

TOURISM, ARTS AND HERITAGE CABINET
Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
(Amended at ARRS Committee)

301 KAR 2:230. Shoot-to-retrieve field trial permits and procedures.

RELATES TO: KRS 150.025(1), 150.170, 150.175(1)(p), 150.330

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 150.025(1), 150.175(16)

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT: The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, pursuant to statutory authority to promulgate administrative regulations to carry out the provisions of KRS Chapter 150 as established in KRS 150.025 and as an independent department of state government within the meaning of KRS Chapter 12 as established in KRS 150.021(1), promulgated by the Commissioner with approval of the Commission in accordance with KRS 150.010(1), does hereby certify this administrative regulation is promulgated in compliance with Section 8 of 2025 RS HB6.

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 150.175(16) authorizes the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to require permits for shoot-to-retrieve field trials. KRS 150.025(1) authorizes the department to set seasons and limits, and to promulgate administrative regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of KRS Chapter 150. This administrative regulation establishes seasons, permit application procedures, game bird marking, and other requirements for conducting a shoot-to-retrieve field trial.

Section 1. Definitions.

- (1) "Field trial" means an organized event at which hunting dogs are worked and judged.
- (2) "Game birds" means quail, chukar, mallard duck, or pheasant species.
- (3) "Shoot to retrieve field trial" means a field trail where game birds are taken.
- (4) "Take" is defined by KRS 150.010(46).

Section 2.

- (1) A person may conduct a shoot-to-retrieve field trial:
 - (a) From August 15 through May 15 for quail; and
 - (b) Year-round for other game birds.
- (2) Daily bag or possession limits shall not apply to birds taken during a shoot-to retrieve field trial.

Section 3. A person conducting a shoot-to retrieve field trial shall:

- (1) Apply for a permit at least thirty (30) days before the event to the:
 - (a) Department game warden in the county where the event will be conducted; or
 - (b) Department's law enforcement captain in the wildlife district where the event will be conducted.
- (2) A permit application shall:
 - (a) Be made on the Shoot-to-Retrieve Field Trial Application; and
 - (b) Include:
 1. The annual permit fee as referenced at <https://fw.ky.gov/Licenses/Pages/Fees.aspx> and established in 301 KAR 5:022; and
 2. Permission from the landowner or manager of public land where the event will be conducted.
- (3) Provide pen-raised game birds for the trial.
- (4) If the date or location of the trial changes:
 - (a) Notify the person from whom the permit application was obtained; and
 - (b) If the location changes, submit written permission to hold the trial at the new location.

Section 4. A person participating in a shoot-to-retrieve field trial shall not:

- (1) Knowingly take a game bird that was not:
 - (a) Raised in captivity; and
 - (b) Provided by the organizer of the event.
- (2) Hunt on land not specified in the permit.

Section 5. Incorporation by Reference.

- (1) "Shoot-to-Retrieve Field Trial Application", May 2025 Edition is incorporated by reference.
- (2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Sportsman's Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, from 8 a.m. through 4:30 p.m. eastern time on normal business days or at <https://fw.ky.gov/Licenses/Documents/Shoot-to-Retrieve-App.pdf>.

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CONTACT PERSON: Jenny Gilbert, Legislative Liaison, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, 1 Sportsman's Lane, phone (502) 564-3400, fax (502) 564-0506, email fwpubliccomments@ky.gov.