

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## Title 58—RECREATION

### GAME COMMISSION

[ 58 PA. CODE CHS. 131 AND 141 ]

#### Preliminary Provisions; Hunting and Trapping

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended §§ 131.2, 141.43—141.45 and 141.47 to lengthen the broadhead length limitation from 3 inches to 3.25 inches.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1440 (March 15, 2014).

##### 1. Purpose and Authority

Former regulations prohibited a person from hunting big game using an arrow or bolt equipped with a broadhead exceeding 3 inches in length. The Commission recently received a request to lengthen the broadhead length limitation to 3.25 inches to authorize certain handmade and commercially sold products. The Commission reviewed applicable safety and wildlife management concerns and determined that this nominal expansion of authorized broadheads will not have a negative impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth. The Commission amended §§ 131.2, 141.43—141.45 and 141.47 to lengthen the broadhead length limitation from 3 inches to 3.25 inches.

Section 2102(d) of the code (relating to regulations) authorizes the Commission to “promulgate regulations stipulating the size and type of traps, the type of firearms and ammunition and other devices which may be used, the manner in which and the location where the devices may be used, the species the devices may be used for and the season when the devices may be used.” The amendments to §§ 131.2, 141.43—141.45 and 141.47 are adopted under this authority.

##### 2. Regulatory Requirements

The final-form rulemaking amends §§ 131.2, 141.43—141.45 and 141.47 to lengthen the broadhead length limitation from 3 inches to 3.25 inches.

##### 3. Persons Affected

Persons wishing to hunt or take game using a bow and arrow or crossbow and bolt may be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

##### 4. Comment and Response Summary

There were no official comments received regarding the final-form rulemaking.

##### 5. Cost and Paperwork Requirements

The final-form rulemaking should not result in additional cost or paperwork.

##### 6. Effective Date

The final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and will remain in effect until changed by the Commission.

##### 7. Contact Person

For further information regarding the final-form rulemaking, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

##### Findings

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

##### Order

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapters 131 and 141, are amended by amending §§ 131.2, 141.43—141.45 and 141.47 to read as set forth at 44 Pa.B. 1440.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and 44 Pa.B. 1440 and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) This order shall become effective upon final-form publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-361 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulations.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1085. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]

### GAME COMMISSION

[ 58 PA. CODE CH. 139 ]

#### Seasons and Bag Limits

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year) to provide updated seasons and bag limits for the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1442 (March 15, 2014).

##### 1. Purpose and Authority

To effectively manage the wildlife resources and provide hunting and trapping opportunities in this Commonwealth during the upcoming license year, the Commission amended § 139.4 to provide updated seasons and bag

limits for the 2014-2015 license year. The 2014-2015 seasons and bag limits have been amended to reflect current available scientific data, population and harvest records, field surveys and professional staff observations, as well as recommendations received from staff, organized sporting groups, members of the agricultural community and others interested in the management of the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

Several changes in hunting seasons and bag limits, when compared with the 2013-2014 regulations, were adopted. First, the small game field possession limits were increased to three times the daily bag. Migratory game bird possession limits were increased to three times the daily bag limit for the 2013-2014 hunting season. This change will make small game possession limits consistent with those for migratory game birds and provide increased hunting opportunity, particularly for nonresident hunters.

Fall turkey seasons from 2014 were reduced in wildlife management units (WMU) 3A, 3B and 3C from 3 weeks to 2 weeks, while retaining the 3-day Thanksgiving hunt segment. Population indices have been showing decreasing trends in each of these WMUs over the last 4 to 5 years. Low spring harvest densities, decreases in poult recruitment and summer sighting survey data also reflect declines warranting this action, which is consistent with guidelines in the Wild Turkey Management Plan. In all cases, a 1-week reduction in the first fall segment of the season is advised over elimination of the 3-day Thanksgiving season segment because it is likely to achieve a greater reduction in harvest.

