



**COLORADO**

**Parks and Wildlife**

Department of Natural Resources

6060 Broadway  
Denver, CO 80216  
P 303-866-3203

**TO: Members of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission**  
**FROM: Jonathan Boydston, Acting Regulations Manager**  
**RE: Chapter W-16 Final Regulations for the November 2021 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting**  
**DATE: November 5, 2021**

Final regulatory changes for Chapter W-16 are summarized below. If there are questions about the agenda item below, or if additional information is needed, please feel free to contact me at [jonathan.boydston@state.co.us](mailto:jonathan.boydston@state.co.us) or Krista Heiner at [krista.heiner@state.co.us](mailto:krista.heiner@state.co.us).

**Agenda Item 15: Chapter W-16 - “Park and Wildlife Procedural Rules” - 2 CCR 406-16**

**Clarifying refund, restoration of preference points and Director’s disaster relief authority regulations**

These changes clarify the regulatory language so that customers can more fully understand what types of refund requests will be approved, including clarifying that for licenses purchased with a credit card, a refund will be made to the same credit card used to make the original purchase and clarifying that if a license holder was in the field any length of time during the season for which their license was valid, they are ineligible for a refund. Additionally, for licenses turned in after the start of the season, a new affidavit has been created to ensure the customer was not out in the field hunting. Additionally, regulations have been changed to make customers impacted by extreme medical circumstances or death (of themselves or an immediate family member) eligible to receive a restoration of preference points and/or a monetary refund, similar to military service or jury duty. Finally, regulations have been added to clarify the Director’s authority to issue guaranteed licenses in response to extreme events.



**FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-16 – PARKS AND WILDLIFE PROCEDURAL RULES**

**ARTICLE I - MEETINGS**

**#1601 - Conduct of Meetings**

See Article 4 of Title 24, CRS, for rule making and other applicable meeting and hearing requirements

**A. Regular Meetings**

1. Public Presentation - In addition to normally scheduled opportunities to testify on matters before the Commission, persons or groups wishing to participate in a regular Commission meeting may request to be placed on the agenda by submitting a written request to the Director at least 30 days before the meeting. The public may participate during the meeting at the discretion of the Chairman or presiding officer.

**B. Adjudicatory Hearings**

1. Review of Game Damage Settlements and Claim Denials

See §§ 33-3-101 to 204, CRS, for additional detail and requirements

- a. Game Damage Claims Settled by Agreement Between Claimants and the Division
  - 1) Only settlements of game damage claims equaling or exceeding \$5,000 in total value must be reviewed by the Commission, and then only where the damage is something other than forage loss to wild ruminants on privately owned or leased private land. All other settlements may be paid by the Division without Commission review.
  - 2) Review will be based on the written materials and documentary evidence provided to the Commission by the Division and, unless the Commission directs otherwise, there will be no oral presentations or further submittals to the Commission on the settlement.
  - 3) Except as may otherwise be directed by the Commission, game damage settlements will be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the Commission following their receipt, provided the settlement, together with its supporting materials and documentation, is received by the Commission at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The settlement will be placed on the consent agenda unless the claimant makes an oral presentation to the Commission pursuant to #1601.A.1.
- b. Game Damage Claims Recommended for Denial by the Division
  - 1) Any claimant seeking or otherwise requiring Commission review of a game damage claim recommended for denial by the Division, or a game damage claim where the claimant and the Division have otherwise failed to reach a settlement, shall file a written request for review with the Commission. The requirement for a written request for review applies to all claimants, including claimants that have waived arbitration of a forage loss to wild ruminants on privately owned or leased private land. Such request for review shall be mailed to the Commission within ten (10) days of claimant's receipt of the Division's written notice of denial or offer of settlement unacceptable to the claimant.
  - 2) The request for review shall include:
    - a. the claimant's name, address and telephone number;

