

Notice of Intent

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4-168(a) of the *Connecticut General Statutes* (CGS) the Commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection hereby gives notice of his attention to amend regulations concerning **Hunting and Trapping**.

Public comment period (CGS section 4-168(a)(1)(A))

The public comment period concerning the proposed amendments to the hunting and trapping regulations is now open and will continue until March 10, 2016.

Detailed description of the proposed regulation (CGS section 4-168(a)(1)(B))

The proposed amendments are intended to: remove the “long-rifle” limitation on the array of .22 caliber rimfire ammunition to be used for hunting on State-owned lands; allow junior pheasant hunting training days on both State and private land; make provisions for the hunting of chukar and Hungarian partridge consistent with the pheasant hunting season; allow the hunting season for grey squirrels to begin on September 1st and continue through February 28th eliminating the currently divided season; eliminate the prohibition on the taking of wild birds or mammals during the spring wild turkey season for those species for which there is no closed season, and for those species that have a spring hunting season; require the use of steel-shot when coot, snipe, or rail hunting; clarify when a person needs to register a deer; reduce the daily and season bag limits for the taking of snapping turtles; update regulations regarding permits for the transportation and disposal of vehicle killed deer to be consistent with statutes; and eliminate the need for permits for the transportation and disposal of deer carcasses by highway departments.

Statement of the purpose for which the regulations are proposed (CGS section 4-168(a)(1)(C))

The proposed amendments are intended to update current regulations which govern the sport of hunting and trapping.

Statutory authority for the proposed regulations (CGS section 4-168(a)(1)(D)) Proposed Amendments to Sections 26-48a, 26-55, 26-57, 26-66, and 26-86a.

Availability of the proposed amendments, small business impact statement, and fiscal impact statement (CGS section 4-168(a)(1)(E))

The public may view the proposed amendments, small business impact, and fiscal impact statement online at <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/> ; or by calling (860) 424-3011.

Public Hearing and/or submission of comments (CGS section 4-168(a)(1)(F))

All interested persons are invited to express their views on the proposed regulations at the following public hearing:

Date: February 25, 2016
Time: 6:00pm
Location: Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Gina McCarthy Auditorium, 79 Elm Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Persons may also choose to present their views regarding the proposed regulations in writing by submitting comments online at <https://eregulations.ct.gov/eRegsPortal/> ; emailing to www.DEEP.Wildlife@ct.gov; or mailing them to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106. Based on public comment, proposed measures may be adjusted to meet the objective of the proposal. **All comments will be will be posted on the Secretary of State's website and will be available to the public.**



Robert J. Klee
Commissioner

1/21/16

Date