Fall turkey seasons in WMU 5A were maintained at 3 days but shifted from midweek to a Thursday-Saturday framework. The turkey population in this WMU remains low, but is higher than prior to the season closure and flocks are well distributed. Including a Saturday in the 3-day season is expected to increase hunter opportunity and satisfaction and was recommended by the WMU 5A Wild Turkey Task Force.

WMUs 2C and 4B were added to the Wednesday through Saturday extended bear season that runs concurrent with deer season. WMU 2C has had a slightly increasing bear population trend, highway mortalities of bears also have been slowly increasing and there has been a noticeable increase in human-bear conflicts. WMU 4B also has had an increasing trend in human-bear conflicts with several incidents in recent years involving home entry or injury to pets and people. Vehicle mortalities of bears also has generally increased. Furthermore, harvest, which typically correlates well with annual population monitoring, has steadily increased by approximately 20% annually since 2003.

WMUs 1B and 3C were added to the fisher trapping season based on increased numbers of incidental captures and sightings during the past 3 years. All references to regulated harvest of skunks now specify the "striped skunk." Spotted skunks, a species of conservation concern, have a very limited distribution and low abundance in southwestern counties in this Commonwealth and should be excluded from any regulated harvest.

Section 322(c)(1) of the code (relating to powers and duties of commission) specifically empowers the Commission to "fix seasons, daily shooting or taking hours, and any modification thereof, and daily, season and possession limits for any species of game or wildlife." Section 2102(b)(1) of the code (relating to regulations) authorizes the Commission to "promulgate regulations relating to

seasons and bag limits for hunting or furtaking. . . ." The amendments to § 139.4 are adopted under this authority.

## 2. Regulatory Requirements

The final-form rulemaking amends § 139.4 by establishing when and where it is lawful to hunt and trap various game species and also place limits on the numbers that can be legally taken during the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year.

## 3. Persons Affected

Persons wishing to hunt or trap game or wildlife within this Commonwealth during the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year will be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

## 4. Comment and Response Summary

The Commission received a total of 109 official comments concerning the final-form rulemaking. The comments received concerned the following subtopics.

*Deer seasons.* Eighty-eight comments were received concerning this subtopic: 1 expressed opposition to the deer management plan; 5 supported and 8 opposed opening regular firearms deer season on the Saturday after Thanksgiving; 1 supported a 1 deer per year bag limit; 1 supported and 3 opposed extending deer season; 1 supported extending regular firearms deer season to 3 weeks; 1 supported the expansion of the extended firearms deer season to all of WMU 2B; 5 supported and 54 opposed the 2-week concurrent deer season; 1 supported extending archery deer season through the close of archery bear season; 2 opposed the early muzzleloading deer season; 2 supported an early flintlock muzzleloading deer season prior to the regular firearms deer season; 2 supported opening flintlock muzzleloading deer season to inline muzzleloaders; and 1 supported extending the late flintlock muzzleloader season until Martin Luther King Day.

*Bear seasons.* Three comments received concerning this subtopic. Two comments opposed opening bear season on Saturday and one comment supported extending bear season in WMU 4B.

*Small game seasons.* Ten comments were received concerning this subtopic: five supported and two opposed early squirrel season; one supported opening squirrel season in the summer; one supported a longer grouse season; and one supported keeping small game season open until the fourth Saturday in February.

*Turkey seasons.* One comment was received concerning this subtopic requesting that spring gobbler season open on April 1.

*Furbearer hunting/trapping seasons.* Seven comments received concerning this subtopic: one supported a longer mink season; one supported a longer muskrat season; one supported a longer fisher season; one supported opening fisher season in WMU 4C; one supported opening fisher season in WMU 4A; one supported a longer bobcat season; and one supported a later fox and coon season.

## 5. Cost and Paperwork Requirements

The final-form rulemaking should not result in additional cost or paperwork.

## 6. Effective Date

The effective dates of the final-form rulemaking are July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.

7. *Contact Person*

For further information regarding the final-form rule-making, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

*Findings*

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

*Order*

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapter 139, are amended by amending § 139.4 to read as set forth in Annex A.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and Annex A and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) This order will be effective from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-359 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulation.