- b. a narrative statement of the claim, including the amount at issue and a complete statement of the factual and statutory basis supporting payment of the claim as requested;
  - c. copies of the ten (10) day notification(s) and proof of loss filed with the Division;
  - d. copies of the written documentation submitted with, and in support of, the proof of loss;
  - e. any other documentary evidence supporting the claim or disputing the grounds stated as the basis for the Division's action in its notice of denial or offer of settlement, including photographs, and;
  - f. any other written materials supporting the claim or disputing the grounds stated as the basis for the Division's notice of denial or offer of settlement, including signed statements by third party witnesses.
- 3) Commission review will be based on the request for review and any written materials or documentary evidence provided to the Commission by the Division in response to the request for review submitted by the claimant, and unless the Commission directs otherwise, there will be no oral presentations or further submittals to the Commission.
  - 4) Except as may otherwise directed by the Commission, such claims will be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the Commission following their receipt, provided the request for review is received by the Commission at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The denial will be placed on the consent agenda unless the claimant makes an oral presentation to the Commission pursuant to #1601.A.1.

## 2. License Suspension Appeals

See § 33-6-106, CRS for additional detail and requirements

- a. All license suspensions will be heard initially and decided by a Commission hearing examiner. A copy of the hearing examiner's initial decision shall be sent to the licensee by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address of such person. The hearing examiner's initial decision shall advise the licensee of their right to appeal the initial decision to the Commission. Any person seeking or otherwise requiring Commission review of the hearing examiner's initial decision shall file a written notice of appeal with the Commission within thirty (30) days of the licensee's receipt of the hearing examiner's initial decision, but no later than 45 days from the date contained in the certificate of service accompanying the initial decision. The notice of appeal must be sent to "CPW License Appeals" 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216. If a timely appeal is not made to the Commission, the hearing examiner's initial decision shall become final, effective 45 days from the date contained in the certificate of service accompanying the initial decision. If a timely appeal is made to the Commission, the hearing examiner shall send notice to the licensee of the date of their scheduled hearing before the Commission and advise that the hearing examiner's initial decision to suspend is automatically stayed pending Commission review and final action.
- b. The notice of appeal shall include:
  - 1) the person's name, address, telephone number and case file number;
  - 2) a narrative statement of the person's position, including a complete statement of the factual and statutory basis supporting relief from the decision of the hearing examiner and the relief requested;
  - 3) copies of any written documentation or documentary evidence submitted to the hearing examiner;
  - 4) copy of the hearing examiner's decision, including the findings of fact and conclusions of law, and;

- 5) a copy of the transcript of the hearing on the suspension of license privileges conducted by the hearing examiner. The person requesting review shall be responsible for the production of the transcript.
- c. Commission review will be based on the notice of appeal and any additional written materials and documentary evidence provided to the Commission by the hearing examiner in response to the notice of appeal, and unless the Commission directs otherwise, there will be no oral presentations or further submittals to the Commission.
- d. Except as may otherwise be directed by the Commission, license suspensions will be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the Commission following their receipt, provided the notice of appeal is received by the Commission at least thirty days prior to the meeting. The appeal will be placed on the consent agenda unless the licensee makes an oral presentation to the Commission pursuant to #1601.A.1. The final decision of the Commission is effective upon mailing to the licensee and must contain a certificate of mailing.
- e. Written notice of the final decision of the commission shall be sent to the licensee by certified mail to the last known address of such person. The notice shall advise the licensee that he or she may appeal the Commission's suspension decision to the state district court as provided in § 24-4-106, C.R.S., by bringing an action for judicial review within 35 days after such action becomes effective.
- f. When deciding upon the duration of any license privileges suspension term, the hearing examiner will consider the facts of the underlying violation(s) giving rise to the criminal conviction(s) and the administrative license suspension hearing, along with all relevant written materials and documentary evidence contained in the Division's records, all written materials and documentary evidence provided by the party prior to the administrative license suspension hearing, and all evidence provided during the hearing, and will give specific consideration to the absence or presence of the following factors:
  - 1) Whether the violation(s) caused or resulted in the take of wildlife, injury or death of a person, or damage to or destruction of public or private property;
  - 2) The number of violations arising from the same transaction or occurrence;
  - 3) Whether the violation(s) involved the take of species listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern;
  - 4) Whether the violation(s) involved the take of trophy wildlife;
  - 5) Whether the violation(s) showed an intentional, knowing, or negligent disregard for wildlife or public safety;
  - 6) Whether the violation(s) involved intentional, knowing or negligent action on behalf of the party;
  - 7) Whether the party has any prior violations of wildlife statutes or regulations, or violations of state or federal law committed while hunting, fishing, or engaging in a related activity;
  - 8) Whether the party has any prior license suspensions;
  - 9) Whether the violation(s) occurred while the party was subject to a prior suspension or otherwise unlicensed;
  - 10) Whether the violation(s) involved any assault or threat to or resisting a peace officer;
  - 11) Whether the party self-reported the violation(s) or otherwise attempted to remedy or ameliorate the harm caused by the violation(s);
  - 12) The experience and age of the party and other social factors or circumstances associated with the violation(s);
  - 13) Whether the party interfered with or hindered the investigation of the violation(s);
  - 14) The criminal penalties imposed as part of the violation(s);
  - 15) Whether the party acted alone or in concert with other parties;
  - 16) The species and the number of wildlife taken, and;
  - 17) Whether the violation(s) involved any specified illegal manner of take (use of bait, traps, snares, poison, etc.).

