



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: November 19-20, 2020 Parks and Wildlife Commission Meeting Regulations Summary
DATE: November 24, 2020

At the November 19-20, 2020 meeting, the Parks and Wildlife Commission heard proposed changes to regulations as follows. All final regulations approved at the November 19-20 meeting will go into effect on January 1, 2021 unless otherwise noted.

FINAL REGULATIONS (PARKS and WILDLIFE):

Agenda Item 11 - [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 \("Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3\)](#), [Chapter W-11 \("Wildlife Parks and Unregulated Wildlife" 2 CCR 406-11\)](#), [Chapter W-15 \("License Agents" 2 CCR 406-15\)](#), and [Chapter P-7 \("Passes, Permits and Registrations" - 2 CCR 405-7\)](#) necessary to accommodate changes to or ensure consistency with Chapter W-0

The Commission adopted regulations adjusting license fees and license agent commission rates according to adjustments to the Denver-Aurora-Lakewood Consumer Price Index. Discounts will continue to be offered for certain wildlife licenses. Additionally, the Commission opted to retain the current fee for the resident low-income senior lifetime fishing license. Most other licenses were increased based on adjustments to the Consumer Price Index, including raptor licenses and special wildlife licenses, which have previously not been increased with the Consumer Price Index.

[Agenda Item 12](#) - Chapter W-2 - "Big Game" 2 CCR 406-2 and those related provisions of Chapter W-0 - "General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0

The Commission opted to maintain the status quo and did not adopt potential changes to regulations related to the method used to determine the resident/nonresident allocation of licenses in the regular limited license draw. The Commission instead directed staff to solicit further public feedback on potential changes that might be considered for the 2022 big game seasons.

Agenda Item 14 - [Chapter P-1 - "Parks and Outdoor Recreation Lands" - 2 CCR 405-1](#) and those related provisions of [Chapter P-7 \("Passes, Permits and Registrations" - 2 CCR 405-7\)](#)

The Commission finalized permanent regulations for Fishers Peak State Park necessary to ensure public safety, to protect natural and cultural resources, and for CPW and its partners to continue collecting further cultural and biological data while allowing for some limited trail and public hunter access during the master planning process. This includes regulations requiring a \$4 daily pass per person for all visitors sixteen years of age or older entering Fishers Peak State Park, except those entering the park in a motor vehicle with a valid and applicable parks pass or those entering the park with a valid and applicable annual parks pass receipt.

Agenda Item 15 - [Chapter P-7 - "Passes, Permits and Registrations" - 2 CCR 405-7](#)

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



- Increasing daily vehicle pass fees by \$1 at several high-use parks, including Castlewood Canyon, Golden Gate Canyon, Highline Lake, Lake Pueblo, Roxborough and Staunton State Parks.
- Removing the time restrictions for a Regional Manager to reduce the fees for the use of campsites, cabins, yurts and event facilities by up to 50% when determined necessary to encourage occupancy and otherwise increase use.

Agenda Item 16 - [Chapter W-1- "Fishing" 2 CCR 406-1](#)

The Commission finalized regulations in its annual review of the entire chapter 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:

- Clarifying the criteria for establishing an emergency closure of fishing waters.
- Establishing a limited harvest of mountain whitefish statewide.
- Changing fishing regulations for selected streams in the Southwest region to protect Colorado River cutthroat trout and Rio Grande cutthroat trout conservation populations (throughout).
- Restricting bass fishing, and revising bag and possession limits and minimum size restrictions for crappie and redear sunfish at Berthoud Reservoir.
- Implementing a 10" minimum size limit for black and white crappie at Boedecker Reservoir.
- Shortening the fishing closure dates on the Colorado River below Shadow Mountain Reservoir.
- Implementing minimum size and bag limit regulations for walleye at Horseshoe Reservoir.
- Eliminating the special regulation for largemouth and smallmouth bass at Lagerman Reservoir.
- Implementing minimum size and bag limit regulations for walleye at Lake Loveland.
- Revising the bag and possession limit and minimum size regulation for tiger trout at Meadow Creek Reservoir (Grand County) to one fish greater than 18 inches in length.
- Reducing bag and possession limits for trout at Meadow Creek Reservoir (Jackson County).
- Prohibiting fishing at Webster Pond in Boulder County.
- Adding East Fork Roaring Creek to the current Roaring Creek regulations limiting fishing to artificial fly and lure only, and requiring that cutthroat trout be returned to the water immediately.

These updated fishing regulations will go into effect on April 1, 2021.

Agenda Item 17 - [Chapter W-3 - "Furbearers and Small Game, except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3](#)

The Commission finalized regulations in its annual review of regulations regarding turkey hunting, including but not limited to, license areas, season dates, and manner of take provisions for the 2021 turkey hunting seasons. Specific considerations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Splitting the regular turkey season on the Beaver Creek State Wildlife Area and Table Mountain State Trust Land into two seasons to reduce hunter crowding and creating a youth-only turkey license for this area.