**Annex A**

**TITLE 58. RECREATION**

**PART III. GAME COMMISSION**

**CHAPTER 139. SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS**

**§ 139.4. Seasons and bag limits for the license year.**

**(SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS TABLE)**

**2014-2015 OPEN HUNTING AND FUR TAKING SEASONS, DAILY LIMIT, FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT AND SEASON LIMIT OPEN SEASON INCLUDES FIRST AND LAST DATES LISTED**

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Field Possession Limit After Second Day</i>
Squirrels (Combined species)— Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 17	6	18
Squirrels (Combined species)	Oct. 18	Nov. 29	6	18
	and			
	Dec. 15	Dec. 24		
	and			
	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2015		
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 18	Nov. 29	2	6
	and			
	Dec. 15	Dec. 24		
	and			
	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015		
Rabbits, Cottontail— Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	4	12
Rabbits, Cottontail	Oct. 25	Nov. 29	4	12
	and			
	Dec. 15	Dec. 24		
	and			
	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2015		

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Field Possession Limit After Second Day</i>
Ring-necked Pheasant—There is no open season for the taking of pheasants in any area designated as a wild pheasant recovery area within any wildlife management unit. The Director is authorized to open the pheasant season via executive order in a designated wild pheasant recovery area if the agency is unsuccessful in its efforts to acquire and release wild pheasants.				
Ring-necked Pheasant—Male only in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A and 5B Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	2	6
Ring-necked Pheasant—Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C and 5D Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	2	6
Ring-necked Pheasant—Male only in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A and 5B	Oct. 25	and Nov. 29	2	6
	Dec. 15	and Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	and Feb. 21, 2015		
Ring-necked Pheasant—Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C and 5D	Oct. 25	and Nov. 29	2	6
	Dec. 15	and Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	and Feb. 21, 2015		
Bobwhite Quail—The hunting and taking of bobwhite quail is permitted in all WMUs except in WMUs 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D where the season is closed.	Oct. 25	Nov. 29	4	12
Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares in WMUs 3B, 3C and 3D	Dec. 26	Dec. 29	1	3
Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 1, 2015	1	3
Woodchucks (Groundhog)	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer seasons. Hunting on Sundays is prohibited.		Unlimited	
Porcupines Season closed during the overlap with the regular firearms deer seasons.	Sep. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	3	10
<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Wild Turkey—Male or Female			1	1
WMU 2B (Shotgun, Bow and Arrow only)	Nov. 1	and Nov. 21		
	Nov. 27	and Nov. 29		
WMU 1B	Nov. 1	and Nov. 8		
	Nov. 27	and Nov. 29		

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
WMUs 1A, 2A, 2D, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B and 3C	Nov. 1	Nov. 15		
		and		
	Nov. 27	Nov. 29		
WMUs 2C, 2E, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Nov. 1	Nov. 21		
		and		
	Nov. 27	Nov. 29		
WMU 5A	Nov. 6	Nov. 8		
WMUs 5B, 5C and 5D	Closed to fall turkey hunting			
Wild Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide <sup>1</sup> Bearded Bird only	May 2, 2015	May 16, 2015	1	2
			May be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon	
		and		
	May 18, 2015	May 30, 2015	1	2
			May be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	
Wild Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide Youth Hunt <sup>1</sup> Bearded Bird only Eligible junior hunters only with the required license and when properly accompanied	April 25, 2015	April 25, 2015	1	1

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS**

Except as further restricted by this chapter, the seasons, bag limits, hunting hours and hunting regulations for migratory game birds shall conform to regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of the Interior under authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 703—712) as published in the *Federal Register* on or about August 27 and September 28 of each year.

*Exceptions:*

(a) Hunting hours in § 141.4 (relating to hunting hours).

(b) Nontoxic shot as approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is required for use Statewide in hunting and taking of migratory waterfowl.

