

Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources



Special Called Commission Meeting

[Live Video Teleconference¹](#)

October 14, 2026

#1 Sportsman's Lane

Frankfort, KY

10:30 A.M. (EST)

AGENDA

Opening

- Call to Order
- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Chair's Remarks
- Commissioner's Remarks

Informational Item

- Provisions established and approved by the Commission on September 4, 2026, regarding the establishment, structure, purpose, and responsibilities of Committees

Action Item

- Enforcement, Boating and Fisheries Committee
 - Election of three (3) members to the Committee
 - Election of the chair of the Committee

Action Item

- Licensing, Operations and Public Outreach Committee
 - Election of three (3) members to the Committee
 - Election of the chair of the Committee

Action Items

- Lands and Wildlife Committee
 - Election of three (3) members to the Committee
 - Election of the chair of the Committee

Action Item

- Committee Assignment of Items Presented as Discussion Items or New Business Items on the September 2026 Commission Agenda
Attachment A-1

Adjust the Date for the Next Quarterly Commission Meeting**Adjourn**

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1. The web link for public viewing of the meeting livestream is [YouTube.com/FishandWildlifeKY](https://www.youtube.com/FishandWildlifeKY). A room for public viewing of the meeting will also be available beginning at 10:15 A.M. (EST) in the Administration Building at 1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601.

Attachment A-1

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting

ACTION ITEM

DATE: October 14, 2026

Item: Committee Assignment of Items Presented as Discussion Items or New Business Items on the September 2026 Commission Agenda

Discussion Items for the September 2026 Commission Meeting:

- Modifications of Regulations Controlling Land and Water Use at Department Lakes
 - Amend [301 KAR 1:016](#) – Use of Lands and Waters on Lakes Owned or Controlled by the Department
 - Modify regulations and documents incorporated by reference to allow for transition to online application and payment for Boat Dock and Shoreline Use Permitting
 - Establish a combined Boat Dock and Shoreline Use Permit process with five-year permits, revised fees, and a permit placard system.
 - Both will have 5-yr term beginning on January 1, 2028
 - Amend [301 KAR 5:022](#) – License, tag, registration and permit fee – to create the following fee structure:
 - Boat Dock Permit only - \$150
 - Shoreline Use Permit only - \$350
 - Both Boat Dock and Shoreline Use Permits - \$500
 - Boat Dock/Shoreline Use Permit Replacement Placard - \$50 (No site visit required)
 - Boat Dock/Shoreline Use Permit Transfer - \$25 (No site visit required)
 - Post-Construction Site Visit - first is free, any additional site visits required are \$100
 - Unapproved Construction fee - \$500
 - Permit Renewal Delinquency fee - \$50
 - Unauthorized Destruction of Vegetation fee – Variable based upon the vegetation destroyed
 - Revise dock eligibility, application, and property transfer requirements, including boundary verification and permit issuance standards.

- Grandfather lawful docks and shoreline structures through December 31, 2047 that existed as of April 2, 2010, after which structures must comply with current standards to be permitted.
 - Update construction, anchoring, and design standards for boat docks, walkways, and shoreline access structures.
 - Remove permit requirements for ground-level pathways and updates building code, engineering, and inspection requirements for access structures.
 - Clarify allowable activities on department property surrounding listed lakes and updates waiver criteria for docks and walkways.
 - Add provision for the department to enter into agreements with entities to provide a public benefit and allow deviations from these regulatory requirements.
 - Strengthen compliance and enforcement provisions for unauthorized construction and destruction of vegetation, permit violations, inspections, penalties, permit revocation and suspension, and appeals.
 - Revise administrative procedures, fee references, and regulatory language for consistency and clarity.
- Creation of a WMA User Permit
 - Amend [301 KAR 3:010](#) - Public Use of Wildlife Management Areas- to require a WMA User Permit for all users of a WMA. Exempt any Kentucky resident from the permit so long as the individual is either license exempt, holds a valid annual hunting, fishing, trapping, or KY Wild Membership
 - Clarify members of the public attending an event that has a KDFWR Group Activity Permit are not required to purchase the WMA User Permit
 - Amend [301 KAR 5:022](#) - License, Tag, Registration and Permit Fees- to create a fee of \$30 for a WMA User Permit for residents and non-residents
 - Caliber Restrictions for Night Hunting of Beavers
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:251](#) - Hunting and Trapping Seasons and Limits for Furbearers
 - Discussion on caliber restrictions for night hunting of beavers

New Business Items for the September 2026 Commission Meeting:

- Modifications to the Wildlife Control Operators Permit
 - Amend [301 KAR 3:120](#) Commercial Wildlife Control
 - Amend the permit revocation/denial parameters from any Chapter 150 violation to any violation related to provisions pertaining to Wildlife Control operators
 - Allow 24hr tap visitation to include visitation via remote means

- Require Wildlife Control Operators to turn over remote visitation documentation upon request from a Game Warden
- Adjustment of Deer Modern Gun Quota Hunts on WMAs
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:178](#) - Deer Hunting on Public Properties- move the modern gun quota hunts from the first weekend in November to the second weekend in November
- Modifications to Deer Hunting on Public Lands
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:178](#) - Deer hunting on public property
 - Prohibit the use of handheld thermal imagers for taking white-tailed deer on WMAs statewide
 - Bluegrass Army Depot: remove 15" minimum outside spread rule on antlered deer for youth hunters
 - Bluegrass Station: add to military installation list to facilitate future management and hunts
 - Fishtap WMA: remove quota hunt and allow take under statewide regulations
 - Grayson Lake WMA: remove quota hunt and allow take under statewide regulations
 - Green River WMA: create a new archery quota hunt for the Smith Ridge Campground in Taylor County which is currently closed to hunting
 - Twin Knobs/Zilpo: remove mobility impaired firearms quota hunt and change location to Camp Webb
- Modifications to Deer Hunting Seasons
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:172](#) - Deer hunting seasons, zones, and requirements
 - Start archery season on September 1 annually
 - Allow concurrent use of crossbows during the entire archery deer season for residents only
 - Non-residents may only use crossbows during current crossbow season dates that opens 3rd Saturday in September
 - Allow single projectile shotgun (i.e., slug) use during both muzzleloader seasons
 - Change deer hunting zone designation from a 4 to a 3: Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Knott, Knox, Lee, Leslie, Magoffin, Owsley, Perry, Whitley
- Modify Additional Deer Permit
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:172](#)- Deer hunting seasons, zones, and requirements.
 - Change additional deer permit allowance from 2 deer per permit to unlimited antlerless deer per permit

- Only valid in Zone 1 counties
- Same price as current additional deer permit
- Creation of a Certified Taxidermist Program
 - Amend [301 KAR 4:090](#) - Taxidermy and the buying and selling of inedible wildlife parts
 - Allow taxidermists to pursue a CWD certification that would allow them to receive high-risk parts (head, neck, cape, "mountable material") from CWD surveillance zone counties
- Creation of a Commercial Game Processor Permit
 - Create a new regulation in [Chapter 4](#) - commercial game processing
 - Amend [301 KAR 5:022](#) - License, tag, registration, and permit fees to establish the fee
- Elk Season Modifications
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:132](#) - Elk hunting seasons, permits, zones and requirements
 - Reduce permit numbers for either-sex archery and crossbow, bull firearms, and cow firearms by approximately 60%, for 210 elk permits, total
 - Reduce the minimum caliber restriction for elk from .270 to 6.5mm
 - Remove the permit purchase deadline for loyalty recipients
 - For general and loyalty drawn hunters, remove the three-year sit-out period and preserve their current years of loyalty if they do not purchase a permit
 - Make it mandatory for hunters to submit the outside, lower incisor of any harvested elk or report to the department that their harvested elk was a yearling or calf based on its dentition at the time of harvest
 - If a hunter fails to submit a tooth of an adult elk, report the age of a yearling or calf elk, they will be locked out from applying to any quota hunt or non-hunt options the following year (this is currently the penalty for not submitting their elk hunter survey)
 - Open Elk Hunting Unit 1 to allow the take of one bull and restrict this unit to one, single drawn hunter while prohibiting commission or special fundraising permits from hunting this unit
- Public Area Trapping Registration Form Updates
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:049](#)- Small game and furbearer hunting and trapping on public areas
- Align Night Hunting and Baiting Restrictions with Federal and State Area Requirements
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:049](#) - Small game and furbearer hunting and trapping on public areas.
 - Amend Sec 9 (5) (c) to replace "shall comply with federal requirements established by the National Park Service" to "a person shall hunt coyotes,

bobcats, and beavers during daylight hours only" to match language describing other federal areas.

- List federal and state areas that do not allow baiting
- Establish Furbearer Hunting Permit
 - Amend [301 KAR 5:022](#) - License, tag, registration, and permit fees – modify the Bobcat Permit name and change it to the Furbearer Hunting Permit; no change in cost
 - Amend [301 KAR 2:251](#) – Hunting and trapping seasons and limits for furbearer - require the Furbearer Hunting Permit to hunt any furbearer