Based on all the evidence presented, the hearing examiner will determine the weight to be given to any factor and that factor's effect on the duration of the suspension term.

### 3. Mid-Suspension Review

- a. Except as specified in subsection b. of this regulation, any person who has had their privilege of applying for, purchasing, or exercising the benefits conferred by any or all licenses issued by the division pursuant to articles 1 to 6 of title 33 ("license privileges") may file a petition for mid-suspension review seeking to modify the expiration date of their suspension. Such petitions may be filed once every five years either:
  - 1) After half of a suspension of at least 20 years, but less than a lifetime, has elapsed; or
  - 2) After fifteen years of a lifetime suspension have elapsed.
  
- b. Applicability
  - 1) Any person who has had their license privileges suspended by the commission for less than 20 years may not file a petition for mid-suspension review.
  - 2) Any person who has had their license privileges suspended by the commission on two or more occasions may not file a petition for mid-suspension review.
  - 3) Any person who has been convicted of wildlife violations of another state, or any Canadian province, United States territory, or federal agency which is a member of the "Wildlife Violator Compact," §§ 24-60-2601 – 2604, CRS, since the date of the hearing examiner's initial decision entered pursuant to § 33-6-106(7), CRS, may not file a petition for mid-suspension review.
  - 4) Any person who has been charged with wildlife violations of another state, or any Canadian province, United States territory, or federal agency which is a member of the "Wildlife Violator Compact," §§ 24-60-2601 – 2604, CRS, since the date of the hearing examiner's initial decision entered pursuant to § 33-6-106(7), CRS, may not file a petition for mid-suspension review until such charges are finally resolved.
  
- c. Contents of petition for mid-suspension review and course of proceedings
  - 1) The petition for mid-suspension review must include an affidavit signed by the petitioner under penalty of perjury stating:
    - a. The petitioner has not had their license privileges suspended by the commission on two or more occasions;
    - b. The petitioner has not been convicted of wildlife violations of another state, or any Canadian province, United States territory, or federal agency which is a member of the "Wildlife Violator Compact," §§ 24-60-2601 – 2604, CRS, since the date of the hearing examiner's initial decision entered pursuant to 33-6-106(7), CRS; and,
    - c. There are no pending charges against the petitioner for wildlife violations of another state, or any Canadian province, United States territory, or federal agency which is a member of the "Wildlife Violator Compact," §§ 24-60-2601 – 2604, CRS.
  - 2) The petition for mid-suspension review must include a detailed justification for the request. Time served on the suspension, and/or financial penalties incurred do not constitute good cause for modifying the expiration date of any suspension.
  - 3) The petition for mid-suspension review must demonstrate the petitioner's ongoing and concerted efforts to ameliorate the harm caused by their violation(s) in the form of education, mentoring, volunteering, wildlife conservation efforts, or other means.
  - 4) The division may file a response to the petition. Unless the commission directs otherwise, there will be no oral presentations or further submittals to the commission and the petition will be placed on the consent agenda with an appropriate recommendation by the Director.