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Field Possession Limit After First Day</i>
Crows (Hunting permitted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only)	July 4	April 5, 2015	Unlimited	
Starlings and English Sparrows	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer seasons.		Unlimited	
Eurasian Collared-Dove	Season dates shall run concurrently with mourning dove season.		Shall be counted as part of the aggregate daily limits for mourning dove season.	

**FALCONRY**

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Field Possession Limit After Second Day</i>
Squirrels—(Combined species)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	6	18
Quail	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	4	12
Ruffed Grouse	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	2	6
Cottontail Rabbits	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	4	12
Snowshoe or Varying Hare	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	1	3
Ring-necked Pheasant—Male and Female (Combined)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	2	6

Migratory Game Birds—Seasons and bag limits shall be in accordance with Federal regulations.

## WHITE-TAILED DEER

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Deer, Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> (Statewide)	Oct. 4 and Dec. 26	Nov. 15  Jan. 10, 2015	One antlered and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlerless) WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sep. 20 and Nov. 17	Oct. 3  Nov. 29	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Jan. 12, 2015	Jan. 24, 2015	One antlered and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 3A, 3D, 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 1	Dec. 13	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered only) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 1	Dec. 5	One antlered deer.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Special firearms (Antlerless only) (Statewide) Only Junior and Senior License Holders, <sup>3</sup> Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind) and Residents serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, or in the United States Coast Guard, with required antlerless license	Oct. 23	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Muzzleloading (Antlerless only) (Statewide)	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Jan. 10, 2015	One antlered, or one antlerless—plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015	One antlered, or one antlerless—plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless) Counties of Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Antlerless (Letterkenny Army Depot, Franklin County, and New Cumberland Army Depot, York County, and Fort Detrick, Raven Rock Site, Adams County)	Hunting is permitted on days established by the United States Department of the Army.		An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

## BLACK BEAR

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Bear, Archery only <sup>4</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 17	Nov. 21	1	1
Bear, Archery only <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sep. 20	Nov. 15	1	1

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Bear, Archery only <sup>4</sup> WMU 5B	Oct. 4	Nov. 15	1	1
Bear, Muzzleloader <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	1	1
Bear, Special Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D Junior and Senior License holders, disabled and PA residents on active duty in armed services	Oct. 23	Oct. 25	1	1
Bear, Regular Firearms <sup>4</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 22	Nov. 26	1	1
Bear, Extended Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2C, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 3	Dec. 6	1	1
Bear, Extended Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 1	Dec. 13	1	1
Bear, Extended Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D	Dec. 1	Dec. 6	1	1

**ELK**

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Elk, Regular <sup>5</sup> (Antlered and Antlerless)	Nov. 3	Nov. 8	1	One elk with required license
Elk, Extended <sup>5</sup> (Antlered and Antlerless)	Nov. 10	Nov. 15	1	One elk with required license

**FURTAKING—TRAPPING**

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Minks and Muskrats (Statewide)	Nov. 22	Jan. 11, 2015	Unlimited	
Beaver (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2015		
WMUs 1A, 1B and 3C (Combined)			20	40
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C and 5D (Combined)			20	20
WMUs 2G, 2H, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B (Combined)			5	5
Coyotes, Foxes, Opossums, Raccoons, Striped Skunks, Weasels—(Statewide)	Oct. 26	Feb. 22, 2015	Unlimited	
Coyotes & Foxes—(Statewide) (Cable restraint devices may be used)	Dec. 26	Feb. 22, 2015	Unlimited	
Bobcat (with appropriate permit) WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 20	Jan. 11, 2015	1	1
Fisher (with appropriate permit) WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4D and 4E	Dec. 20	Dec. 25	1	1

**FURTAKING—HUNTING**

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Coyotes—(Statewide)			Unlimited	

Outside of any big game season may be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker's license and without wearing orange.

