

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources Commission Committee Meetings

May 10, 2019, 8:30 AM (ET)
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky

Meeting Schedule

Administration, Education & Policy Committee

PR Committee

Fisheries Committee

Wildlife Committee

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission
Administration, Education and Policy Committee Meeting

May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Committee Members: Chairman Paul Horn, Jeff Eaton, Brian Fisher and
Doug Morgan

AGENDA

- | | | |
|-------|------------------------------|--|
| I. | Call to Order
and Welcome | Chairman Horn |
| II. | Pledge of Allegiance | |
| III. | Old Business | |
| IV. | Information Item: | Review of Quarterly Financials |
| V. | Action Item: | 6 Year Capital Construction Plan |
| VI. | Action Item: | Cervid Meat Processor Registration
Requirements
Attachment AEP-1 |
| VII. | Action Item: | Proposed Changes to 301 KAR 2:185,
Hunter Education
Attachment AEP-2 |
| VIII. | Information Item: | Update on the results of the Kentucky
NASP tournament
Attachment AEP-3 |
| IX. | Information Item: | Update on R3 Summit
Attachment AEP-4 |

X. Information Item: New Regulatory Requirements due to
HB 4
Attachment AEP-5

XI. New Business: New Business Items
○ Special Commission Permits

XII. Adjourn

Cash Fund Balances - Fiscal Year 2019

As of March 31, 2019

	Beginning Balance (3/1/2019)	Revenue	Expenditures	Transfers	Ending Balance (3/31/2019)
Agency Revenue Funds					
Restricted Fish & Game Fund (134R)	\$ 9,280,397.20	\$ 3,800,617.13	\$ 3,136,863.08		\$ 9,944,151.25
Nongame Fish and Wildlife Fund (13NY)	\$ 25,777.73	\$ 96.92			\$ 25,874.65
Ky Heritage Land Conservation Mgmt Fund (13KR)	\$ 294,441.66				\$ 294,441.66
Fees in Lieu of ("FILO") Stream Mitigation Fund (134S)	\$ 116,573,640.52	\$ 32,034,017.04	\$ 109,240.25		\$ 148,498,417.31
Capital Fund					
Various Capital Funded Projects (FILO, Agency Maintenance, etc.)	\$23,006,513.84		\$ 577,184.98		\$ 22,429,328.86
Federal Fund					
F&W Federal Fund	\$ 17,089,177.59	\$ 2,421,687.69	\$ 1,016,865.91		\$ 18,493,999.37
Special Deposit Trust Fund					
FW-Commissioner's Office Fund	\$ 8,916.24				\$ 8,916.24
	<u>\$ 166,278,864.78</u>	<u>\$ 38,256,418.78</u>	<u>\$ 4,840,154.22</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 199,695,129.34</u>

Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources
Income Statement - 3rd Quarter FY19 / March

75.00%

75.00%									
3rd Quarter, YTD									

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES
Operating Budget Review
For the Month of March 2019 (FY19)