- d. Standard of review: The commission, in its discretion, may modify the duration of a previously-imposed license suspension if the petitioner proves the duration of their original suspension no longer serves the remedial purpose of protecting the state's wildlife. The commission shall consider the totality of the circumstances, which include, but need not be limited to, the following factors:
  - 1) The credibility of the petitioner's written statements or testimony, if any;
  - 2) The credibility of written statements by third parties;
  - 3) The adequacy of petitioner's ameliorative efforts;
  - 4) The risk of future wildlife offenses; and,
  - 5) Aggravating or mitigating factors leading to the original suspension.

#### 43. Review of Petitions for Declaratory Orders

See §§ 24-4-105(11), CRS for additional detail and requirements

- a. Any person may petition the Commission for a declaratory order to terminate a controversy or to remove uncertainty as to the applicability to the petitioner of any statutory provision or any rule or order of the Commission.
- b. The petition must be in writing and shall include:
  - 1) the petitioner's name, address and telephone number;
  - 2) the statutory provision, rule or order at issue;
  - 3) a narrative statement of all facts necessary to show the nature of the controversy or uncertainty and the manner in which the statutory provision, rule or order applies or potentially applies to the petitioner;
  - 4) whether the petitioner holds any permits, passes, or registrations issued pursuant to Articles 10 through 15 of Title 33, C.R.S., as amended.
- c. The Commission will determine, in its discretion and without notice to the petitioner, whether to rule upon the petition. In determining whether to rule upon a petition filed pursuant to this regulation, the Commission will consider the following matters, among others:
  - 1) Whether a ruling on the petition will terminate a controversy or remove uncertainties as to the applicability to the petitioner of any statutory provision or of any regulation of the Commission.
  - 2) Whether the petition involves any subject, question or issue which is the subject of a formal or informal matter or investigation currently pending before the Commission or a court involving one or more of the petitioners.
  - 3) Whether the petition involves any subject, question or issue which is the subject of a formal or informal matter or investigation currently pending before the Commission or a court but not involving the petitioner.
  - 4) Whether the petition seeks a ruling on a moot or hypothetical question or will result in an advisory ruling or opinion.
  - 5) Whether the petitioner has some other adequate legal remedy, other than an action for declaratory relief pursuant to Rule 57, Colorado R. Civ. P., which will terminate the controversy or remove any uncertainty as to the applicability to the petitioner of the statute, regulation, or order in question.

- d. Commission review, if any, will be based on the petition and any additional written materials and documentary evidence provided to the Commission by the Division in response to the petition, and unless the Commission directs otherwise, there will be no oral presentations or further submittals to the Commission.
- e. Except as may otherwise be directed by the Commission, petitions for declaratory orders will be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the Commission following their receipt, provided the petition is received by the Commission at least thirty days prior to the meeting.
- f. If the Commission determines that it will rule on the petition, the following procedure will apply:
  - 1) The Commission may rule upon the petition based solely upon the facts presented in the petition. In such a case:
    - i. Any ruling of the Commission will apply only to the extent of the facts presented in the petition and any amendment to the petition.
    - ii. The Commission may order the petitioner to file a written brief, memorandum or statement of position.
    - iii. The Commission may set the petition, upon due notice to petitioner, for a non-evidentiary hearing.
    - iv. The Commission may dispose of the petition on the sole basis of the matters set forth in the petition.
    - v. The Commission may request the petitioner to submit additional facts in writing. In such event, such additional facts will be considered as an amendment to the petition.
    - vi. The Commission may take administrative notice of the facts pursuant to the State Administrative Procedure Act and may utilize available experience, technical competence and specialized knowledge in the disposition of the petition.
    - vii. If the Commission rules upon the petition without a hearing, it shall promptly notify the petitioner of its decision and the reasons for such action.
  - 2) The Commission may, in its discretion, set the petition for hearing, upon due notice to the petitioner, for the purpose of obtaining additional facts or information or to determine the truth of any facts set forth in the petition or to hear oral argument on the petition. The notice to the petitioner setting such hearing shall set forth, to the extent known, the factual or other matters into which the Commission intends to inquire. For the purpose of such a hearing, to the extent necessary, the petitioner shall have the burden of proving all of the facts stated in the petition, all of the facts necessary to show the nature of the controversy or uncertainty and the manner in which the statutory provision, rule or order in question applies or potentially applies to the petitioner and any other facts the petitioner desires the Commission to consider.
- g. The parties to any proceeding pursuant to this regulation shall be the division and the petitioner. Any other person may seek leave of the Commission to intervene in such a proceeding, and leave to intervene will be granted at the sole discretion of the Commission. A petition to intervene shall set the same matters as required by # 600-4. Any reference to "petitioner" in this regulation also refers to any person who has been granted leave to intervene by the Commission.
- h. Any declaratory order or other order disposing of a petition pursuant to this regulation shall constitute final agency action subject to judicial review pursuant to section 24-4-106, C.R.S.