<i>Species</i>	<i>First Day</i>	<i>Last Day</i>	<i>Daily Limit</i>	<i>Season Limit</i>
Coyotes—(During any big game season)		May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker's license.		
Opossums, Striped Skunks, Weasels (Statewide)		No closed season.		
Raccoons and Foxes—(Statewide)	Oct. 25	Feb. 21, 2015		Unlimited
Bobcat (with appropriate permit) WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D and 4E	Jan. 20, 2015	Feb. 10, 2015	1	1

No open seasons on other wild birds or wild mammals.

<sup>1</sup> Only persons who possess a special wild turkey license as provided for in section 2709 of the act (relating to license costs and fees) may take a second spring gobbler during the hunting license year; all other persons, including mentored youth hunters, may take only one spring gobbler. A maximum of two gobblers per license year may be taken by any combination of licenses or exceptions for mentored youth.

<sup>2</sup> Only one antlered deer (buck) may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons who have reached or will reach their 65th birthday in the year of the application for the license and hold a valid adult license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions).

<sup>4</sup> Only one bear may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>5</sup> Only one elk may be taken during the hunting license year.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1086. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]

## GAME COMMISSION

### [ 58 PA. CODE CHS. 141 AND 147 ]

#### Hunting and Trapping; Special Permits

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended § 141.1 (relating to special regulations areas) and adopted §§ 147.681—147.687 (relating to deer attractant permit) to create and implement a deer attractant permit to authorize limited baiting activities on private property in the southeast special regulations area.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1438 (March 15, 2014).

#### 1. *Purpose and Authority*

On March 31, 2010, the Commission's 3-year evaluation of the effectiveness of a broad scale and widely accessible authorization permitting the baiting of white-tailed deer across the southeast special regulations area expired. The Commission's final review of the baiting authorization generally concluded that broad scale and widely accessible baiting did not establish viable increases in harvest rates to justify an extension of the experimental program. On February 1, 2011, the Commission amended §§ 147.552 and 147.556 (relating to application; and lawful devices and methods) to create a focused, limited authorization permitting the baiting of white-tailed deer in wildlife management units (WMU) 5C and 5D on approved properties enrolled in the "Red Tag" program. See 41 Pa.B. 1767 (April 2, 2011). The Commission amended § 141.1 and adopted §§ 147.681—147.687 to create and implement a deer attractant permit to authorize limited baiting activities on private property in the southeast special regulations area.

Section 2102(a) of the code (relating to regulations) provides that "[t]he commission shall promulgate such regulations as it deems necessary and appropriate concerning game or wildlife and hunting or furtaking in this Commonwealth, including regulations relating to the protection, preservation and management of game or wildlife and game or wildlife habitat, permitting or prohibiting hunting or furtaking, the ways, manner, methods and means of hunting or furtaking, and the health and safety of persons who hunt or take wildlife or may be in the vicinity of persons who hunt or take game or wildlife in this Commonwealth." Sections 147.681—147.687 and the amendments to § 141.1 are adopted under this authority.

#### 2. *Regulatory Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking amends § 141.1 and adds §§ 147.681—147.687 to create and implement a deer attractant permit to authorize limited baiting activities on private property in the southeast special regulations area.

#### 3. *Persons Affected*

Persons wishing to hunt or take game wildlife in the southeast special regulations area may be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

#### 4. *Comment and Response Summary*

The Commission received a total of nine written comments in support of the final-form rulemaking.

#### 5. *Cost and Paperwork Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking may result in some additional cost and paperwork associated with the creation and implementation of this new permit in the Commission's existing permitting system. However, the Commission has determined that if there is additional expense associated with this effort, it will not be substantial and would be absorbed by the current budget.

#### 6. *Effective Date*

The amendments to § 141.1 will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and will remain



in effect until changed by the Commission. Sections 147.681—147.687 become effective July 1, 2014, and expire and are rendered void on June 30, 2017, unless the Commission further authorizes their legal effectiveness prior to this termination date.

