



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Policy and Planning
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 80216

TO: Agency Staff, Parks and Wildlife Commissioners, and Members of the Public
FROM: Hilary Hernandez, Regulations Manager
RE: November 13-14, 2025 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting Regulations Summary
DATE: November 17, 2025

At the November 13-14, 2025 meeting, the Parks and Wildlife Commission heard proposed changes to regulations as follows. All final regulations approved at the meeting will go into effect on January 1, 2026 unless otherwise noted.

Updated chapters include P-07, W-00, W-01, W-02, W-03, W-11, W-16, and W-17.

FINAL REGULATIONS

Agenda Item 14: [Chapter P-7 - "Passes, Permits and Registrations"](#) 2 CCR 405-7 (Step 2 of 2)

The Commission finalized changes to increase the daily vehicle fees for Elkhead Reservoir, Pearl Lake, Stagecoach, and Steamboat Lake State Parks, pursuant to SB 23-059 Local Access Funding.

Agenda Item 15: [Chapter W-0 - "General Provisions"](#) 2 CCR 406-0, and those related provisions of [Chapter W-2](#) ("Big Game" 2 CCR 406-2), [Chapter W-3](#) ("Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3), and [Chapter W-16](#) ("Parks and Wildlife Procedural Rules" 2 CCR 406-16) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-0 (Step 2 of 2)

The Commission finalized changes including but not limited to:

- Adjusting license fees and license agent commission rates according to the Denver- Aurora- Lakewood Consumer Price Index.
- Increasing the backcountry search and rescue fee.

Agenda Item 16: [Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds"](#) 2 CCR 406-3 (Step 1 of 1)

The Commission finalized regulations regarding turkey hunting, including but not limited to, license areas, season dates, and manner of take provisions for the 2026 turkey hunting seasons.

Agenda Item 17: [Chapter W-11 - "Wildlife Parks and Unregulated Wildlife"](#) 2 CCR 406-11, and those related provisions of [Chapter W-0](#) ("General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0), [Chapter W-2](#) ("Big Game" 2 CCR 406-2), and [Chapter W-17](#) ("Damage Caused by Wildlife" 2 CCR 406-17) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-11 (Step 2 of 2)

The Commission finalized changes to implement SB 25-053, including rules differentiating between wild bison as big game and domestic bison, the future regulated hunting of wild bison, and the payment of compensation for damage caused by wild bison.

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION



Jeff Davis, Director, Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Parks and Wildlife Commission: Richard Reading, Chair · James 'Jay' Tuthton, Vice-Chair · Eden Vardy, Secretary · Jessica Beaulieu · Frances Silva Blaney · John Emerick · Tai Jacober · Dallas May · Jack Murphy · Gabriel Otero · Murphy Robinson

Agenda Item 19: Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 (“General Provisions” 2 CCR 406-0) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-2 (Step 1 of 2)

Open for annual review of the entire chapter, including, but not limited to:

Statewide

- Modifying the culpable mental state for luring or attracting wildlife.

Deer

- Creating a first rifle season buck hunt code in data analysis unit D-30.
- Creating a private-land-only deer hunt code in game management unit 682.

Elk

- Modifying second and third rifle season bull elk licenses from unlimited over-the-counter to limited in game management units 54, 55, and 551.
- Removing antler point restrictions in game management unit 82.
- Modifying hunt codes for the first and fourth rifle seasons in data analysis unit E-2.
- Creating a private-land-only hunt code in data analysis unit E-13.
- Creating private-land-only archery hunt codes in data analysis units E-20 and E-35.

Pronghorn

- Creating pronghorn licenses in data analysis unit A-22.
- Creating a second antlerless season in data analysis unit A-3.

Bighorn Sheep

- Removing hunt code SMS7901R.
- Closing hunting in game management unit S-35 due to low population size.
- Combining sheep hunt codes in game management units S1 and S18.

CONSENT AGENDA

Final Regulations

Agenda Item 27.2: [Chapter W-1 - “Fishing” 2 CCR 406-1](#) (Step 2 of 2)

The Commission finalized changes including, but not limited to, consideration of regulations regarding season dates, bag and possession limits, licensing requirements, manner of take provisions and special conditions or restrictions applicable to waters of the state. Specific considerations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Prohibiting fishing around the George Creek Fish Barrier.
- Modifying the take regulations for tiger muskie at Lake Granby, Grand Lake and the Colorado River downstream of Shadow Mountain Reservoir.
- Modifying take regulations on Herman Gulch and Dry Gulch to protect declining populations of native Greenback Cutthroat Trout.
- Modifying take regulations at Sloan Lake in Hinsdale County.
- Modifying the closure date on Tenmile Creek and Blue River upstream of Dillon Reservoir from September 1 to September 15.
- Cleanup to Rito Hondo Reservoir and Creek, and Yampa River.



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These fishing regulation changes go into effect April 1, 2026.

Issue Identification

Agenda Item 27.3: Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 (“General Provisions” 2 CCR 406-0) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-2 (Step 1 of 2)

Statewide

- Expanding lifetime bag limits to include reward program licenses.
- Realigning the boundaries of game management units 97 and 99.

Deer

- Removing deer hunt codes DM004P5A and DF004P5A.
- Creating a private-land-only urban deer management hunt code in game management unit 84.
- Creating a limited fourth rifle season antlered hunt code in data analysis unit D-19.
- Creating a private-land-only doe hunt code in data analysis unit D-24.

Elk

- Modifying the antler point restrictions for Ranching for Wildlife enrolled ranches.
- Adding a cow late season to data analysis unit E-19.
- Converting antlerless hunt codes in data analysis unit E-16 to be list B.
- Converting bull rifle licenses to be either-sex licenses in data analysis unit E-10.
- Creating archery licenses in data analysis unit E-23 and converting antlerless licenses to be list B licenses.
- Creating new season dates for hunt code EF060P5R.

Pronghorn

- Creating muzzleloader private-land-only licenses in data analysis unit A-37.

Moose

- Creating a female-only moose hunt code in data analysis unit M-12.
- Creating a moose hunt code for game management unit 551 and splitting game management unit 55 into east and west subunits.
- Creating a bull-moose hunt code in game management unit 79.
- Adding wilderness only hunt codes to data analysis unit M-4.

Bear

- Creating a private-land-only bear hunt code in game management unit 211.

Bighorn Sheep

- Removing the second season ram hunt in Waterton Canyon.
- Adding a late season archery hunt to data analysis unit RBS-06.
- Adding archery licenses in game management unit S-3.
- Adding game management unit 67 to hunt codes SMS59O1R and removing hunt code SMS67O1R.
- Modifying the season dates for game management unit S-34.

Mountain Lion

- Updating the harvest limit groups to implement the East Slope Mountain Lion plan.
- Reorganizing the harvest limit groups for LE6001R and LE06201R.



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