



COLORADO

Parks and Wildlife

Department of Natural Resources

Northeast Region
6060 Broadway
Denver, CO 8016
P 303-291-7227

August 7, 2017

Dear Bird Release Permittee or Subpermittee,

Colorado Parks and Wildlife periodically opens its regulation chapters to update the content and make minor modifications. This year the Parks and Wildlife Commission (PWC) will be reviewing recommended updates for Chapter W-8, Field Trials/Dog Training, since the chapter has not been updated since 2008. The purpose of this letter is to let you know of the proposed changes and the opportunity to voice any concerns about those changes to the Commission.

Included with this letter is the complete chapter showing the changes in red for your review. Following is a summary of the proposed updates to Chapter W-8 from the red line version:

1. The definition of training has been changed. It will now read: "Training means the noncommercial act of a person(s) instructing a hunting dog(s) to follow scent, point or flush birds, retrieve and respond to related commands to improve the dog's performance in hunting wildlife or for field trials". Merely exercising or conditioning a dog is not training. "Group training" means training involving 10 or more people and their associated hunting dogs.
2. Each individual intending to release privately-owned game birds during training on Division properties will need a bird release permit. If individuals are only training and not releasing birds a permit is not required. What does this mean:
 - The update to the chapter will eliminate subpermittees, and will require each individual to obtain a bird release permit if they intend to release game birds. Thus, if an individual has released birds as a subpermittee in the past, but intends to train on their own and release birds, they will need a permit.
 - If two or more individuals (up to nine) are training their dog(s) together and releasing birds, at least one person will be required to have a bird release permit.
3. A maximum of two dogs may be trained by an individual at any time.
4. The annual reporting requirements have been eliminated.

Chapter W-8 will be on the agenda for the Parks and Wildlife Commission to review at their meeting on September 7 and 8 in Steamboat Springs, and it will be finalized at their meeting on November 16 and 17 in Yuma. If you would like to provide comments on these changes, would like more information, or if you have questions please contact Chasta LaBass at 303-291-7246 or myself at 303-291-7313. You may also provide comments to the PWC in person at either meeting, or in writing at:

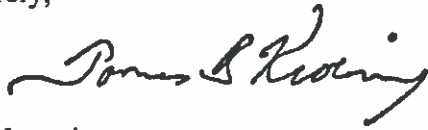


Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission
c/o Policy and Planning Unit
Colorado Parks and Wildlife
1313 Sherman Street
Denver, CO 80203

or by email at:
dnr_cpwcommission@state.co.us

If approved, these changes will go into effect on January 1, 2018. Thank you for your interest in hunting, and training dogs to hunt or participate in field trials.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom Kroening".

Tom Kroening
Northeast Deputy Regional Manager

Cc: M. Leslie, T. Petersburg, L. Rogstad, D. Isenhart