**54.** All Other Adjudicatory Hearings

See §§ 24-4-105 and 33-1-111, CRS for additional detail and requirements

- a. Unless the Commission directs otherwise, all other adjudicatory matters within the jurisdiction of the Commission will be heard initially and decided by an administrative law judge within the Division of Administrative Hearings.
- b. Any person requesting an adjudicatory hearing on a matter within the jurisdiction of the Commission shall file a written request for a hearing with the Commission.
- c. The request for an adjudicatory hearing shall include:
  - 1) the person's name, address and telephone number;
  - 2) a narrative statement of the person's position, including a complete statement of the factual basis and legal justification for any relief requested;
  - 3) copies of any written documentation or documentary evidence supporting the person's position;
- d. Except as may otherwise be directed by the Commission, requests for adjudicatory hearings will be reviewed at the next regular meeting of the Commission following their receipt, provided the request is received by the Commission at least thirty days prior to the meeting.
- e. The person will be notified of the assignment of the matter to the Division of Administrative Hearings or whether the Commission will hear the matter itself.
- f. All further proceedings will be conducted in accordance with §§ 24-4-105, CRS

## ARTICLE IV – REFUNDS, REIMBURSEMENT AND RESTORATION OF PREFERENCE POINTS

### #1670 Refunds and Restoration of Preference Points

See also §§ 33-4-102 (6) for statutory provisions related to refunds

- A. General Refund Procedures** – Except as provided herein, anyone may request and be given a refund for a license no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the opening day of the applicable turkey season for turkey licenses or thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of the season for which the license was issued for all other licenses, minus a \$15.00 processing fee. The \$15.00 processing fee will not be charged for refunds requested on youth licenses, in the case of Division error, or if any of the following circumstances prevent the license holder from exercising the intended benefits of the license: due to extreme medical circumstances involving the license holder or a license holder's immediate family member, death of the license holder, death of the license holder's immediate family member, military orders ~~that prevents the service member from exercising the intended benefits of the license, or jury duty, or for Division error.~~ Requests must have a valid U.S. postmark, or be submitted at a Division office at least fourteen (14) days prior to the opening day of the applicable turkey season or thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of any other season for which the license was issued. Youth are exempt from the (14) days prior requirement for turkey licenses and the (30) days prior requirement for big game licenses and may submit a request up to the day before the start of the season.
1. All refunds shall be requested on a form provided by or in the format requested by the Division.
  2. All requests for license refunds must be accompanied by the entire license and carcass tag when applicable.
  3. Refunds may be requested by mail or in person at any Division office.
  4. Refunds shall only be issued to the person whose credit card was used or name appears on the license.

5. Licenses purchased through non-Division license agents will be refunded at cost less license agent fee.

6. No refunds shall be made in any circumstance where the license holder was hunting in the field during an active season for the license and designated species as specified in Commission rules and regulations.