REVENUE	Month of March			Fiscal Year To Third Quarter		
	FY19	FY18	FY17	FY19	FY18	FY17
Restricted Fish and Game Fund and Nongame Fund¹						
Hunting and Fishing Licenses	\$ 2,433,114.00	\$ 2,694,331.00	\$ 2,709,086.00	\$ 17,268,436.00	\$ 18,033,662.95	\$ 17,469,592.00
Boat Registration Fees	\$ 932,599.53	\$ 212,506.98	\$ 176,025.96	\$ 1,633,444.29	\$ 603,911.85	\$ 560,411.47
Interest Income	\$ 102,532.28	\$ 38,506.22	\$ 12,944.85	\$ 608,283.17	\$ 164,310.87	\$ 52,634.15
Camp Income	\$ 213,169.45	\$ 197,274.78	\$ 238,797.75	\$ 461,402.66	\$ 410,686.53	\$ 470,346.15
General Sales	\$ 34,050.44	\$ 27,537.34	\$ 31,355.39	\$ 215,797.77	\$ 207,611.55	\$ 205,728.43
Otter Creek Outdoor Recreation Area	\$ 18,879.13	\$ 79,200.13	\$ 11,544.00	\$ 139,632.61	\$ 168,023.23	\$ 213,676.30
Proceeds from Asset Disposition	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 84,178.45	\$ 155,154.27	\$ 147,912.50
Fish and Game Fines & Forfeitures/ Restitution	\$ 23,848.41	\$ 11,666.69	\$ 12,053.80	\$ 116,064.47	\$ 116,101.42	\$ 97,678.94
Nongame (includes Ky Wild and Income Tax Check-off)	\$ 12,537.50	\$ 8,658.50	\$ 7,375.00	\$ 31,819.00	\$ 11,715.50	\$ 7,519.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	\$ 29,983.26	\$ 25,820.09	\$ 15,920.17	\$ 1,250,569.10	\$ 633,645.11	\$ 1,076,421.57
Sub-Total Restricted Fish and Game Fund and Nongame Fund	\$ 3,800,714.05	\$ 3,295,501.73	\$ 3,215,202.92	\$ 21,809,627.52	\$ 20,504,823.28	\$ 20,301,920.51
Sub-Total Federal Fish and Wildlife Fund	\$ 2,421,687.69	\$ 514,392.60	\$ 1,751,076.54	\$ 16,875,860.86	\$ 12,018,554.45	\$ 11,245,956.70
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 6,222,401.74	\$ 3,809,894.33	\$ 5,066,279.46	\$ 38,685,488.38	\$ 32,523,377.73	\$ 31,547,877.21
EXPENDITURES						
Commissioner's Office	\$ 133,194.22	\$ 127,140.31	\$ 142,155.49	\$ 1,363,595.16	\$ 1,318,656.54	\$ 1,249,104.86
Commission	\$ 6,185.57	\$ 3,499.28	\$ 1,594.00	\$ 21,760.97	\$ 18,347.44	\$ 19,518.63
Marketing Division	\$ 83,384.95	\$ 67,714.03	\$ 107,527.23	\$ 833,794.52	\$ 794,596.39	\$ 751,466.49
Administrative Services Division	\$ 249,514.60	\$ (120,629.87)	\$ 165,500.74	\$ 2,896,018.22	\$ 2,148,739.09	\$ 2,364,465.76
Engineering Infrastructure and Technology Division	\$ 293,809.63	\$ 205,164.70	\$ 190,800.78	\$ 2,008,735.01	\$ 1,865,705.58	\$ 1,409,712.11
Wildlife Division	\$ 1,150,748.11	\$ 1,572,834.40	\$ 1,337,257.34	\$ 12,134,841.63	\$ 11,429,507.49	\$ 11,392,874.40
Fisheries Division	\$ 808,539.43	\$ 704,698.01	\$ 1,006,074.41	\$ 7,566,697.17	\$ 6,736,794.75	\$ 7,723,561.19
Information & Education	\$ 520,888.66	\$ 530,328.16	\$ 541,783.75	\$ 5,868,703.76	\$ 5,523,360.15	\$ 5,481,529.07
Law Enforcement	\$ 1,016,304.07	\$ 1,009,435.01	\$ 1,004,986.08	\$ 9,501,915.11	\$ 9,388,636.16	\$ 9,898,800.23
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	\$ 4,262,969.24	\$ 4,100,184.03	\$ 4,497,677.32	\$ 42,196,061.55	\$ 39,224,343.59	\$ 40,291,032.74
NET Gain / Loss Operating & Transfers	\$ 1,959,432.50	\$ (290,289.70)	\$ 508,602.14	\$ (3,510,573.17)	\$ (6,700,965.36)	\$ (8,743,155.53)
NET Gain / Loss Operating	\$ 1,959,432.50	\$ (290,289.70)	\$ 508,602.14	\$ (3,510,573.17)	\$ (6,700,965.36)	\$ (8,743,155.53)

¹ Receipts for FILO are not included, approximately \$1.1 million will be utilized for the administration of that program each year.