7. *Contact Person*

For further information regarding the final-form rule-making, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

*Findings*

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

*Order*

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapters 141 and 147, are amended by amending § 141.1 and by adding §§ 147.681—147.687 to read as set forth at 44 Pa.B. 1438.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and 44 Pa.B. 1438 and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) The amendments to § 141.1 will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Sections 147.681—147.687 become effective July 1, 2014, and expire and are rendered void on June 30, 2017, unless the Commission further authorizes their legal effectiveness prior to this termination date.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-365 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulations.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1087. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]

**GAME COMMISSION**  
**[ 58 PA. CODE CH. 141 ]**  
**Hunting and Trapping; Elk**

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended § 141.47 (relating to elk) to eliminate the Route 555 corridor safety zone.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1435 (March 15, 2014).

1. *Purpose and Authority*

In 2004, the Board of Commissioners adopted regulations creating a 150-yard safety zone for elk along the Route 555 corridor from Weedville to Hicks Run in an effort to address existing problems with road hunting and the killing of highly visible elk in yards and public places found within this area. The Commission determined that this safety zone is no longer necessary and that existing laws and regulations can adequately protect the public and wildlife from unsafe or unethical behavior. Furthermore, the Commission also determined that harvest of some of the elk within this corridor is necessary to maintain elk populations in more appropriate habitats. The Commission amended § 141.47 to eliminate the Route 555 corridor safety zone.

Section 322(c)(4) of the code (relating to powers and duties of commission) specifically authorizes the Commission to “[d]efine geographic limitations or restrictions.” Section 2102(a) of the code (relating to regulations) provides that “[t]he commission shall promulgate such regulations as it deems necessary and appropriate concerning game or wildlife and hunting or furtaking in this Commonwealth, including regulations relating to the protection, preservation and management of game or wildlife and game or wildlife habitat, permitting or prohibiting hunting or furtaking, the ways, manner, methods and means of hunting or furtaking, and the health and safety of persons who hunt or take wildlife or may be in the vicinity of persons who hunt or take game or wildlife in this Commonwealth.” The amendments to § 141.47 are adopted under this authority.

2. *Regulatory Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking amends § 141.47 to eliminate the Route 555 corridor safety zone.

3. *Persons Affected*

Persons owning property or wishing to hunt elk within the Route 555 corridor safety zone will be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

4. *Comment and Response Summary*

There were no official comments received regarding the final-form rulemaking.

5. *Cost and Paperwork Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking should not result in additional cost or paperwork.

6. *Effective Date*

The final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and will remain in effect until changed by the Commission.

7. *Contact Person*

For further information regarding the final-form rule-making, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

*Findings*

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

*Order*

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapter 141, are amended by amending § 141.47 to read as set forth at 44 Pa.B. 1435.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and 44 Pa.B. 1435 and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) This order shall become effective upon final-form publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-360 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulation.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1088. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]

**GAME COMMISSION**  
**[ 58 PA. CODE CH. 141 ]**  
**Hunting and Trapping; Beaver Trapping**

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended § 141.62 (relating to beaver trapping) to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1435 (March 15, 2014).

*1. Purpose and Authority*

Former regulations prohibited a person from trapping beaver using a body-gripping trap larger than 10 inches by 10 inches. The Commission recently received a request to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width to accommodate certain commercially available products. The Commission reviewed applicable safety and wildlife management concerns and determined that this nominal expansion of authorized body-gripping traps would not have a negative impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth. The Commission amended § 141.62 to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width.

Section 2102(d) of the code (relating to regulations) authorizes the Commission to “promulgate regulations stipulating the size and type of traps, the type of firearms and ammunition and other devices which may be used, the manner in which and the location where the devices may be used, the species the devices may be used for and the season when the devices may be used.” The amendments to § 141.62 are adopted under this authority.

*2. Regulatory Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking amends § 141.62 to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width.

*3. Persons Affected*

Persons wishing to trap beaver through the use of body-gripping traps within this Commonwealth will be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

*4. Comment and Response Summary*

There were no official comments received regarding the final-form rulemaking.

*5. Cost and Paperwork Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking should not result in additional cost or paperwork.