76. No refunds shall be made on any special licenses listed in 33-4-102(2), C.R.S., or any auction or raffle licenses as provided for in 33-4-116 or 33-4-116.5, C.R.S., or on any exchanged license, or on any license that costs less than \$15.00 with the exceptions of resident youth turkey and resident youth big game licenses, or to any person whose license privileges have been suspended by the Commission.

87. When the \$15.00 processing fee exceeds the original refund amount, no refund shall be issued and the remainder of the processing fee shall be waived.

98. All limited licenses returned to the Division for a refund or preference point restoration will be available for reissue after the request has been processed using the current leftover list and following all other license purchase regulations, except for the following limited licenses:

- a. Turkey, deer, elk, pronghorn and bear hunt codes which required five (5) or more resident preference points to draw as determined by the current year's limited license draw;
- b. Bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and moose licenses;
- c. All public Ranching for Wildlife licenses.

109. \_\_\_\_\_ The following limited licenses returned for refund or preference point restoration will be reissued by the Division manually:

- a. Turkey, deer, elk, pronghorn and bear hunt codes which required five (5) or more resident preference points to draw as determined by the current year's limited license draw;
- b. Bighorn sheep, mountain goat, and moose licenses;
- c. All public Ranching for Wildlife licenses.

If the next in line regular draw list applicant accepts one of the aforementioned first choice licenses that has been returned and reissued, all accumulated preference points for that species become void. If a license cannot be manually reissued to one of the first five people on the regular draw list, the license will become available for reissue using the current leftover license list. Public Ranching for Wildlife licenses will not be reissued within fourteen (14) days of the start date for the respective hunt code or be available for sale off the leftover license list.

1140. Requests for refunds after the opening of the season will be accompanied by a signed affidavit sufficient evidence demonstrating that the license has not been used and circumstances precluded the licensee from being able to use the license. In addition, to be eligible for a refund the failure to apply for a refund less than thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of the season for which the license was issued cannot be due to a lack of diligence on the part of the licensee. The Division's License Administration Manager will render a decision on the refund request on

behalf of the Division and the Commission and such decision shall constitute final agency action. Circumstances for which reimbursement will be considered shall be limited to:

- a. Extreme medical circumstances involving the license holder or a license holder's immediate family member;
- b. Death of the license holder or death of a license holder's immediate family member;
- c. Active and reserve members of the United States armed forces whose military orders overlap with the season dates of the returned license; or
- d. Individuals on jury duty whose jury duty service overlaps with the season dates of the returned license.

## B. Other Refunds

1. Refunds or antlerless licenses may be issued in any unit approved by the Division for the same species in the same year to hunters who harvest a deer, elk or moose in which Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is detected through the Division's CWD monitoring or testing programs. Where there is no open season or insufficient time remains to reasonably exercise the benefits of a license granted in the same year, the Division may issue the licensee an antlerless license for the same species in the following year in the same Game Management Unit where the CWD detected animal was harvested, or if antlerless hunting is not permitted in the applicable GMU, the Division may designate a substitute GMU. If the season closes prior to October 31 in the unit, the license will be valid through October 31. The provisions of this regulation shall apply to any hunter who harvests a moose after January 1, 2006 in which CWD is detected. Licenses issued pursuant to this provision shall not be considered part of the quota otherwise established by the Commission for that GMU.
2. Except for cases of Division error, no refunds shall be issued for any annual license, one-day, or five-day license, mountain lion license or preference point fee.