Six Year Capital Plan – Proposed Projects

FILO Steam Mitigation (\$20 million/year)

Receipts to this fund are a result of Sec 404 permits issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers that require compensatory mitigation for losses of wetlands or streams under federal jurisdiction. Projects to be funded using receipts to this fund will be decided by a Management Review Team (MRT) comprised of representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Law Enforcement Shooting Range (\$2.6 million donations)

The FBI has approached KDFWR about funding a training shooting range. The discussions regarding this project are preliminary.

Wildlife Shooting Range (\$2 million estimate)

This range would be funded with a federal hunter education grant. The grant is 75% federal funding matched with 25% agency receipts.

Attachment AEP-1

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Administration, Education and Policy Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Action Item: Cervid Meat Processor Registration Requirements

Action: Create a required registration system for cervid meat processors, as defined by KRS 150.722, in order to have accurate contact and location information of their businesses

There are statutes and regulations pertaining to cervid meat processors that the department is responsible for enforcing; however, the department has no means of identifying locations and contact information for all current processors because there is no license system for these businesses, unlike all other commercial businesses that make a profit from a fish or wildlife resource.

Unfortunately, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), an always-fatal neurologic disease in deer and elk, has now been found in 6 of 7 states surrounding Kentucky. It is imperative that the department know where all these businesses are located so they can implement their CWD prevention protocols regarding testing and enforcement of laws. In the event CWD is detected in Kentucky, it is equally important the department be able to effectively communicate with deer processors to implement a CWD response plan to help contain and manage the disease.

We recommend creating a required registration system for cervid meat processors, as defined in KRS 150.722, in order to have accurate contact and location information of these businesses. There is no fee associated with this registration.

This required registration will allow the department to both effectively communicate CWD response measures with processors, as well as better enforce current laws associated with these establishments.

Attachment AEP-2

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Administration, Education and Policy Committee Meeting

May 10, 2019

**1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY**

**Action Item: Proposed Changes to 301 KAR 2:185,
Hunter Education**

**Action: Add a subsection to 301 KAR 2:185, Section 4 that
will allow a student to receive their Hunter
Education Certification without having to
complete an "in-person" course or live fire
exercise.**

**Remove the "license exempt" portion of Section
2. This would make it a requirement that all
hunters in Kentucky, born after January 1st 2002,
pass a hunter education course before hunting.**

Allowing the Hunter Education Certification to be achieved via a free online learning course provides constituents with an alternative opportunity to complete the Hunter Education requirement while still maintaining safety standards. The addition of an online only option allows KDFWR to reach constituents that may have limited time and resources to travel to a range day or in-person course. Given the busy schedules of many potential Hunter Education students, the online only option enables them to complete the course in a manner that works with their schedule. In-person courses will still be available for those students that prefer to learn in a classroom setting. By eliminating barriers to complete the Hunter Education requirement, KDFWR is working to ensure that all hunters in the field have completed the Hunter Education requirement.

With the implementation of an online option, many of the barriers to complete an in-person course have been removed including travel costs, course availability, competition for students' time and others. With these barriers removed, KDFWR should strive to have all hunters in the field trained in Hunter Education. Therefore, we propose removing the exemption for the hunter education requirement for landowners and/or their dependents born after January 1, 2002.

Attachment AEP-3

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Administration, Education and Policy Committee Meeting

May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

**Information Item: Update on the results of the Kentucky
NASP Tournament**

On March 15th and 16th, Kentucky set a new record for the largest State NASP Tournament in the Country. With 7,040 archers, Kentucky broke the previous record of 6,504. That record was set by Kentucky in 2018. Kentucky's State NASP International Bow Hunters/3D Challenge also set a record with 1,541 archers. Additionally, the inaugural "NASP Alumni Shoot" was held during the State Tournament. There were 248 archers that competed in this just-for-fun competition. Amongst those archers were seventeen teams that competed for the grand prize of a NASP start-up kit for starting a NASP program in a new school. The winning team, the "West Kentucky Bush Wookies", received the start-up kit valued at \$3,200 to give to a school of their choice in need of a NASP program.

