

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Pheasant Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:08

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 16-17, 2020	Virtual Meeting
	Public Hearing	September 2, 2020	Virtual Meeting
	Finalization	September 2-3, 2020	Virtual Meeting

COMMISSION PROPOSAL

Duration of Proposal: 2020 and 2021 hunting season

Season Dates: October 17, 2020 – January 31, 2021
October 16, 2021 – January 31, 2022

Open Area: Statewide

Daily Limit: 2020: 3 rooster pheasants
2021: Third Saturday of October to November 30: 3 rooster pheasants
December 1 to end of season: 4 rooster pheasants

Possession Limit: Five times the daily bag limit.

Requirements and Restrictions:

1. Renziehausen GPA and State Game Bird Refuge in Brown County and Gerken State Game Bird Refuge in Faulk County are open beginning on December 1 and are open for the remainder of the season.
2. Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Brown County is open beginning on the second Monday of December and is open for the remainder of the season.

Recommended changes from last year:

1. Modify the shooting hours for the first week of the regular from Noon to 10:00 a.m. Central Time beginning with the 2020 hunting season.
2. Modify the season end date from the first Sunday in January to January 31 beginning with the 2020 hunting season.
3. Increase the daily bag limit from 3 to 4 and modify the possession limit accordingly for rooster pheasants beginning December 1st beginning with the 2021 hunting season.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Proposed changes are topics discussed and supported by both the pheasant marketing workgroup and the Department.

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Pheasant Harvest
2015	65,135	84,901	1,255,878
2016	61,746	81,141	1,170,596
2017	52,538	67,232	828,709
2018	53,577	69,018	950,883
2019	47,401	60,211	829,501

APPROVE _____
 MODIFY _____
 REJECT _____
 NO ACTION _____

RESIDENT/NONRESIDENT CRITERIA

1. The Issue
 - Why make the change, what are the change alternatives, how will public/stakeholder input be solicited, and how will the change be evaluated if implemented?
 - i. Is related to topics discussed with the pheasant marketing workgroup and supported by the Department.
 - ii. Input will be solicited during the public comment period and GFP Commission public hearing.
2. Historical Considerations
 - Over the years the season end dates for upland game birds has been extended with the desire to maximize hunting opportunities in balance with landowner tolerance.
3. Biological Considerations
 - What is the current and projected status of the population and habitat conditions for these populations?
 - i. Over the past five years the pheasant population has remained steady and there are no biological concerns with this recommended regulatory change.
4. Social Considerations
 - Would provide additional pheasant hunting opportunities.
5. Financial considerations
 - Not applicable.

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION, REACTIVATION (R3) CRITERIA

1. Does the regulation or fee inhibit a user's ability to participate? No.
2. Does the regulation increase the opportunity for new and existing users? Yes.
3. How does the regulation impact the next generation of hunters, anglers, trappers and outdoor recreationists? Provides additional hunting opportunity.
4. Does the regulation enhance the quality of life for current and future generations by getting families outdoors? Yes.

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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