waterfowl hunting in the Grand Valley (throughout).
- Updating the current description of the San Luis Valley goose zone to include portions of Archuleta and San Juan counties east of the Continental Divide (p. 12).
- Expanding current youth waterfowl days to also permit waterfowl hunting by veterans and active military members (p. 13-15).

Agenda Item 14.5 - [Chapter W-9](#) - "Wildlife Properties" 2 CCR 406-9 and those related provisions of [Chapter P-1](#) ("Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands" 2 CCR 405-1) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-9

The Commission finalized regulations in its annual review of the entire chapter related to generally applicable and property-specific requirements for, or restrictions on use of, wildlife properties controlled by the Division of Parks and Wildlife, including State Trust Lands leased by the Division. Specific considerations included, but were not limited to, the following:

- Authorizing the Division Director to execute short-term housing leases (p. 7).
- Adjusting regulations related to the fishing closure at Banner Lakes State Wildlife Area (SWA) during waterfowl hunting seasons (p. 9).
- Changing the hours of operation for the Basalt SWA public shooting range (p. 9-10).
- Allowing public use of the Uncompahgre River corridor of Billy Creek SWA for hunting and fishing recreation only during the current seasonal closure period of January 1 through April 30 annually (p. 11).
- Managing limited hunting access at Collins Mountain Ranch SWA through the HRS and adopting property-specific regulations (p. 17).
- Managing limited hunting access at Crooked Wash Ranch through the HRS and adopting property-specific regulations (p. 18).
- Managing limited hunting access at Flanders Ranch SWA through the HRS and adopting property-specific regulations (p. 22).
- Requiring non-exempt boats to launch from the CPW boat ramp at Groundhog Reservoir SWA (p. 25).
- Allowing night fishing during certain times of the year at Jackson Lake SWA (p. 28).
- Requiring hunting reservations for weekends and holidays during the teal season and the first split of the regular duck season at Jackson Lake SWA (p. 28).
- Managing limited hunting access at Louisiana Purchase Ranch through the HRS and adopting property-specific regulations as required (p. 33).
- Prohibiting the discharge of firearms at Mount Shavano SWA from the upper end of the Mount Shavano SFU downstream to the Colo. Hwy 291 Bridge crossing (p. 35).
- Managing limited hunting access for the Grand Valley Wildlife Area Special Archery Hunts through the HRS and adopting property-specific regulations as required (p. 36-37, 49-50).
- Managing limited hunting access at Pot Creek SWA through the Hunter Reservation System (HRS) and adopting property-specific regulations as required in the access easement (p. 39).
- Adding property-specific regulations for Pothook Ranch SWA conservation easement (p. 39).
- Removing Urad Lake SWA, Valmont Reservoir Administrative Area and Woodhouse SWA from regulations (p. 51, 54).
- Shortening the Gunnison sage grouse viewing season at Waunita Watchable Wildlife Area (p. 52).

- Adopting property-specific regulations on Yarmony Ranch SWA as required (p. 54-55).
- Prohibiting camping on State Trust Land (STL) properties for more than 14 consecutive days in a 45-day period or leaving a camp unattended for more than 48 hours (p. 55, 60, 72).
- Permitting hunting from August 15 until the end of February at Box Creek STL (p. 58).
- Merging Nee Noshe STL and Neesopah STL with Queens STL and removing property-specific regulations for Nee Noshe and Neesopah STLs (p. 66).
- Establishing visitor management regulations at Turkey Track Ranch STL (p. 71).
- Adding Twenty Mile Pond SWA Fishing Easement to Appendix B.1 (p. 77).

At the May 6-7, 2020 meeting, the Parks and Wildlife Commission heard proposed changes to regulations as follows:

CITIZEN PETITIONS (WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 10 - Chapter W-2 - "Big Game" - 2 CCR 406-2

The Commission denied a Citizen Petition for Rulemaking requesting that the Commission allow crossbows as a method of take during archery big game seasons.

FINAL REGULATIONS (WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 22 - [Chapter W-9](#) - "Wildlife Properties" - 2 CCR 406-9

The Commission approved proposed regulations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Adding new properties to the Public Access Program into Appendix B.2 of Chapter W-9 regulations.

Agenda Item 23 - [Chapter W-2](#) - "Big Game" - 2 CCR 406-2

The Commission approved proposed regulations including, but not limited to, the following:

- Adoption of all limited license numbers for black bear, deer, elk, pronghorn and moose for all Game Management Units in the state that have limited licenses for these species for the 2020 big game seasons. Mountain lion harvest limits were not considered at this meeting.

ISSUE IDENTIFICATION (PARKS and WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 24 - Chapter P-3 - "River Outfitters" - 2 CCR 405-3

The Commission heard and forwarded-on proposed regulations including, but not limited to:

- Increasing the fee for river outfitter licenses.

Agenda Item 25 - Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds"- 2 CCR 406-3

The Commission heard and forwarded-on proposed regulations including, but not limited to:

- Removing the ability to take furbearers (with the exception of coyotes) with the small game license and creating a new upgrade to the small game license to allow the take of furbearers (other than coyotes).