Attachment AEP-4

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Administration, Education and Policy Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Information Item: Update on R3 Summit

On April 9th, Kentucky Fish and Wildlife's R3 Branch hosted its second "R3 Summit". During the Summit, the branch presented the final draft of the R3 Strategic Plan. The Plan represents the culmination of more than a year's work by the Branch and the Agency's partners. The Plan will serve as a road map for all future programs and efforts that are coordinated by the Branch. The Summit attendees divided into Committees that outlined the Plan during the first Summit in 2017. The Committees set timelines to work on the Plan's Action Items.

Attachment AEP-5

**Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Administration, Education and Policy Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY**

Information Item: New Regulatory Requirements due to HB 4

Recent changes to a bill relating to administrative regulations will extend the legislative approval timeline for any proposed changes to our administrative regulations.

The following changes related to House Bill 4 take effect June 27, 2019.

- The public comment period will be extended for an additional month. Currently, the public comment period is 45 days.
- The legislative subcommittee to which the regulation is assigned shall have an additional 60 days to hold a public meeting during which the regulation shall be reviewed. If the subcommittee meets, the regulation is effective upon adjournment. If the subcommittee does not meet, the regulation is effective 90 days after referral. Currently, the regulation becomes effective 30 days after referral.
- An emergency regulation will expire 270 days after the date of filing, if the ordinary regulation does not become effective first. Currently, an emergency regulation remains in effect for 180 days.

Considering these changes to House Bill 4, if an administrative regulation takes the maximum amount of time to become effective, it will take an additional three months for amendments to a regulation to go into effect. Therefore, if comments are received and the interim joint committee does not meet, it would take 8 months for a regulation to become effective.

The Commission is encouraged to consider this extended timeline when voting to recommend changes to administrative regulations. Allowing enough lead-time will ensure that any changes to administrative regulations are reflected in regulatory guides. The guides summarize for the public the laws related to fishing, boating, hunting and trapping.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission
Public Relations Committee Meeting

May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Committee Members: Chairman Jeff Eaton, Kevin Bond, Ralph Swallows
and Brian Fisher

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order: Chairman Eaton
- II. Old Business
- III. Information Item: Digital Transformation Update
- IV. Information Item: Elk Draw Application Expansion
Discussion
- V. Information Item: Kentucky Wild Update
- VI. New Business: New Business Items
 - New Fishing Access App
 - Public Communications and
Transparency Update
- VII. Adjourn

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Fisheries Committee Meeting

May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Committee Members: Chairman Kenny Knott, Dr. Harry Carloss,
Ralph Swallows and Doug Morgan

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order: Chairman Knott
- II. Old Business
- III. Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 1:201, Taking
of fish by traditional fishing methods
Attachment F-1
- IV. Action Item: Modification of KAR 1:016:
Use of lands and waters on lakes owned
or controlled by the department
Attachment F-2
- V. New Business
- VI. Adjourn

Attachment F-1

**Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Fisheries Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY**

**Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 1:201, Taking of fish by
traditional fishing methods**

Action: Cutthroat Trout Regulation

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Hatchery program recently informed Kentucky that it had a surplus of cutthroat trout and asked if we were interested in stocking 38,000 in the Cumberland tailwater, free of charge, this year. Cutthroat trout are highly prized by serious trout anglers and would make an excellent addition to fishing in the tailwater. Since the USFWS Wolf Creek hatchery will only produce similar numbers annually in the future, and they are so highly revered, we are proposing a daily creel limit of 1 cutthroat trout that must be at least 20 inches in length. Regarding the trophy fish program, any cutthroat trout less than 20 inches will not be recognized.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Fisheries Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

**Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 1:016, Use of
lands and waters on lakes owned or controlled
by the department**

Action: Add Lake Beshear to 301 KAR 1:106

In 2009, after two years of discussions with the public concerning excessive construction of buildings, access structures and boat docks on department-owned lakes, the Department created 301 KAR 1:016 and it was passed into law in April 2010. The regulation contains restrictions to the size and construction of boat docks and access structures and other buildings. A pamphlet was created to make the regulations easier for the public to understand (A Guide for Construction On Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Lakes and Land Buffer Areas), and a reminder card is sent out to adjacent landowners each January that the regulation exists and a pamphlet is available for viewing on our website; and we will mail hard copies to those without internet access.