*6. Effective Date*

The final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and will remain in effect until changed by the Commission.

*7. Contact Person*

For further information regarding the final-form rulemaking, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

*Findings*

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

*Order*

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapter 141, are amended by amending § 141.62 to read as set forth in Annex A.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and Annex A and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) This order shall become effective upon final-form publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-364 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulation.

**Annex A**

**TITLE 58. RECREATION**  
**PART III. GAME COMMISSION**  
**CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING**  
**Subchapter D. FURBEARERS**

**§ 141.62. Beaver trapping.**

(a) *General.* There shall be one durable identification tag attached to each trap or snare by means of an extension wire of sufficient length so that the name tag is completely above the water or ice level and totally visible for inspection purposes. The name tag shall visibly set forth the owner's first and last name and legal home address, or a number issued by the Commission.

(b) *Unlawful acts.* It is unlawful to:

(1) Place, or make use of, materials or products except raw native wood or stone to direct the travel of beaver. Man-made materials may be used only to support traps or snares.

(2) Place, check, reset or tend a trap or snare on an established beaver dam or beaver house, or within 15 feet of either a dam or a house. Measurement shall be from directly above the trap or snare, across the water, ice or land to the nearest point of the structure.

(3) Set body gripping traps larger than 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width.

(4) Set, tend or operate more than a combined State-wide total of 20 traps or snares no more than 10 of which may be traps. No more than 2 of the traps may be body gripping traps except in Wildlife Management Units where beaver bag limits are 40 or more per season.

(5) Check, set, reset or otherwise maintain a beaver trap or snare, or remove a beaver from a trap or snare, unless the person is identified by the attached name tag as the owner. This paragraph does not prohibit the lending of assistance when the person whose name appears on the trap tag is present.

(6) Equip snares with a spring-activating mechanism or any device designed to aid the closing of the snare loop.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1089. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]

**GAME COMMISSION**  
**[ 58 PA. CODE CH. 141 ]**  
**Hunting and Trapping; Hunting Hours**

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended Chapter 141, Appendix G (relating to hunting hours) by replacing the current hunting hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal hunting for the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1436 (March 15, 2014).

*1. Purpose and Authority*

Each year there is a shift in calendar days for each month. As a result of this occurrence, the time tables in Appendix G must be amended and updated on an annual basis to accurately reflect the upcoming year's dates and hours for legal hunting. The Commission amended Appendix G to replace the current hunting hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal hunting for the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year.

Section 322(c)(1) of the code (relating to powers and duties of commission) specifically empowers the Commission to "fix seasons, daily shooting or taking hours, and any modification thereof, and daily, season and possession

limits for any species of game or wildlife." Section 2102(a) of the code (relating to regulations) provides that "[t]he commission shall promulgate such regulations as it deems necessary and appropriate concerning game or wildlife and hunting or furtaking in this Commonwealth, including regulations relating to the protection, preservation and management of game or wildlife and game or wildlife habitat, permitting or prohibiting hunting or furtaking, the ways, manner, methods and means of hunting or furtaking, and the health and safety of persons who hunt or take wildlife or may be in the vicinity of persons who hunt or take game or wildlife in this Commonwealth." The amendments to Appendix G are adopted under this authority.

*2. Regulatory Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking amends Appendix G by replacing the current hunting hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal hunting for the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year.

*3. Persons Affected*

Persons wishing to hunt or trap game or wildlife within this Commonwealth during the 2014-2015 hunting year will be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

*4. Comment and Response Summary*

There were no official comments received regarding the final-form rulemaking.

*5. Cost and Paperwork Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking should not result in additional cost or paperwork.

*6. Effective Date*

The effective dates of the final-form rulemaking are July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.

