

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Title 58—RECREATION

GAME COMMISSION

[58 PA. CODE CH. 131]

Preliminary Provisions; Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage Registration Plate Fee

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), on December 9, 2014, by notational vote, added § 131.10 (relating to Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plate fee) to require applicants seeking authorization to request a Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plate to pay a fee of \$25.

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. 7072 (November 8, 2014).

1. Purpose and Authority

Section 1355.1 of 75 Pa.C.S. (relating to Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plates) establishes the Department of Transportation's authority, in consultation with the Commission, to issue Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plates for eligible classes of vehicles. Section 1355.1 of 75 Pa.C.S. requires the Commission to charge a fee for the authorization to request the registration plate, but does not itself establish the fee amount. The Commission adopts § 131.10 to require applicants seeking authorization to request a Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plate to pay a fee of \$25.

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." Section 131.10 is adopted under this authority.

2. Regulatory Requirements

The final-form rulemaking adds § 131.10 to require applicants seeking authorization to request a Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plate to pay a fee of \$25.

3. Persons Affected

Persons seeking Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plates for eligible classes of vehicles 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 will add a new fee of \$25 for applicants seeking authorization to request the new Pennsylvania Hunting Heritage registration plate. This fee will be in addition to any fee collected by the Department of Transportation under 75 Pa.C.S. § 1931(b) (relating to personal and organization registration plates). The final-form rulemaking will also create new paperwork requirements for the implementation of this program. However, these new paperwork requirements are anticipated to be minimal.

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 Thomas P. Grohol, 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 regulation 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 regulation 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 131, are amended by adding § 131.10 to read as set forth at 44 Pa.B. 7072.

(b) The Executive Director of the Commission shall certify this order and 44 Pa.B. 7072 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 48-370 remains valid for the final adoption of the subject regulation.

[Pa.B. Doc. No. 15-155. Filed for public inspection January 30, 2015, 9:00 a.m.]