Lake Beshear was not included in the list of department-owned lakes because the Department has a contract agreement with the City of Dawson Springs to enforce the state regulations and control construction on our buffer around the lake. In recent years, it has become apparent that the City cannot legally enforce the laws as was agreed upon in the 1962 contract. Therefore, we are in the process of trying to reconstruct a contract with the City that will not contain requirements that it cannot legally fulfill. In order to provide the same guidelines to Lake Beshear as are required of all other department-owned lakes, the Fisheries Division is recommending that the lake is included in .01 KAR 1:016. The addition to the regulation will require a public meeting in Dawson Springs that will be held prior to the June Commission meeting if the Committee votes to move this proposal forward.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting

May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Committee Members: Chairman Kevin Bond, Paul Horn,
Dr. Harry Carloss, Kenny Knott

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order: Chairman Bond
- II. Old Business
- III. Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 1:082,
Frog Season; Limits
Attachment W-1
- IV. Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:090,
Means by which migratory game
birds may be taken
Attachment W-2
- V. Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:251,
Hunting and trapping seasons and
limits for furbearers
Attachment W-3
- VI. Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:049,
Small game and furbearer hunting and
trapping on public areas and 301 KAR
2:122, Seasons, methods, and limits for
small game
Attachment W-4
- VII. Information Item: Elk Hunting Season Update

VIII. Action Item:

Elk Tag Allocation for 2020-2021
Attachment W-5

IX. Information Items:

Wildlife Division Research proposals:

- 3-year elk survey
- Eastern Hellbender survey
- Survey of public shooting range interest and need

Attachment W-6

X. Information Item:

CWD Forums
Attachment W-7

XI. Information Item:

Volunteer Program on WMAs
Attachment W-8

XII. New Business:

New Business Items

- Paul Van Booven Wildlife Management Area
- Cutting Bag limit on quail or closing some WMA's to quail hunting

Attachment W-9

XIII. Adjourn

Attachment W-1

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Action Item: **Modification of 301 KAR 1:082, Frog
Season; Limits**

Action: **Move the bullfrog season from the 3rd Friday in
May to the 1st Friday in July**

The League of Kentucky Sportsmen has brought forth a resolution requesting that the department research a perceived decline in bullfrog populations across the state. Concerned hunters have inquired as to actions that may enhance bullfrog populations, particularly in the western portion of the state. While there are no data that a steep decline is ongoing, shortening the harvest season in Kentucky could have a beneficial impact on bullfrog populations. This would protect the best breeders through the major part of the spawning season and ensure that many of the biggest females would remain in the ponds, river backwaters, and wetlands long enough into the summer to produce at least one large egg mass each. Among Kentucky and our seven border states, only two states (Kentucky, Tennessee) allow bullfrog harvesting in May, and only three states (Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia) allow frogs to be harvested through the entire month of June.

**Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY**

**Action Item: Modification of 301 KAR 2:090, Means by
which migratory game birds may be taken**

**Action: Remove 3 shell limit on shotguns for snow goose
conservation order season**

The Snow Goose Conservation Order Season was a special season created by the US Fish and Wildlife Service to reduce populations of continentally overabundant snow geese. Rapidly growing populations of snow geese threatened to damage fragile arctic habitats where they nest. The conservation order season, which occurs outside of normal hunting seasons, was designed to remove restrictions to harvest that limit take of these birds. The Conservation Order Season incorporates tools such as electronic calls, no bag limits, extended shooting hours and removal of requirements to use plugged guns to increase harvest. Kentucky disallowed the use of more than 3 shells while hunting with a shotgun by statute, so Kentucky was not able to take advantage of this and had to be more restrictive than federal law allows. Recent changes to the statute allows for unplugged guns while hunting snow geese during the Conservation Order Season. We recommend adding an exemption in regulation to plugged gun requirements that would allow for unplugged guns during the conservation order season.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

**Action Items: Modification of 301 KAR 2:251, Hunting
and trapping seasons and limits for furbearers**

Action:

Current regulation allows a person to take coyotes after daylight hours; however, the use of artificial light or other means designed to make wildlife visible at night only is permitted from February 1 through May 31. Coyote hunting at night is currently only permitted using a shotgun; however, a single projectile shell is not allowed. The Commission has received requests to expand the opportunity for more nighttime hunting with lights to allow a broader timeframe and/or allow the use of rifles for hunting coyotes at night. Biologically this is not an issue; however, there are several potential social, safety, and enforcement issues with this proposal.