*7. Contact Person*

For further information regarding the final-form rulemaking, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

*Findings*

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

*Order*

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapter 141, are amended by amending Appendix G to read as set forth at 44 Pa.B. 1436.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and 44 Pa.B. 1436 and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) This order will be effective from July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-363 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulation.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1090. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]

**GAME COMMISSION**  
**[ 58 PA. CODE CH. 147 ]**

**Special Permits; Mentored Hunting Program Permit**

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) at its April 8, 2014, meeting amended Chapter 147, Subchapter X (relating to Mentored Hunting Program Permit) to create and implement a Mentored Adult Hunting Program in this Commonwealth.

The final-form rulemaking will not have an adverse impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

The authority for the final-form rulemaking is 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) (code).

Notice of proposed rulemaking was published at 44 Pa.B. 1448 (March 15, 2014).

*1. Purpose and Authority*

Since the successful implementation of the Mentored Youth Hunting Program in fall 2006, the Commission has been striving to find a way to apply the successes of this mentor-based program to nonhunting adults in this Commonwealth. The Commission determined that a program could entice increased adult participation in this Commonwealth's great hunting heritage by streamlining their introduction to the sport of hunting. The act of May 15, 2013 (P. L. 26, No. 7) authorizes the Commission to implement a Mentored Hunting Program in this Commonwealth. The Commission amended Chapter 147, Subchapter X to create and implement a Mentored Adult Hunting Program. The Mentored Adult Hunting Program will maintain the mentor-based structure of the Mentored Youth Hunting Program, but will have different species allowances, costs and safety features. Adult participants will now be able to apply for and receive a Mentored Adult Hunting Permit through the Pennsylvania Automated License System at any of the Commission's issuing agent locations across this Commonwealth prior to participating in the Mentored Adult Hunting Program. Permit application will require participants to supply the required identification information and pay a fee of \$19 for residents and \$100 for nonresidents, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

Section 2901(b) of the code (relating to authority to issue permits) provides "the commission may, as deemed necessary to properly manage the game or wildlife resources, promulgate regulations for the issuance of any permit and promulgate regulations to control the activities which may be performed under authority of any permit issued." The amendments to Chapter 147, Subchapter X are adopted under this authority.

*2. Regulatory Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking amends Chapter 147, Subchapter X to create and implement a Mentored Adult Hunting Program in this Commonwealth.

*3. Persons Affected*

Persons of majority age wishing to hunt or take game or wildlife in this Commonwealth may be affected by the final-form rulemaking.

*4. Comment and Response Summary*

There were no official comments received regarding the final-form rulemaking.

*5. Cost and Paperwork Requirements*

The final-form rulemaking may result in some additional cost and paperwork associated with the implementation of these changes in Pennsylvania Automated License System. However, the Commission has determined that if there is additional expense associated with this effort, it will not be substantial and would be absorbed by the current budget.

*6. Effective Date*

The final-form rulemaking will be effective upon publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin* and will remain in effect until changed by the Commission.

*7. Contact Person*

For further information regarding the final-form rulemaking, contact Richard R. Palmer, Director, Bureau of Wildlife Protection, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797, (717) 783-6526.

*Findings*

The Commission finds that:

(1) Public notice of intention to adopt the administrative amendments adopted by this order has been given under sections 201 and 202 of the act of July 31, 1968 (P. L. 769, No. 240) (45 P. S. §§ 1201 and 1202) and the regulations thereunder, 1 Pa. Code §§ 7.1 and 7.2.

(2) The adoption of the amendments of the Commission in the manner provided in this order is necessary and appropriate for the administration and enforcement of the authorizing statute.

*Order*

The Commission, acting under the authorizing statute, orders that:

(a) The regulations of the Commission, 58 Pa. Code Chapter 147, are amended by amending §§ 147.801—147.807 to read as set forth at 44 Pa.B. 1448.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and 44 Pa.B. 1448 and deposit them with the Legislative Reference Bureau as required by law.

(c) This order shall become effective upon final-form publication in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*.

R. MATTHEW HOUGH,  
*Executive Director*

**Fiscal Note:** Fiscal Note 48-362 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulations.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 14-1091. Filed for public inspection May 23, 2014, 9:00 a.m.]