

ARTICLE 1. DEFINITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS
NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING - SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission approved the following amendments at the September 6, 2024 Commission meeting. The full text of the rules and the reasoning behind the amendments are available in the Article 1 Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which is available on the Department's website. The department will accept written comments and suggestions regarding the proposed amendments from October 4th through November 4th.

R12-4-101. Definitions: Define "electronic signature" to enhance/support the use of online Department forms, applications, reports, etc. and to indicate the person's intent to agree to applicable payment, conditions, terms, etc.

"Electronic signature" means symbols or other data in digital form attached to an electronically transmitted document as verification of the sender's intent to sign the document. The electronic signature is used to indicate the person's intent to agree to payment, conditions, terms, etc. as applicable to an online application, form, report, etc.

R12-4-102. License, Permit, Stamp, and Tag Fees: Remove reference to repealed rule to increase consistency between Commission rules.

Hunting and Fishing License Fees	Resident	Nonresident
Community Fishing License	\$24	\$24

R12-4-103. Duplicate Tags and Licenses: Clarify that a person who validates their tag electronically for a harvested animal that was subsequently condemned and surrendered to a Department employee may apply for a duplicate tag upon submitting the condemned meat duplicate tag authorization form issued by the Department.

- A. Under A.R.S. § 17-332(C), the Department and its license dealers may issue a duplicate license ~~or~~, tag, or electronic tag to an applicant who:
- B. The applicant shall provide the following information on the affidavit:
 - 2. The original license or tag information:
 - a. Type of license ~~or~~, tag, or electronic tag;

R12-4-104. Application Procedures for Issuance of Hunt Permit-tags by Drawing and Purchase of Bonus Points: Establish an exemption that allows a minor to apply for a draw hunt other than big game without having to purchase a license.

- B. A person is eligible to apply for a:
 - 1. ~~For a hunt~~ Hunt permit-tag for big game if the person:
 - 2. ~~For a bonus~~ Bonus point for big game if the person:
 - 3. Bonus point for wildlife other than big game if the person is not suspended or revoked in this state as a result of an action under A.R.S. §§ 17-340 or 17-502 at the time the person submits an application.

R12-4-107. Bonus Point System: Establish that a Sandhill Crane bonus point may be awarded to an applicant who is under the age of 10 and whose application was unsuccessful in the computer draw; and establish an exemption that allows a minor to apply for a draw hunt other than big game without having to purchase a license.

C. The Department shall award one bonus point to an applicant who submits a valid Hunt Permit-tag Application provided the following apply:

2. The application is unsuccessful in the computer draw:

b. The application is for a bonus point for wildlife other than big game only:

R12-4-108. Management Unit Boundaries: Update boundary descriptions as necessary to clearly define roads and intersections with sufficient detail to reflect on the ground signage and current maps.

Unit 20A – Beginning at the intersection of AZ Hwy 89 and AZ Hwy 69; west on Gurley St. to Grove Ave.; north on the Grove Ave. to Miller Valley Rd., northwest on the Miller Valley Rd. to Iron Springs Rd., west and south on Iron Springs Rd. (County Road Rd. 10) to Kirkland; ~~south and east~~ southeast on AZ Hwy 96 to Kirkland Junction Rd. (U.S. AZ Hwy 89, County Rd. 15) to Kirkland Junction (AZ Hwy 89); south on AZ Hwy 89 to Wagoner Rd. (County Rd. 60); southeasterly along Wagoner Rd. (~~County Road 60~~) to Wagoner (~~mp 17~~ confluence of Hassayampa River and Blind Indian Creek); from Wagoner easterly along Wagoner Rd. (County Road Rd. 60 (,FR 362) to ~~intersection of Senator Highway (FR 52);~~ easterly along FR 52 to intersection of FR 259 Senator Highway; easterly along FR 259 to Crown King Rd. (County Road Rd. 59, FR 529) at; easterly along Crown King; ~~continue easterly to the intersection of~~ Antelope Creek Rd. cutoff (County Road Rd. 179S); northeasterly along Antelope Creek Rd. cutoff to intersection of Antelope Creek Rd. (County Road Rd. 179); northeasterly on Antelope Creek Rd. to Cordes; east on Bloody Basin Rd. (~~County Road 73~~) to I-17 (Exit 259); north on the southbound lane of I-17 to AZ Hwy 69; northwest on AZ Hwy 69 to junction of AZ Hwy 89 at Prescott; except those portions that are sovereign tribal lands of the Yavapai-Prescott Tribe.