CITIZEN PETITIONS

[Agenda Item 18](#) - Chapter P-8 - "Aquatic Nuisance Species" 2 CCR 405-8

The Commission heard and forwarded-on a Citizen Petition for Rulemaking requesting that the Commission exempt rowing shells from the aquatic nuisance species inspection requirement.

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

Agenda Item 19 - Chapter W-0 - "General Provisions" 2 CCR 406-0

The Commission initiated its annual review of the entire chapter, including but not limited to, Game Management Unit (GMU) boundary modifications, regulations relating to fish management, health, importation, prohibited species, and other annual changes. Specific considerations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Adding additional crustaceans to the list of aquatic wildlife that may be possessed.
- Implementing a ¼-mile hunting closure around both Guanella Pass and Kenosha Pass.
- Creating the new bighorn sheep GMU S-86.

Agenda Item 20 - Chapter W-2 - "Big Game" 2 CCR 406-2 and those related provisions of Chapter W-3 ("Furbearers and Small Game, Except Migratory Birds" 2 CCR 406-3)

The Commission initiated its annual review of the entire chapter, including, but not limited to:

Multiple Species

- Changing the application deadline dates for the Secondary Draw and Fall Turkey Draw (statewide).
- Standardizing mandatory check form regulations across species (statewide).

Deer

- Changing the season closure date for hunt code DM391P5R to November 30 (NE).
- Creating private land only antlered and antlerless licenses in GMU 102 (NE).
- Creating season choice whitetail-only deer licenses in GMUs 87 and 88 (NE).
- Creating 4th season antlerless deer hunt codes in the northern portion of GMUs 4, 11, and 211 to manage high prevalence of chronic wasting disease (NW).
- Creating private land only either sex deer hunt codes for the 4th rifle season in GMUs 3, 301, 4, 441, 5, 11, 211, 12, 13, 23, and 24 (NW).
- Converting hunt code DF481L1R to DF481P5R (SE).

Elk

- Changing the season dates and license category for hunt code EF009L1R (NE).
- Changing the season dates for hunt code EF085L1R (SE).
- Converting either-sex muzzleloader, first season rifle, and fourth season rifle elk licenses in GMU 70 to sex specific licenses (SW).
- Eliminating the hunt code EF074P5R (SW).
- Converting all antlerless elk list B licenses to list A in GMU 521 (SW).

Pronghorn

- Creating late season private land only doe pronghorn hunt codes for GMUs 89 & 95 (NE).
- Changing PH-39 archery licenses from unlimited to limited draw licenses and removing GMU 561 from the list of valid units for the either-sex unlimited pronghorn archery license (SE).
- Adding buck and doe private land only hunt codes for the PH-18 primary rifle season (SE).

Moose

- Creating bull and cow moose hunt codes for GMUs 25, 26, and 231 (NW).
- Creating bull and cow moose hunt codes in GMUs 47, 444, and 471 (NW).
- Creating cow moose hunt codes for GMU 43 (NW).

- Creating hunt code MM056O1X for GMUs 56 and 561 (SE).

Bighorn Sheep

- Invalidating the SMS48O1R hunt code in select years to account for the Bighorn Sheep Access Program in GMU S48 (SE).

DRAFT REGULATIONS

[Agenda Item 24](#) - Chapter W-16 - “Parks and Wildlife Procedural Rules” 2 CCR 406-16

The Commission heard and forwarded-on draft regulations including, but not limited to, clarifying the processes applicable to license suspension appeals.

CONSENT AGENDA (Agenda Item 21)

ISSUES IDENTIFICATION

[Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2](#)

The Commission initiated its annual review of the entire chapter, including, but not limited to:

- Allowing antlerless moose hunters to present either the entire head or an incisor during a mandatory inspection (statewide).
- Creating a fourth rifle season antlered deer hunt in GMU 40 (NW).
- Eliminating the late season antlerless hunt code DF211L1R (NW).
- Removing GMUs 105 and 106 from the EF104P5R hunt code (NE).

CITIZEN PETITIONS

[Chapter W-2 - “Big Game” 2 CCR 406-2](#)

The Commission adopted the Director’s written recommendation to DENY two petitions for rulemaking requesting that the Commission revise the regulation requiring a firearm to be completely enclosed and unloaded while being transported on an off-highway vehicle during big game seasons.

[Chapter W-9 – “Wildlife Properties” 2 CCR 406-9](#)

The Commission adopted the Director’s written recommendation to DENY a petition for rulemaking requesting that the Commission repeal the license requirement to access state wildlife areas and state trust lands.