Action:

The United Trappers of Kentucky have requested to extend the trapping season on defined water sets through the end of March. This past year we extended the trap check timeframe and the season for nuisance beaver trapping efforts only. We have outstanding research on river otter that needs to be considered, non-target species take, and timing of trapping with species already having young of the year. Meetings with trapper and houndsmen organizations may be needed as well.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Action Item: **Modification of 301 KAR 2:049, Small game and furbearer hunting and trapping on public areas and 301 KAR 2:122, Seasons, method, and limits for small game**

Action:

The department has had a request from grouse hunters to end the grouse hunting season on public lands on December 31st each year. The low grouse numbers and higher rate of use and pressure on public lands could limit the reproduction or cause declines in grouse populations on the heavily used public areas.

Grouse hunters also have requested to close the statewide grouse hunting season on January 31st each year. The low grouse numbers and the take of grouse into the winter months could cause additive mortality, limit the reproduction, or cause declines in grouse populations. The division recommends we survey current Kentucky grouse hunters, discuss the proposal with the grouse hunting groups, and other interested clubs and constituents to gain more information on the proposal.

Attachment W-5

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

Action Item: Elk Tag Allocation for 2020-2021

Discussion and recommendations for elk tags and units for the 2020-21 elk season.

**Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY**

Information Items: Research proposals on Elk, Eastern Hellbender and a Survey on public shooting range interest and need

Action Item: Elk Research Project

The department is proposing a three-year elk research project that will include collaring and tracking animals to determine calf survival and cow/yearling reproduction.

Action Item: Eastern Hellbender Research Project

The department is proposing a multiyear eastern hellbender research project. The eastern hellbender listing decision by the USFWS will be made in the near future. This project focuses on addressing distribution, reproduction and recruitment of the eastern hellbender throughout the state and provide valuable information on the species status and management decisions moving forward.

Action Item: Public Shooting Range Survey

The department wants to contract with the University of Kentucky to survey our license holders and the public on their interest and needs relating to public shooting ranges. This survey will assist us in future prioritization and planning for public shooting ranges.

**Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY**

**Information Item: Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
Public Forums**

The first of four forums to educate the public about CWD fact vs. fiction has taken place, and we will provide an update from that meeting. The department will be hosting three additional public forums across the state in the coming months. Kentucky's current CWD free status, our past and current efforts to keep Kentucky free of this infectious disease through targeted testing efforts as well as regulation, how we work to minimize the risk moving forward, and our response plan in the event a CWD-positive case is diagnosed in Kentucky are the topics to be covered during the public forums.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

**Information Item: Volunteer Program on Wildlife
Management Areas (WMA's)**

The department received a request at the March 8th Commission meeting for a list of volunteer projects needed on WMAs. We are in the process of clarifying what volunteer activities are permitted on state lands and hope to have the list fully developed prior to the June commission meeting. Once the initial list has been finalized, the department will publicize the list and send it to any interested parties upon request.

Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Wildlife Committee Meeting
May 10, 2019
1 Sportsman's Lane
Frankfort, KY

New Business

Paul Van Booven Wildlife Management Area

The department received a request from the Kentuckiana Chapter of Safari Club International to actively pursue the return of Paul Van Booven WMA to use as both an elk viewing and elk hunting area.

Cutting Bag limits on quail and/or closing some WMAs to quail hunting

Some commission members have received requests to cut the bag limits on quail and/or close some WMAs to quail hunting. Discussion will include the potential for bag limits and their impact on quail populations.