## C. Restoration of Preference Points

1. License preference points used to obtain the license will not be restored except as follows:
  - a. No later than fourteen (14) days prior to the opening day of the applicable turkey season for turkey licenses or thirty (30) days prior to the opening day of the season for all other licenses, preference points may be restored to the pre-drawing level in lieu of a refund at the licensee's request.
  - b. Less than fourteen (14) days prior to the opening day of the applicable turkey season for turkey licenses or thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the season for all other licenses, the License Administration Manager may restore license preference points to the pre-drawing level and/or issue a monetary refund if any of the following circumstances prevent the license holder from exercising the intended benefits of the license; ~~may restore preference points to the pre-drawing level in lieu of a refund for:~~
    1. Extreme medical circumstances involving the license holder or a license holder's immediate family member; or

2. Death of a license holder's immediate family member;<sup>17</sup>

~~e. The License Administration Manager may restore license preference points to the pre-drawing level and issue a monetary refund for:~~

34. Active and reserve members of the United States armed forces whose military orders overlap with the season dates of the returned license;<sup>17</sup> or

42. Individuals on jury duty whose jury duty service overlaps with the season dates of the returned license.

D. Requests for refunds and/or restoration of license preference points due to extreme medical circumstances involving the license holder or a license holder's immediate family member, the death of a license holder's immediate family member, military orders that prevents the service member from exercising the intended benefits of the license or jury duty will be accompanied by sufficient evidence demonstrating that the license has not been used and circumstances precluded the licensee from being able to use the license. In addition, sufficient documentation is required to prove extreme medical circumstances, death, military orders or jury duty service.

#### E. Time Restriction

1. A refund or preference point restoration will be denied when the request is submitted more than thirty (30) days after the opening of the season for which the license was issued. Provided further that all time limits will be extended for active and reserve members of the United States armed forces whose military service requirements precluded their application for a refund or preference point restoration within said periods.
2. When additional documentation is requested and required by the Division to approve a refund and/or restoration of preference points request, the requestor will have thirty (30) days from the mailing date indicated on the notification letter to submit all the required documentation. If required documentation is not submitted prior to the 30-day deadline, the request will be considered closed and denied. No requests from the previous year will be considered after January 31, annually.

#### F. Director Disaster Relief Authority

1. When, in the determination of the Director, existing Parks and Wildlife regulations will have a significant negative impact following a natural disaster that displaces persons from their homes, or closes areas to public access and results in a time-critical demand for use of park resources or a complete (or near complete) loss of hunting opportunity, the Director is authorized to take emergency administrative actions, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Issuance of license fee refunds.
  - b. Restoration of preference points.
  - c. Exchange of big game hunting licenses for leftover or over-the-counter licenses.
  - e.d. Issue similar guaranteed licenses for another license year.

~~d.e.~~ Suspension of length of stay camping limits on Division-owned or controlled properties.

| ~~f.e.~~ Imposition of administrative requirements associated with the application for relief granted under this section.

**Basis and Purpose:**

**Clarifying refund, restoration of preference points and Director's disaster relief authority regulations**

These changes clarify the regulatory language so that customers can more fully understand what types of refund requests will be approved, including clarifying that for licenses purchased with a credit card, a refund will be made to the same credit card used to make the original purchase and clarifying that if a license holder was in the field any length of time during the season for which their license was valid, they are ineligible for a refund. Additionally, for licenses turned in after the start of the season, a new affidavit has been created to ensure the customer was not out in the field hunting. Additionally, regulations have been changed to make customers impacted by extreme medical circumstances or death (of themselves or an immediate family member) eligible to receive a restoration of preference points and/or a monetary refund, similar to military service or jury duty. Finally, regulations have been added to clarify the Director's authority to issue guaranteed licenses in response to extreme events.

The statements of basis and purpose for these regulations can be obtained from the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Office of the Regulations Manager by emailing [dnr\\_cpw\\_planning@state.co.us](mailto:dnr_cpw_planning@state.co.us) or by visiting the Division of Parks and Wildlife headquarters at 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216.

**The primary statutory authority for these regulations can be found in § 24-4-103, C.R.S., and the state Wildlife Act, § 33-1-101 to 33-6-209, C.R.S., specifically including, but not limited to: § 33-6-106, C.R.S. and §33-1-106(1)(a), C.R.S.**

**EFFECTIVE DATE - THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2022 AND SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNTIL REPEALED, AMENDED OR SUPERSEDED.**

**APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO THIS 18TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2021.**

**APPROVED:  
Carrie Besnette Hauser  
Chair**

**ATTEST:  
Luke B. Schafer  
Secretary**