Unit 20B – Beginning at the Hassayampa River and U.S. Hwy 60/93 (at Wickenburg), northeasterly along the Hassayampa River to Wagoner (~~County Road 60, mp 17~~ confluence of Hassayampa River and Blind Indian Creek); from Wagoner easterly along Wagoner Rd. (County Road Rd. 60 (,FR 362) to ~~intersection of Senator Highway (FR 52);~~ easterly along Senator Highway (FR 52) to intersection of Crown Kind Rd. (County Rd. 59, FR 259); easterly along ~~FR 259 to~~ Crown King Rd. (County Road Rd. 59, FR 259) at ~~Crown King; continue easterly to intersection of~~ Antelope Creek Rd. cutoff (County Road Rd. 179S); northeasterly along Antelope Creek Rd. cutoff to intersection of Antelope Creek Rd. (County Road Rd. 179); northeasterly on Antelope Creek Rd. to Cordes; east on Bloody Basin Rd. (County Road Rd. 73) to I-17 (Exit 259); south on the southbound lane of I-17 to New River ~~Road Rd.~~ (Exit 232); west on New River ~~Road Rd.~~ to ~~SR~~ AZ Hwy 74; west on AZ Hwy 74 to junction of U.S. Hwy 60/93; northwesterly on U.S. Hwy 60/93 to the Hassayampa River (at Wickenburg).

Unit 20C – Beginning at U.S. Hwy 60/93 and the Santa Maria River; northeasterly along the Santa Maria River to AZ Hwy 96; easterly on AZ Hwy 96 to Kirkland ~~Junction~~; southeast on Kirkland Junction Rd. (AZ. Hwy 89 96, County Rd. 15) to Kirkland Junction (U.S. Hwy 89); south along AZ Hwy 89 to Wagoner Rd.; southeasterly along Wagoner Rd. (County Road Rd. 60) to Wagoner (~~mp 17~~ confluence of Hassayampa River and Blind Indian Creek); from Wagoner southwesterly along the Hassayampa River to U.S. Hwy 60/93; northwesterly on U.S. Hwy 60/93 to the Santa Maria River.

Unit 21 – Beginning on I-17 at the Verde River; southerly on the southbound lane of I-17 to the New River ~~Road Rd.~~ (Exit 232); east on New River ~~Road Rd.~~ to Fig Springs ~~Road Rd.~~; northeasterly on Fig Springs ~~Road Rd.~~ to Mingus Rd.; Mingus Rd. to the Tonto National Forest boundary; southeasterly along this boundary to the Verde River; north along the Verde River to I-17.

R12-4-109. Approved Trapping Education Course Fee: Increasing the fee from \$25 to \$75 will ensure the rule remains effective and enforceable now and into the future. The Arizona Trappers Association supports this course fee increase.

Under A.R.S. § 17-333.02(A), the provider of an approved educational course of instruction in responsible trapping and environmental ethics may collect a fee from each participant that:

2. Does not exceed \$25 75.

R12-4-115. Supplemental Hunts and Hunter Pool: Allow the Department to specify the manner and method by which a person may submit an application for a supplemental hunts or hunter pool, such as online or by paper application to reduce administrative burden.

- G. An applicant for a supplemental hunt shall apply at the times, locations, and in the manner and method established by the hunt permit-tag application schedule published by the Department and available at any Department office, on the Department's website, or a license dealer. A supplemental hunt application submitted in accordance with this Section does not invalidate any other application submitted by the person for a hunt permit-tag.

R12-4-120. Issuance, Sale, and Transfer of Special Big Game License Tags: Replace references to “license-tags” with “tags” to make the rule more concise.

R12-4-120. Issuance, Sale, and Transfer of Special Big Game ~~License-tags~~ Tags

R12-4-121. Tag Transfer: Clarify any number of tags may be donated to a person in a calendar year for a particular species/genus provided the person has not reached the established annual or lifetime bag limit for that species/genus.

- F. A person who is eligible to receive an unused tag under this Section may receive any number of unused tags in a calendar year provided the person:
 1. Has not reached the applicable annual or lifetime bag limit for that genus; and
 2. Does not possess a valid permit tag for that genus.

R12-4-127. Civil Liability for Loss of Wildlife: Establish values intended to recover hatchery expenses per fish, which includes the costs to purchase, raise, feed, transport, and release aquatic wildlife.

- D. The Department shall recommend the value of lost aquatic wildlife to the Commission by aggregating the following objective and measurable economic factors:
 1. The average dollar amount spent by an individual angler in pursuit of the same species. This amount shall be calculated using information from the most recent National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and measures hunting and fishing expenditures, in combination with angler harvest data gathered by the Department. This information shall be available on the Department's website.
 2. The average body weight in pounds of aquatic meat for the unlawfully taken or possessed species multiplied by the average price per pound of aquatic meat for that same species or a similar species. Average body weight in pounds of aquatic meat shall be calculated using the average body weight for the wildlife taken, minus 40% of the average weight to account for the weight of the head, entrails, and fins.
 3. Recommended values based on current market to cover hatchery expenses per fish, which includes the cost to purchase, raise, feed, transport and release wildlife.