

CHAPTER 35

(HB 357)

AN ACT relating to fish and wildlife.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 150 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

In addition to the game permits issued under Section 3 of this Act, the commission may issue a special permit to an incorporated nonprofit wildlife conservation organization. In a license year, no more than two (2) special permits may be issued per species for which a game permit is required. An organization that receives a special permit issued under this section may sell and transfer the permit if all proceeds of the sale are used in Kentucky for wildlife management.

SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 150 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) In this section "recreational activity" means hunting, fishing, or trapping for sport.***
- (2) For a special department-sponsored event or program involving a recreational activity, the commission may waive the requirement that participants hold licenses required under this chapter if the commission finds that:***
 - (a) The special event or program will provide education in or appreciation of the recreational activity; and***
 - (b) The waiver of the license requirement will not result in a substantial loss of revenue to the department.***
- (3) The department shall, for one (1) weekend each year, suspend enforcement of the requirement that persons fishing in the waters of the Commonwealth buy and hold a license.***

Section 3. KRS 150.175 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The kinds of licenses and tags authorized by this chapter, and the acts authorized to be performed under the licenses and tags, subject to the other provisions of this chapter and subject to administrative regulations promulgated under this chapter, shall be as follows:**
 - (a) Statewide resident sport fishing license, which authorizes the holder to take fishes by angling, or take crayfish by a minnow seine, or by hand, to take minnows by the use of a minnow seine, minnow trap, or dip net, or to take fishes by grabbing, gigging, snagging, snaring, jugging, and bow and arrow, and to take frogs and turtles from any waters in any county of this state open for such purposes and subject to the limitations in this chapter and additional limitations that the department may from time to time prescribe. This license shall not authorize the holder to sell fish;**
 - (b) A short-term sport fishing license, which may be issued only to a nonresident and which authorizes the holder to perform all acts authorized by a statewide sport fishing license and subject to the same limitations or prescribed administrative regulations. This license shall not authorize the holder to sell fish;**

- (c) A resident commercial fishing license and a nonresident commercial fishing license, which authorize a holder to perform any act authorized by a sport fishing license and to take rough fishes from the waters of the state by the use of commercial fishing gear as prescribed by administrative regulation. The license shall also authorize the holder to sell rough fishes, other than those protected by administrative regulation;
- (d) A commercial fishing gear tag, which shall be attached to each piece of commercial fishing gear including hoop nets, slat traps, trotline, wing nets, and to each one hundred (100) feet of linear gear or portion thereof in use, including commercial seines, gill nets, or trammel nets. Commercial gear tags may be issued only to a person holding a resident or nonresident commercial fishing license;
- (e) Live fish and bait dealer's licenses, resident and nonresident, which authorize the holder to sell bait and live fish as may be prescribed by administrative regulation;
- (f) Musseling licenses, resident and nonresident, which authorize the holder to take mussels for commercial purposes as may be prescribed by administrative regulation;
- (g) A statewide resident hunting license, which authorizes the holder to take or pursue wild animals, wild birds, frogs, and turtles with gun, bow and arrow, dog, or falcon, or to participate in a fox-hunting party engaged in the hunting or pursuing of foxes with dogs for sport, according to the provisions of the laws and administrative regulations of the department;
- (h) A junior statewide hunting license, which may be issued to a person before he has reached his sixteenth birthday, and which authorizes the holder to exercise all the privileges authorized by a statewide hunting license. No junior hunting license shall be issued without the written permission of parent, guardian, or person having custody of the person under sixteen (16) years of age;
- (i) Trapping licenses, resident and nonresident, which authorize the holder to take wild animals by trapping upon his own lands or upon the lands of another person, if the holder of the license shall have first obtained a written consent as provided in KRS 150.092;
- (j) Taxidermist licenses, commercial and noncommercial, which authorize the holder to engage in the act of preparing, stuffing, and mounting the skins of wildlife;
- (k) A commercial guide's license, which authorizes the holder to guide hunting and fishing parties according to the provisions of the laws and administrative regulations of the department;
- (l) Fur buyer's licenses, resident and nonresident, which authorize the holder to buy raw furs from licensed trappers and hunters and to sell raw furs so purchased. Applicants for the license shall state the number of premises to be used and shall display at each a copy of the license as furnished by the department, except that the commissioner may limit the number of copies furnished and may revoke the license for violation;
- (m) A fur processor's license, which may be issued only to a resident, a partnership, firm, or corporation of this state and which authorizes the holder to buy raw furs when in legal possession for processing, manufacture, or retention in cold storage or for resale;

