RESERVOIR NEWS

Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission to meet June 28

-Includes public hearing on early migratory bird, duck zone, fur bearer regulations

The Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission will conduct a public meeting and hearing on Thursday, June 23, at the Norton Community High School Auditorium, 103 West Woodfield in Norton. The afternoon session will begin at 1:30 p.m. and recess at 5 p.m., and the evening session will begin at 7 p.m.

The afternoon session will begin with time for public comments on non-agenda items, followed by a general discussion period on the following topics:

-Secretary's remarks

-2011 legislative update

-agency and state fiscal status

-a general discussion on spring turkey seasons and public lands regulations.

The afternoon will also include a workshop session, in preparation for potential future regulatory action, covering preliminary recommendations on the following regulations:

-vehicles on the ice of department-managed waters

-fishing regulations

-park regulations

-falconry regulations

-cabin camping permit fees

-late migratory bird seasons

-K.A.R. 115-16-3, nuisance bird control permit application, provisions, and requirements.

The commission will recess at 5 p.m., then reconvene at 7 p.m. at the same location to continue workshop discussion on the following topics:

-potential changes in 2012 deer regulations

-aquatic nuisance species (ANS) and bait regulations

This workshop session will be followed by a public hearing on the following regulations:

-early migratory bird seasons

-duck zone regulations, 2011 through 2015

-KAR 115-1-1, definitions to clarify definition of furbearer water sets

-KAR 115-5-1, furbearers and coyotes, legal equipment, taking methods, and general provisions

-KAR 115-5-2, furbearers and coyotes possession, disposal, and general provisions

-KAR 115-25-11, furbearers open seasons and bag limits

-KAR 115-25-9a, deer open season, bag limit, permits, and additional considerations.

Time will be set aside in both the afternoon and evening sessions for public comment on topics that are not on the agenda. If necessary, the commission will recess on June 23 and reconvene at the same location at 9 a.m., June 24, to complete unfinished business.

Live video and audio streaming of this meeting will be broadcast through the KDWP website, www.kdwp.state.ks.us

If notified in advance, the department will have an interpreter available for the hearing impaired. To request an interpreter, call the Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at 1-800-432-0698. Any individual with a disability may request other accommodations by contacting the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Commission secretary at 620-672-5911.

The next commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 11, at the Kansas Wetlands Education Center, 592 NE K-156 Highway near Great Bend.





A group of wild turkeys make their way around Prairie Dog State Park this spring. Wild birds can be found everywhere around the State Park area.

-Telegram photo by Dana Paxton

Keep kids safe around water

To help keep kids safe near water, Safe Kids Kansas recommends the following precautions:

-actively supervise children in and around water. Don't leave, even for a moment. Stay where you can see, hear, and reach kids in water. Avoid talking on the phone, preparing a meal, reading, and other distractions

-enroll kids in swimming lessons about age four, but don't assume swimming lessons make your child immune to drowning. There is no substitute for active supervision

-don't rely on inflatable swimming toys such as "water wings" and noodles. If a child can't swim, keep him within arm's reach

-learn infant and child CPR. In less than two hours, parents can learn effective interventions that can give a fighting chance to a child whose breathing and heartbeat have stopped. Contact a local hospital, fire department, recreation department, or Red Cross office for information about local CPR classes

-keep rescue equipment, a phone, and emergency numbers by the pool

For more information about drowning and water safety, call Safe Kids Kansas at 785-296-0351 or visit www.safekids.org.