- (n) A nonresident sport fishing license, which authorizes the holder to perform any act authorized by a resident statewide sport fishing license. This license shall not authorize the holder to sell fish;
- (o) A nonresident annual hunting license, which authorizes the holder to perform any act authorized by a resident statewide hunting license;
- (p) Shoot-to-retrieve field trial permits, four (4) day and single day, which authorize a permit holder to conduct a shoot-to-retrieve field trial on private or government-owned lands. With a four (4) day permit, all participants, whether residents or nonresidents, shall not be required to possess any other license to participate in the permitted field trial, and the permit shall expire four (4) days after the date on which the field trial began. With the single day permit, the permit is valid for one (1) day and all participants shall have a valid resident or nonresident annual Kentucky hunting license. A permit is not required to conduct a shoot-to-retrieve field trial on a licensed shooting preserve; however, all participants that take or attempt to take game shall have in their possession a resident or nonresident annual Kentucky hunting license or a nonresident shooting preserve license;
- (q) A special license to nonresidents for the purpose of hunting on licensed hunting preserves. This license shall be good only for the preserve for which it was issued and shall remain in effect only for one (1) year. These licenses shall be issued in ink by the preserve manager, and he shall ensure that each hunter is properly licensed before going into the field. When the hunter owns either a nonresident or resident statewide hunting license for the current year, the special license shall not be required. The commissioner, with the approval of the commission, may establish and regulate hunting preserves, either private or commercial;
- (r) ~~{A big }~~Game *permits*~~{permit}~~ and~~{ a }~~ junior~~{ big }~~ game *permits*~~{permit}~~, which, in combination with a valid statewide hunting license or a valid junior statewide hunting license, authorize the holder to take or pursue *the specified game species*~~{deer, bear, or wild turkey,}~~ in any designated open area of this state, during the open season and according to the provisions of the laws and administrative regulations governing the hunting;
- (s) A combination hunting and fishing license, which authorizes only resident holders to perform all acts valid under either a sport fishing or hunting license;
- (t) A trout permit, which in combination with a valid statewide fishing license, authorizes the holder to take trout by angling or as may be prescribed by administrative regulation;
- (u) A commercial waterfowl permit, which authorizes the holder to establish and operate a commercial waterfowl hunting preserve;
- (v) A short-term hunting license, which may be issued only to a nonresident and which authorizes the holder to perform all acts authorized by a statewide hunting license~~{, except for hunting big game species for which an annual nonresident hunting license shall be required, and}~~ according to the provisions of the laws and administrative regulations of the department;
- (w) A joint statewide resident sport fishing license issued to a husband and wife which authorizes them to take fish as provided in subsection (1) of this section. The license

fee for this joint license shall be ten percent (10%) less than the license fee set by the commission for two (2) statewide resident sport fishing licenses;

- (x) A Kentucky waterfowl permit, which in combination with a valid statewide hunting license and compliance with applicable federal law, authorizes the holder to take or pursue waterfowl and migratory shore or upland game birds;
- (y) A pay lake license which authorizes the holder to operate privately owned impounded waters for fishing purposes for which a fee is charged;
- (z) A migratory game bird permit, which, in combination with a statewide hunting license and compliance with applicable federal law, allows the holder to take migratory shore or upland game birds;~~and~~
- (aa) A senior/disabled combination hunting and fishing license, which authorizes the holder to perform all acts valid under a sport fishing license, a sport hunting license, or a state permit to take deer, turkey, trout, waterfowl, or migratory shore or upland game birds, and which shall be available to a Kentucky resident who is:
 1. Sixty-five (65) years of age or older; *or*
 2. An American veteran at least fifty percent (50%) disabled as a result of a service-connected disability; or
 3. Declared permanently and totally disabled by the Federal Social Security Administration, the Department of Workers' Claims, or its equivalent from another state, or the United States Railroad Retirement Board.

The senior/disabled combination license shall not be valid unless the holder carries proof of residency and proof of age or disability, as the department may require by administrative regulation, on his or her person while performing an act authorized by the license; *and*

(bb) A sportsman's license for residents that includes an annual hunting and fishing license and such permits as allowed by administrative regulations promulgated by the department.

Section 4. KRS 150.300 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) No person shall, without first securing the permission of the commissioner, enter upon the premises of a propagation farm, game farm or game refuge or fish hatchery and take wildlife; or, without the consent of the property owner, enter upon any pond and take wildlife or foul the waters of any pond or farm with a substance injurious to life or growth of wildlife, or break or destroy any dam, reservoir or embankment or divert the waters or otherwise willfully damage the farm or pond.~~No person, except bona fide employees in line of duty, shall go upon the premises of any propagation farm, state game farm, or game refuge or fish hatchery accompanied by a dog of any type or description or while carrying firearms upon or about his person.~~
- (2) It is unlawful for any person to mar, deface, destroy or in any wise damage, or attempt to mar, deface, destroy or damage any sign or posted notice upon any game farm, game or wildlife refuge or fish hatchery in the state.

Section 5. KRS 150.620 is amended to read as follows:

For the purpose of encouraging and developing public interest in wildlife and carrying out the policy of the Commonwealth of Kentucky under KRS Chapter 150, the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission, as a state agency, and based upon investigations and recommendations of the commission, is hereby authorized to acquire lands including any improvements thereon by purchase, condemnation or lease from the State Property and Buildings Commission or from others, and partly by any or all of such means, and to thereafter establish, improve, maintain and operate public shooting and fishing grounds and similar or related recreational facilities thereon, and for the purpose of paying the cost of any such purchase or condemnation and the maintenance and operation expenses may use and apply any funds available for that purpose. The payments under each such lease shall be deemed an administrative and operating expense of the department, and such payments may be secured by a pledge of and made from all or any part of the funds coming under the control of the department including the game and fish fund, as may be provided and specified in the lease. The commissioner, with the approval of the commission may sublease any lands and improvements thereon acquired under the provisions of this chapter for agricultural and for any purpose deemed by the commission to be incidental or beneficial to the maintenance and operation of the balance of said lands and improvements for the purpose herein stated. The commission may impose and enforce special regulations in the maintenance and operation of the facilities and lands acquired under the provisions of this section *or lands that are managed by the department under a cooperative agreement* and charge such rates as may be deemed fair and reasonable for the use of and participation of the public in the facilities and lands and lease payments aforesaid may be made a first charge on the income and revenues from the maintenance and operation of the facilities and lands and from the sublease of any portion thereof, to be supplemented with any other funds available for that purpose.

Approved February 25, 2000